

**Draft Minutes of the LWVLA Board Meeting
Tuesday 26, June, 2018
Mesa Public Library, Los Alamos, NM**

Call to Order

Barbara Calef called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Barbara Calef, Co-president

Becky Shankland, Co-president

Sandra West, Newsletter Editor

Leslie Wallstrom, 2nd Vice President

Julie Williams-Hill, BPU Observer

Rosmarie Frederickson, Secretary

Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lunch with a Leader

Akkana Peck, Director at Large

Jody Benson, Publicity

Ellen Mills, Director at Large

After a review of the May minutes, and minor edits, they were accepted as revised.

Treasurer's Report

Kathy Taylor emailed her report and it contained the following information: May 31, 2018, the general fund balance was \$6,848.38. The receipts totaled \$582.00 of which \$387.00 were donations received from the fund drive and \$195.00 were dues and donations from members. The disbursements for the month of May were \$5.00 for a filing penalty, \$173.85 to L.A. Daily Post for primary forum ads, \$15.95 for printing and stamps for the fund drive, and \$955.97 for LWVUS Council. The total spent was \$1,150.77. At the end of May there was a balance of \$19,959.07 in the savings account. There is still \$681.50 in the Ed Fund. Kathy is investigating this discrepancy.

Fund Drive

Becky reported that Los Alamos National Bank has responded to the request letter from the fund drive. Liddie Martinez told her that the bank has budgeted \$300 as a donation. Becky suggested that a \$200 quarter page ad in the Voter Guide and a \$100 donation toward a sponsorship of a forum would be much appreciated. Liddie seemed to be happy with these suggestions.

Liddie has requested the League provide her with our W-9 EIN information. Once received she will be able to send a check. She also suggested that we obtain information that explains the bank's new donation policy. Once the form is filled out properly the bank will budget a yearly donation.

Lunch with a Leader

Karyl Ann has invited Jorge Rodriguez from the ACLU for the July 17th meeting. He will give a presentation about the border wall and immigrant justice. He is coming from Las Cruces and there was concern that there be good attendance.

Karyl Ann will invite Robert Rhatigan for the August meeting.

Other suggestions were

- Dina Pesenson -- pesticide/herbicide spraying prevention
- Stephen Ladue -- topic might be "What drives People"
- Linda Daily -- Non-profits and what experiences she has to share
- Brian Broggin -- Community Service
- Mary Feldblum -- Tyler Taylor Health Security Act

There was also a discussion about rearranging the November and December Lunch with a Leader meeting. Both of these scheduled dates fall into a week of the holidays.

It was decided to consolidate these two meetings into one in early December. Amy was to check what venues were available then. Becky suggested December 4th but no final decision was reached.

Candidate Forums

It was decided that there need to be at least two candidate forums. The dates suggested were Thursday Sept. 27 and Wednesday October 3. Amy was tasked with finding the venue, either Fuller Lodge or UNM-LA. Availability will be the major criteria. Early voting begins October 9.

It was suggested the nine candidates for County Council would be invited for the September 27th forum and the District 43 candidates, sheriff candidates, and judges on October 3rd.

It was also suggested to invite Gabe Gallegos of the North Central Regional Transit District Authority to speak about the reauthorization of the existing County Regional Transit Gross Receipts tax of one-eighth of one percent to finance the operational costs and capital expenditures for the Regional Transient System (Blue Bus). This question will be on the ballot in November. We would also need to invite someone in opposition.

Voter Guide Questions for state offices

The Los Alamos League has been asked to advise and provide one or two questions from which the State League under the guidance of Diane Goldfarb will choose to make a final decision to use in the Voter Guide. The board worked through each set of questions previously used and made changes to each. There were also some new editions. The following list is what the board finally decided to give to Lynn Jones. She will work with the committee to make the final selections.

Questions for US Representative and US Senator candidates

1. Describe both the specific experience and abilities you have that prepare you for this office.

2. Please identify what you see as the major environmental challenge facing our country, and how you would address it.
3. *Please describe campaign finance reform legislation Congress should consider.*
4. What immigration policies do you support? Please address treatment of undocumented immigrants
5. What actions do you advocate to improve the availability, accessibility, and quality of health care? Do you support allowing a Medicaid or Medicare buy-in?

Governor (D, R, L)

1. Describe both the specific experience and abilities you have that prepare you for this office.
2. What will you do to ensure that New Mexicans have quality health care?
3. *What action should be taken at the state level to reduce our use of fossil fuels and encourage the use of clean energy? What actions will you propose?*
4. What actions would you propose to address water scarcity?
5. What would you do in your role as governor to support sufficient funding for education, including early childhood education?

Lieutenant Governor (D, R, L)

1. What qualifications and attributes do you have that make you uniquely qualified to be Lieutenant Governor?
2. What issue will you champion as lieutenant governor?

Secretary of State (D, R, L)

1. Describe both the specific experience and abilities you have that prepare you for this office.
2. What actions would you take to increase voter registration and voter turnout?
3. Do you support any changes in New Mexico's voting procedures, such as online and/or mail-in voting or requiring picture/photo IDs at the polls?
4. Do you support open primaries? Why or why not?

State Auditor (D, R)

1. What experience and education does the State Auditor need? What are your qualifications in these areas?
2. What are the most important responsibilities of the State Auditor? What will you accomplish in your term of office?
3. What existing policies will you keep and which will you change?

State Treasurer (D, R)

1. The New Mexico State Treasurer is entrusted with investing approximately four billion dollars of the State's short-term funds. What specific financial training and experience do you have that qualifies you to perform this function?
2. What are your highest priorities for this office, and how do you intend to accomplish them?

Attorney General (D, R, L)

1. Describe both the specific experience and abilities you have that prepare you for this office.
2. With the increased exposure of unethical behavior in government, what will you do to make public officials more accountable to the general public?
3. What will you do to protect New Mexicans from consumer fraud? What, if any, additional legislation is needed?

Commissioner of Public Lands (D, R, L)

Introductory: The State Land Office manages approximately 9 million acres of land and the mineral rights on 13 million acres in support of public schools, universities, hospitals, charitable purposes, and penitentiaries.

1. Describe both the specific experience and abilities you have that prepare you for this office.
2. How can the Land Commissioner improve enforcement of environmental regulations on State Trust Lands?
3. What will you do to generate additional sources of revenue for the beneficiaries of the trust?

Judge of the Court of Appeals – Positions 1-5 (5D, 4R)

1. What ethical practices are critical to keep the judiciary independent from political influence?
2. What role do personal beliefs play in your judicial decision-making?
3. What experience and education do you believe a Court of Appeals Judge needs? What are your qualifications in these areas?
4. What improvements are needed in the Court of Appeals? How would you as a Court of Appeals Judge address these needs?

NM Supreme Court (2 Judges up for Retention)

Same questions as for Court of Appeals.

After the discussion at the meeting some board members continued to work by e-mail on the questions to be submitted to the LWVNM committee working on the Voter Guide. The questions in italics were deleted because there were too many.

Membership

Becky reported that membership stands currently at 63. She will try to get in touch with some of these previous members and remind them to pay their dues and rejoin.

Preparation for Forum September 6.

The Los Alamos League is working with Searchlight to plan an educational forum on Early Childhood Education. Searchlight will cover all costs -- even refreshments. Barbara and others have met with Rod Dean, Susan Boe's replacement at Searchlight, NM, to plan the meeting further. It is to be a panel presentation to hear about studies that have been done so we can learn what has worked and what has not. This panel discussion is to be followed by breakout sessions to brainstorm ideas to improve the early childhood education in New Mexico.

We need to send out alerts! Leslie Wallstrom suggested that we investigate providing childcare for the September 6 forum.

Observer Corps Reports

BPU Report

Two Public Hearings: In the DPU Rules the BPU approved deleting the language on establishing a credit rating, to accommodate the new ERP system and ~~we~~ changed the criteria as to how DPU determines if a deposit is required. No change was made to the deposit amounts.

A discussion was held with the BPU on how to track commercial Customers who are required to have a backflow prevention device to prevent cross connection contamination. This will come back to the BPU at a later date for further discussion.

BPU approved an ordinance to authorize and refinance the reissuance of amended loan and promissory note agreements. Basically, this is to refinance the loan for the Los Alamos Wastewater Treatment Plant with lower interest rates and to extend the loan by 5 years. This will go to the Council for adoption on July 31st as a public hearing.

Upcoming issues:

Munis ERP is going live July 1. Construction will start on the lobby the same week -- CCC will be moved into the Boards & Commissions Room.

Requests for Proposal will be issued in July for the addition of a solar array at the Muni parking lot.

There will be an electric vehicle Car Show at PEEC on July 14th.

There will be a presentation to the BPU on adding electric vehicle charger stations at the July 18th board meeting.

County Council Report

Lynn was not at the meeting, so there was no County Council report.

The board authorized paying GoDaddy, the domain name provider. Barbara, Akanna and Julie were the three people with contact information. GoDaddy has been given Barbara's credit card information.

The next Newsletter deadline will be July 19th.

Next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, July 24 2018. This board meeting will be at Mesa Public Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.

Rosmarie Frederickson