**The League of Women Voters/Los Alamos**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday September 24, 2024**

**UU Fellowship Hall**

**1738 North Sage Street**

**Los Alamos**

**Call to Order**

Felicia Orth called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present**

Felicia Orth, President

Ellen Mills, Second Vice President

Barbara Calef, Past President

Lynn Jones, Voter Services

Becky Shankland, Director at Large

Jody Benson, Publicity

Lisa Hampton, Community Health and Wellbeing

Wendy Swanson, Reservations and Refreshments

**Approval of Agenda**

Felicia added: Discussion of possible LWV-hosted presentation by Angelica Gurule about the Climate Action Plan before it goes to Council for a voter on November 12.

**Minutes**

The August minutes were accepted as presented.

**Treasurer's Report**

The August Treasurers Report was accepted. There was no updated treasurer’s report.

**Lunch with a Leader**

Stephanie Nahkleh will speak on October 17. Dan Osborn is November 21. December has no LWL.

**Additional Lunch to Explain the Climate Action Plan**: In addition, ESB-member Sue Barnes requested that we invite Los Alamos Sustainability Manager, Angelica Gurule, to a Zoom Lunch With a Leader Presentation about the Los Alamos Climate Action Plan to explain the CAP *before* the plan goes for a vote at Council on November 12. Felicia will invite Angelica for a Zoom from noon to 1:00 on October 10 (other options are 10/11 or 10/29).

**(NOTE: Angelica accepted the invitation for the Zoom Lunch from noon to 1 p.m. on Friday, November 1.)**

**Membership Report**

Next spring, National will take over the complex system that National currently requires of local Leagues. At that time, we will be able keep a simple database such as the Excel spreadsheet like Lisa’s Donor Database. The Board had an extended discussion about the membership list that Bob sent in order to identify who may no longer be a member or who may not have paid dues, as well as those who paid dues or are members but haven’t been updated on the list. Becky will send reminders to those we know want to remain members but are dues-delinquent. We continue to work on membership.

**Fundraising Committee Report** (Ellen)

The Fundraising Committee concluded that with the Delle Foundation Grant, we won’t need to do the arduous fund-raising task for probably three more years. Still, we have Friends and Donors, and to those ends, the Donor Appreciation Party was such a success that the Board wants to do it again next year. We are also looking forward to planning its Membership Party where we can give away the rest of the 91 LWV-LA Prosecco Sprite party-favor glasses. The chosen date for the Membership Party is Sunday, January 12, from 3:00 – 5:00 at Ellen’s house. The topic for the event will be: *Introduce members on how to interact with the Legislature.* The Board once again decided on the Italian Theme. If weather is icy or if someone has mobility issue, people can come in through the garage.

**Voter Registration Day Report** (Barbara, Jody)

On September 17, Voter Registration Day, Lynn Jones, Rosemary Alme, and Heddy Dunn registered two people (neither of whom were LA-County residents) in the morning at the Coop, Ed Santiago registered one at the Coop that afternoon, and Jody Benson with the large team (including student interns) from the County Clerk’s office, registered ten at LAHS. Barbara Calef and Charlie Sartor registered no one at the Farmer’s Market the following Thursday but gave away all the sample ballots. Each VRA reported that many people are interested in the election. Felicia had made dozens of “Keep Calm And Vote” buttons that Board members took to pass out at future events. People have enthusiastically received these Vote buttons when offered.

Jean Dewart had requested that we publicize the County Clerk’s certifying the voting machines. Karyl Ann distributed it to the LWV-LA voter list. Witnessing this process helps alleviate concerns that the machines are connected to the internet and could thereby be compromised. We concluded that next election, even though the announcement was in the paper, we should write an LTE for the event.

**Voter Guide Price—Approval of $3,975 for 16 pages** (Lynn)

**Motion: I move to approve $3,975 for the Voter Guide.** Moved by Felicia, seconded by Wendy. Approved unanimously.

The Board approved the LADailyPost’s price of $3,975 for 16-page Voter Guide. This Guide will be four-columns. Had we gone to the preferred two-column format, the VG would have been 20 pages. The Guide will be delivered Thursday, Oct. 3, with the PDF posted that same day on our webpage. Jody will submit the PR for the Forum that will include information for the Voter Guide prior to 10/03. It includes information on the constitutional amendments and the bond questions. Felicia will pick up the Guides at the LADP for distribution to the County Clerk and the Mesa Public Library, and Lisa will distribute them to the WR Library.

**Fall Candidate Forum—October 7, format and snacks, approve cost of hiring PAC-8 to record.** (Barbara, Wendy)

The Forum will be Monday, October 7, at 7:00 PM with snacks starting at 6:30 at the UNMLA Student Union, Bldg 2. Karyl Ann or Felicia will send out a notice to the membership for volunteers to bring snacks. Barbara sent the Forum format to all the participants. Wendy said UNMLA will help with the audio especially if the update to the room isn’t completed on by the date of our forum. The gas utility was turned off in Bldg 2 because of a leak; the hope is that the gas could be fixed or briefly turned on by October 7. The update to the room has not been completed because UNM in ABQ is responsible for the updates and hasn’t come to deal with the problems in Los Alamos yet. UNMLA needs the GO Bond to do the building repairs; two popular certification classes, Machining and Welding, are still cancelled; the classes have not been offered elsewhere.

We discussed whether to bring our pitchers for iced water and use some left-over paper cups; Wendy will scope out a place to plug in hot water pots with packages for instant beverages: coffee, hot chocolate, tea. Rather than using small paper plates, we’ll provide heavy-weight napkins that will hold snacks. Wendy has two boxes which would include the stashes of tablecloths.

**Online Motion: I move we approve the** **cost for PAC 8 to record the Forum.** Moved by Jody, seconded by Barbara. Online Approval by the Board.

**Miscellaneous**

The 10/10 Chamber of Commerce Breakfast will be a Candidate Forum. UNM-Los Alamos (UNM-LA) welcomes the community to an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony of Building 6, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29. The ribbon cutting will take place at 5 p.m.

**New Secretary Needed:** We need a new recording Secretary because Rebecca Chaiken is moving to Minnesota. No one has volunteered yet; it was stated that many of us feel we are unable to match the quality of her minutes. **We thank Rebecca for her years of recording those excellent, meticulous and diligent minutes!**

**Next Board Meeting: October 24, 2024**

**Other dates to remember:**

LWV Voter Forum 10/07.

Submissions due to the newsletter 11/01.

**Newsletter Deadline: November 1**

LWL (Karyl Ann)

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

Welcome, New Members (Becky)

President’s Report (Felicia)