

**MINUTES OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS/LOS ALAMOS BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY JULY 28, 2022
VIA ZOOM DUE TO THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK**

Call to Order

Barbara Calef called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Board Members Present

Barbara Calef, Co-President
Felicia Orth, First Vice President
Ellen Mills, Second Vice President
Rebecca Chaiken, Secretary
Rosmarie Fredrickson, Treasurer
Lynn Jones, Voter Services
Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lunch with a Leader
Akkana Peck, Director at Large
Jody Benson, Publicity
Amy Birnbaum, Reservations

Guest: Jean Dewart, Membership

Minutes

The May minutes were accepted as presented. No meeting was held in June.

LWVUS Convention

Barbara and others attended the LWVUS Convention which was held in Denver. Reports on the various meetings and caucuses were reported in the *Update*. Barbara said it was a very fun event. After the Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade, the convention participants marched on the capitol. Barbara attended a workshop on Club Express, a cloud-based management tool for any association or club. This may be the method by which League dues is collected in the future. Rosmarie was concerned that not enough information on implementation was provided, and Akkana said what she saw about the tool looked impressive. It is unclear whether Cloud Express would replace our current website. Also at Convention, a change in the bylaws regarding PMP passed. Starting no earlier than January 2024, member dues will be split between LWVUS, the state, and local Leagues.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for May 2022 reported a checking account beginning book balance of \$5,207.18 and an ending balance of \$3,278.40, which includes total

receipts of \$1,230.04 and disbursements of \$3,159.22. Receipts included dues, donations, and \$.04 interest. Disbursements were to Paul Frederickson for stamps, Aspen Copies, the LA Daily Post, and for PayPal expenses. The savings account ending book balance was \$33,309.08, which includes \$.85 interest.

The Treasurer's Report for June 2022 reported a checking account beginning book balance of \$3,278.40 and an ending balance of \$1,286.92, which includes total receipts of \$545.02 and disbursements of \$2,536.50. Receipts included dues, donations, and \$.02 interest. Disbursements were to Barbara and Felicia for convention expenses, Aspen Copies, our Visa card for convention expenses, and PayPal expenses. The savings account ending book balance was \$33,309.93, which includes \$.82 interest.

Rebecca moved that both Treasurer's Reports be accepted, and Akkana seconded this motion. All voted in favor.

Rosmarie noted that this was the first year that she did not need to tap into our savings account, even after paying for Convention expenses.

Barbara has not yet written to local businesses asking for donations.

Lunch with a Leader

Karyl Ann reported that our guest for the August event will be Beverley Simpson. For September, Karyl Ann suggested Sara Mason who is with the Citizens' Climate Lobby. Barbara would prefer to hear from Anne Laurent, the Deputy County Manager and former head of both Community Planning and Public Works, who could discuss the County's view on the proposed Pueblo Canyon mountain bike projects. Karyl Ann will ask Anne for September and Sara for October.

Membership

According to Jean's most recent report, we have 120 individual members including three new members since May. Dotty sent out welcome messages to the new members. Dotty also sent out membership renewal reminders to 30 members in June. Seven have since renewed. Another reminder will be sent out in the middle of August. Jean added that voter registration and voting rights comes in second only to environmental issues of interest to our members.

Voter Services

Lynn reported that September 20 is National Voter Registration Day, and she asked if we would participate. Both Jody and Rebecca are unavailable on that date. PEEC, where we have held voter registration events in the past, is closed during the day on Tuesdays, and some people may not want to venture out with our COVID numbers on the rise. Lynn suggested that we inquire with Naomi Maestas because of

reported staffing issues in her office. Barbara will check with Naomi and added that this would be a good opportunity for some of our members to become more involved. Ellen will inquire with the high school principal about holding a voter registration event for students.

Regarding the Voter Guide, LWVNM has decided on two questions related to abortion rights and gun safety. Those questions will be: 1) Do you believe the right to abortion should be codified by the Legislature? Please explain; and 2) What gun safety laws, if any, would you support? Ellen suggested that the term “gun safety” is not explicit enough but Akkana liked the term because it is broad. She is not sure all voters would know what “codified” means, however.

The local candidates for the general election will be the same as for the primary because no one was eliminated. Lynn suggests that we look at the questions we posed for the primary election and decide at the August meeting what we will keep and what we will change. Barbara will send the original questions out to the group via email. Karyl Ann would like a question about the legitimacy of the Presidential election and will add this to Barbara’s email.

Miscellaneous

Ellen said that this years’ Rodeo Parade will be held on August 13, and she will register us for the event. Becky will need to send a message to our members.

Jody wants us to hold a small meeting with Community Services Director Cory Styron because he needs mentoring on environmental issues. Barbara said that, in the past, he has not expressed any openness to hearing different points of view. Akkana likes Jody’s idea because any issues she has heard about Styron are third hand, and she would like to hear from him directly. Jean added that a steering committee could help the County and its consultants become more familiar with Los Alamos. Jody will ask Anne Laurent about scheduling a meeting with Styron. Jody will represent the Sierra Club if a meeting is held.

Barbara said that the LWVNM Executive Committee will ask for a meeting with the Secretary of State to discuss voter intimidation following concerns she has heard about the publication of voting records. Karyl Ann added that a question on this issue would be good for statewide candidates.

Important Dates

The deadline for the next newsletter is August 1, 2022.

The next board meeting will be August 25, 2022, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Rebecca Chaiken