

LWVLA Board Meeting
Friday, December 5, 2025 UU Fellowship Hall

1. Meeting called to order by Felicia Orth at 12:05

2. **Attendees:** Barbara Calef, Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lynn Jones, Addie Jacobson, Bob Williams, Akkana Peck, Felicia Orth, Leslie Wallstrom, June Fabryka-Martin, Wendy Swanson, Jody Benson

3. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the October meeting were accepted. There was no meeting in November.

4. Treasurer's Report (October & November)

- Addie reviewed the October and November financial reports. Barbara noted that money had been transferred out of the savings account, and the budget includes a notation for a \$5,000 transfer from savings into a CD. She observed that at the end of October there was no corresponding disbursement noted.
- Three checks written in October had not cleared by the end of the month; therefore, the bank statement balance did not reflect them. In November there remained \$223.72 in outstanding checks. Because the bank statement and the actual balance differ, it was recommended to add a line item for uncleared checks.
- Two new members joined by check: Amy Chen and Margaret Robey.
- Bob stated he prefers not to keep track of donations himself; he can note them, but Addie should manage donation tracking. A confusion regarding Beverly Cooper from LWVUS was resolved. She had already paid dues through April 2026. The \$35 she sent in recently will pay for another year. Barbara will create a new csv to be sent to LWVUS with the check.
- The CD rolled over at an interest rate of **3.8%**.

5. Membership Report

- Bob reported **124 members** who meet LWVUS requirements, while Barbara noted that LWVUS lists **111 members**.
- Distinctions between "Active" and "Paid Up" were discussed. The board agreed to delete "associate" members from the local database to avoid confusion with LWVUS records.
- Bob presented a second list showing members whose memberships are close to expiring. He was asked to notify them, but Addie noted that LWVUS also sends expiration notices. At least some of the members on the list have paid their dues more recently. Bob will check the LWVUS Portal for reconciliation.

6. LWL / Program Issues

- Karyl Ann reported that some of the lunches she ordered did not arrive for the November LWL. She has discussed the issue with Laura Crucet.
- The Board discussed the January speaker, Anne Galer, who has been invited to discuss the electoral college. Anne informed Karyl Ann and Felicia of her immunocompromised

status and asked whether the January meeting could be hybrid. Felicia stated that hybrid is not feasible; the meeting must be either fully on Zoom or fully in person. Anne continued to request hybrid, and offered an IT person in Chicago to train a LWV-LA member on how to successfully set up a hybrid meeting. The consensus was that, giving the complexity of hybrids as well as possible issues with weather, our January LWL will be fully Zoom.

- The November LWL failed to record part of the presentation. The previous technical failure was attributed to the remote mic receiver's connection to the recorder; Bob will obtain an additional cable. Dena Moscola provided slides for this session. For this LWL, Bob will send them to Madhavi to post with the video recording. Tyler Taylor had no slides.

A. Future Speakers and Program Planning

- The Board agreed that Karyl Ann should invite Marcela Diaz of Somos Un Pueblo Unido to speak in February about the current immigration issues in the state. The New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
- <https://www.nmilc.org/outreach-request>
- Provides a form for speaker requests. They will be invited to speak at a later date. Discussion followed on potential topics for Lt. Governor Howie Morales, including: the role of the Lt. Governor, progress made during his tenure, and impacts of dismantling the state Higher Education Department. He will be invited to speak in April.
- Other possible topics include public lands and federal threats; Garrett VeneKlasen, who ran for State Land Commissioner, was suggested. There are several people in the Valley who are listed as *New Mexico Magazine's* "10 most important New Mexicans".
- Karyl Ann will send an email to the entire membership asking for topic suggestions.

B. Tentative program schedule:

- **January:** Anne Galer – Zoom meeting
- **February:** Marcela Diaz
- **March:** Public lands topic
- **April:** Howie Morales – Membership meeting

7. Publicity (Leslie)

- Leslie presented the redesigned League brochure. The Board was generally pleased with it but requested a few changes. Printing cost for high-gloss, full-color paper is approximately \$1 each. The board decided to start with about 25 copies on regular printer-paper. Leslie will explore printing options.
- It was pointed out that IRA distributions must be directed to the local League, which is a 501(c)(3), unlike LWVNM and LWVUS.
- The question arose whether to support local business by having Aspen Copies print the brochures, or send them to Canva, which could be less expensive.

8. Health Forum Update

- Leslie reported that Brandi Weiss is helping Liz Martineau organize the forum. She reported that some of the potential participants had not responded to the invitation. Brandi is funded by Jenny Parks, Senior Vice President of Strategic Philanthropy at Anchorum Health Foundation.
- The forum is planned for February 24 at 6:30 pm (Tuesday).
- A question was raised about offering childcare. Felicia noted the liability risks and explained the strict requirements: two caregivers present at all times, proper insurance, and supervision. "Well-behaved children are welcome" was proposed instead.
- We need suggestions for speakers for the forum. Health care in Northern New Mexico is complex and overlapping; possible speakers include Javier Martinez for regional issues and Richard Skolnik for national concerns. A question was raised about the handling of opioid settlement funds. A request will go out for speaker recommendations.

9. Legislative Preview

- Planning continues. Margo Batha will serve as moderator. Karyl Ann will make reservations for the dinner at Blue Window before the forum for approximately 10 people—the speakers, possibly with an aide or companion, and a few members of the board. LWV will cover dinner costs for speakers; board members pay for our own meal. As last year, the meals will be pre-ordered. Last year's total cost for guests was about \$237. This tradition helps make travel for speakers for the legislative preview more pleasant; it gives them a chance to relax before the forum.

MOTION: Felicia moved to invite the speakers to Blue Window, pay for their meals, and allow board members to attend at their own expense.

Second: Akkana.

Approved Unanimously.

MOTION: Akkana proposed inviting **PAC 8** to record the Legislative Preview.

Second: Lynn,

Approved Unanimously.

PAC 8 will send the invoice to Addie.

10. Quilt Project on Fair Districting

- A proposal was discussed to support a quilting challenge creating visualizations of gerrymandering. Project publicity needs to include the fair-districting theme, required dimensions, deadlines, and the fact there will be both an exhibition and a prize. The board expressed consensus to support the initiative. If we get the information about the project soon, it will be included in the monthly newsletter and also posted on our website. Akkana will seek information at the Quilt Shop about quilting groups.

11. Planning Meeting and April Tasks

- Karyl Ann will check with Ellen Mills whether it is convenient for her to host the February Planning Meeting on **February 1**, from **2–4 pm**. Final time to be set by Ellen.
- For April, the Budget, and Nominations Committees are alerted. No changes to the bylaws are anticipated.

- The 2025 Nominations Committee was: Ellen Mills, Leslie Walstrom, Becky Shankland, maybe EdEd Santiago.
- The 2025 Budget Committee included: Jeffrey Howell, Julie Williams-Hill, Lisa Hampton, and Addie Jacobson. Leslie Walstrom volunteered for this year.
- With the help of the committee, Addie will prepare the budget for the February Board meeting. The budget must be finalized by the Board 30 days before the Annual Meeting.
- Jeffrey Howell has invited the League to request additional funds from the Delle Foundation this month. Felicia will contact her.
- At the end of the meeting, David Izraelevitz called to offer LWVLA an opportunity to make a pitch to 100 Men Who Care on December 11. Following the meeting, David Hampton agreed to present."

12. Newsletter Deadline: January 1

- LWL (Karyl Ann)
- County Council, P&Z Reports (June and Craig)
- Welcome, New Members (Becky/JJ)
- President's Report (Felicia)

13. Upcoming Dates

- **January 10:** State Advocacy Meeting (Zoom)
- **January 8 (evening):** Legislative Preview Meeting at Fuller Lodge moderated by Margo Batha
- **January 29:** Legislative Reception at La Fonda in Santa Fe. Laura Paskus will be the speaker in Santa Fe
- **January 30:** State League Day at the Roundhouse, including talks by Kristina Fisher and someone from the LFC at Morgan Hall in the State Land Office.

Adjourned: 1:55 pm

Approved by the Board on 01/22/26