

League of Women Voters
Board Meeting March 24, 2022

Present: Barbara Calef, Jean Dewart, Ellen Mills, Rosmarie Fredrickson, Akkana Peck, Jody Benson, Felicia Orth, Becky Shankland, Karyl Ann Armbruster

The meeting was called to order at 12 noon.

The Board voted to accept the February 24, 2022 board minutes as filed.

The April 21, 2022 LWL guest speaker will be Liz Martineau, Executive Director of the Los Alamos Historical Society. The board discussed having House Representative Teresa Leger Fernandez in the future before the primary elections. The alternative speaker discussed was New Mexico House District 43 Representative Christine Chandler. Karyl Ann will contact the two potential speakers and notify the board of the outcome. The option of in-person LWV/LWL meetings and or hybrid meetings was also discussed. No decision was made at this time.

Fundraising – It is not necessary to send letters to Sara Scott or Peggy Goldman because they have already made donations to the LWV as Friends of the League.

Treasurer's Report – The monthly reports include donations made in the monthly time periods, and they are divided into member donations and nonmember donations. Jean requested that the donation forms be sent to her so she can include the information in the membership spreadsheet.

Jean adds names and emails to the lists kept by Karyl Ann and Becky, who send out friendly reminders and the newsletter.

Rosmarie will continue writing thank you letters that include information for tax forms. Becky made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Akkana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There are currently 109 members in the Los Alamos LWV.

Jean has written a letter to be published in the *LA Daily Post* and the *Los Alamos Reporter* inviting people to join the League.

Karyl Ann asked for clarification on sending out messages to the board to those who have voting privileges and participants who are not board members.

Voter Guide – Lynn would like a copy of the final questions to submit to the prospective candidates. Questions for NM HD 43 and County Council candidates are still needed. The board proceeded to choose the questions.

There were 5 questions for County Council with a need to eliminate one question. Becky suggested eliminating the question about civility. It was also recommended that one more open-ended question be included in the guide. Jody made a motion to accept questions numbered 2, 3, and 4. Akkana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

State Representative District 43 is unopposed for the November General Election. It was discussed

eliminating two of the 6 questions. Question #4 is about infrastructure, and question #6 is about transparency in the legislature. The question was raised about the meaning of transparency. Felicia gave examples of bills that are assigned to committee(s), but never receive a hearing, and also publicizing how capital funds are spent. The “Junior Bill” provides funds to each legislator that are allocated for pressing needs or critical issues in a constituency. The Junior Bill is difficult to identify from one legislative session to the next, so it limits the public's ability to track how funds are used. Rep. Christine Chandler was able to assign funds for water systems to some of the communities she represents as an example. Not all districts have easy access to how the funds are allocated. Felicia will draft a question regarding this concern for transparency in the legislature.

Candidate Forums – Congressional: There are two Republican candidates for HD 3, Alexis Martinez Johnson and Gerald Steve McFall. Teresa Leger Fernandez is the Democratic incumbent candidate. The unopposed candidates will have 3 minutes to make a statement. There will be questions for all candidates in the Voter Guide. This forum will be scheduled for one hour and will be a Zoom format.

There are 8 County Council candidates. The County Assessor, Magistrate Judge, Sheriff, and County Council races will be contested in the General Election in November.

State HD 43 Representative, Municipal Judge, and Probate Judge are unopposed in the General Election.

The Budget Committee has met and submitted a proposed budget. Jody made the motion to accept the proposed budget. Karyl Ann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Fundraising – The letters will be sent out by Friday.

Reports on County Council Meetings – Lynn reported on the February 28th Council meeting. Craig and June Martin will watch the recordings for the Council and P and Z Committee meetings that occurred while Craig and June were away.

Jean reported that there is a new dog care business in White Rock that was approved on March 23rd. There are currently 3 openings on the P and Z Committee.

The Oppenheimer exhibit opened today at Mesa Public Library.

La Palabra was published yesterday and includes a registration form. Felicia volunteered to attend the LWV Council Meeting on the 30th.

June 23 - 26th is the National Convention in Denver. The plan is to have in-person and Zoom access. Felicia will attend the convention. Barbara Calef will also attend. There is still room for one more attendee.

April 28th is the next Board meeting.

April 21st is the next LWL followed by the annual meeting.

Bob Williams will need to publish the membership list in the newsletter, including names only.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 P.M.