

League of Women Voters of Los Alamos

January 23, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes - Final

Felicia Orth called the meeting to order at 12:05.

Board Members Present

Felicia Orth, President
Ellen Mills, Second Vice President
Barbara Calef, Past President
Addie Jacobson, Treasurer
Cecile Hemez, Secretary
Lynn Jones, Voter Services
Becky Shankland, by phone, Director at Large
Jody Benson, Publicity
Lisa Hampton, Community Health and Wellbeing
Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lunch With a Leader
Robert Williams, Membership
Akkana Peck, Director at Large
Wendy Swanson, Reservations and Refreshments

Board Nomination

Motion to nominate Cecile Hemez as Secretary adopted unanimously.

December LWVLA Board minutes - Jody

Minutes are approved with a name correction.

Treasurer's Report - Addie

December 31, 2024 financial position: \$6,095 on checking account, \$25,638 on savings account, \$35,000 on CD maturing May 12, 2025

Treasurer will switch to online banking to avoid monthly charge for paper statements.

Enterprise Bank & Trust used to donate to the League. Ellen will follow up.

There was a discussion about changing the League's fiscal year from May 1–April 30 to Jan 1–Dec 31 to align with the calendar year. Because the League's Annual Meeting has always been in April and scheduling it to a different time of year would be difficult, the board agreed to maintain the current fiscal year as May 1 to April 30.

Clarification was needed on membership renewal dates once ChapterSpot goes live (February 1). Barbara will find out.

Addie requested that reimbursement requests be turned in in a timely manner to ensure accurate representation of the League's financial position. The reimbursement form will be shared with all board members electronically.

Cecile offered to maintain the League's documents on the shared Google drive. Felicia will give her access.

Lunch with a Leader – Karyl Ann

- **February:** Hari Viswanathan will give a high-level explanation of AI.
- **March:** Suggestions: the new County librarian, Gwen, to ask her about possible new policies; Tracy Stratton, the LAMC CEO
- **April:** Annual Meeting. Possible speakers for the LWL at the Annual Meeting are Chris Chandler or Leo Jaramillo.

Tina Cordova, producer of the downwinders movie, is considered as a future speaker.

Karyl Ann will contact the Los Alamos Co-op about catering.

The new sound system worked well at the January meeting. Felicia is thanked for purchasing it and setting it up. She will investigate adding mics for the audience to the existing system.

Membership Report - Bob

Bob distributed the Membership report. There are 130 official members as of 1/22/2025.

A few new members will be added. Becky will communicate their names to Bob by email.

Bob asks to clarify member types and make sure they align with national definitions. "Members" pay dues, "Friends of the League" make donations and are not members.

Questions on how ChapterSpot will impact the current database are tabled until the February and March meetings.

Bob offers to explain the current database to interested board members. Lisa, Wendy, Addie, Becky, Felicia and Lynn would like to participate. Bob will arrange the date by email.

Lisa mentions that she maintains a database of all the donations. ChapterSpot will have implications on donations. Members and Friends of the League will be encouraged to make donations directly to LWV-LA.

Legislative Preview Recap and Vote on Video Recording - Barbara

Representative Chris Chandler, Senator Roberto Gonzales, and Senator Leo Jaramillo presented the bills they will sponsor and answered questions from the audience. Kristina Fisher, associate director of Think New Mexico, explained proposals for solving the healthcare worker shortage. The League will back those proposals.

A motion to record the Legislative Preview session each year and to decide on method for recording it at the October meeting was approved unanimously.

Note was made to increase the budget for the Legislative Preview event to \$500.

Adopt checklist for League events - Barbara, Becky

Barbara and Becky drafted a checklist for the Legislative Preview, and a generic checklist. Motion to adopt both checklists is unanimously approved, with the addition of “reserve Fuller Lodge” for the Legislative Preview checklist.

Membership Event Recap - Ellen

21 attended the January 12 gathering at Ellen’s house.

Vote on Bylaws Changes – Barbara

Bylaws changes are required to align with National’s articles. Motion to present the Bylaws changes as submitted by Barbara Calef at the Annual Meeting for a vote by the membership was approved unanimously.

Questions on New Membership Form

ChapterSpot has 4 default questions and the option to add 10 customizable questions. The 4 default questions ask about:

1. Accessibility needs
2. Ways to get involved
3. Time availability
4. In-person vs virtual meeting preference

After discussion, the decision was made to address accessibility requests by including a question in the welcome email: “Do you have a request for accommodation(s) that would let you participate in the League’s event more easily?”. Questions 2 to 4 are eliminated. Questions from the current membership form will be added as part of the 10 customizable ones.

Program Planning Meeting on February 2 – Ellen

Will be at Ellen’s house from 3 to 5pm.

Legislative Reception and League Day February 5 and 6

Felicia, Barbara, Ellen, Karyl Ann, and Becky will attend. The Legislative Reception will be at La Fonda Hotel.

Preparations for April 17 Annual Meeting

- **Budget Committee – Adelaide Jacobson, Lisa Hampton, Julie Williams-Hill, Jeffrey Howell**
- **Nominating Committee – Becky, Leslie, Ed**
- **Bylaws changes – Barbara** (see Vote on Bylaws Changes)
- **Speaker – Karyl Ann** (see Lunch with a Leader)

Date for Fund Drive Meeting

Ellen will follow up.

Date for Consensus Meeting on Federal Judiciary Study

March 3, from 6 to 9pm at the Unitarian Fellowship Hall. Felicia will facilitate the meeting. A virtual make-up session might be added the next day to accommodate those unable to attend the in-person meeting.

Next Lunch with a Leader will be February 20, 2025.

Next LWV board meeting February 27, 2025

Newsletter January 31

LWL (Karyl Ann)

County Council, P&Z Reports (June and Craig)

Welcome, New Members (Becky)

President's Report (Felicia)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18.

Respectfully Submitted by Cecile Hemez 01/24/25

Edited with comments from Barbara Calef and Rebecca Shankland 01/31/2025