**MINUTES OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS/LOS ALAMOS BOARD MEETING**

**THURSDAY MARCH 23, 2023**

**VIA ZOOM**

**Call to Order**

Barbara Calef called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

**Board Members Present**

Barbara Calef, Co-President

Becky Shankland, Co-President

Felicia Orth, First Vice President

Ellen Mills, Second Vice President

Rosmarie Frederickson, Treasurer

Rebecca Chaiken, Secretary

Lynn Jones, Voter Services

Akkana Peck, Director at Large

Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lunch with a Leader

Jody Benson, Publicity

Adelaide Jacobson, Director at Large

Amy Birnbaum, Reservations

Bob Williams, Newsletter

**Minutes**

The February 2023 minutes were accepted as presented.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report for February 2023 showed a checking account beginning book balance of $2,120.79 and an ending balance of $2,235.86, which includes total receipts of $115.07 and disbursements of $0. Receipts included dues (Determan and Lemmick) and interest. The savings account ending book balance was $26,819.27, which includes $1.65 interest.

Becky moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, and Lynn seconded this motion. All voted in favor.

Rosmarie noted that the recent fund drive netted $625. In response to a question from Jody, Rosmarie said that paying dues by check rather than PayPal is generally easier for her and saves the PayPal fees.

**Lunch with a Leader**

Chief Justice Shannon Bacon is confirmed for our April Lunch with a Leader, which precedes our annual meeting on April 20. Karyl Ann said that she has been in communication with Rowan, the manager of the Co-Op, and he requires our lunch order one week in advance. This changes her schedule, which now requires that she send out notifications two weeks in advance. She added that the menu has changed a bit, but the fee has been kept at $10. Addie offered to pick up the lunches from the Co-Op in time to have them at the church by 11:45.

We then discussed whether the Lunch with a Leader event would be held only in person or via Zoom. It was determined that Justice Bacon can appear via Zoom, but League members will need to be present in person. There should be no problem with participants asking questions. A dry run will be conducted to make sure we have no issues. The event will be recorded if Justice Bacon approves. The annual meeting will also require in person participation. Barbara noted that we are far enough along with Covid that this should no longer be an issue, and the Fellowship Hall at the Unitarian Church was selected because of its ample ventilation and air purifiers.

Ellen offered to coordinate the setting up of tables and chairs, which she anticipates will require 30 to 45 minutes. Felicia said the space has been secured beginning at 11:15, so we should have adequate time for this.

Barbara suggested Senator Leo Jaramillo for our May Lunch with a Leader, and if he is not available Karyl Ann will invite Representative Susan Herrera. Senator Jaramillo can discuss his bill on catalytic converters and the legislative session in general. Whether that meeting is via Zoom or in person will depend upon our speaker’s preference. In general, Barbara wants to resume in person meetings, unless the speaker is from outside the county.

Our speaker for June was then discussed, and several names were suggested including Karl Braithwaite, Christa Slaton, Luis Reyes, Senator Bobby Gonzalez, or Tom Solomon. Barbara said that Tom Solomon could talk about hydrogen, which is a big issue for our state, in addition to modernizing the legislature. Jody suggested a Lab employee who co-authored a publication called, “100 Important Questions Facing Plant Science.” No decision was reached about our June speaker.

**Archives Report**

Bob previously agreed to be our League archivist. He has received helpful suggestions on setting up our League archives in “the cloud” from Akkana and Eduardo Santiago. He has also had initial talks with the Los Alamos Historical Society, which preserves our archives. Bob has asked for categories of things to be archived and soon will be requesting materials and files. He chose IDrive, as our cloud account in part because they had a terrific sale. He secured a one-year five terabyte account for $8, which will increase to $80 next year. Bob noted that this is a back-up service, not a collaboration service. He has not checked to see if IDrive has a search feature, but he will have a directory of materials. Bob added that a separate, external hard drive will also be needed before materials are stored in the cloud. Rosmarie assured him that we have the money for this. Becky expressed some concern about using digital, rather than hard copies of our materials. Bob said that the Historical Society likes hard copies, but they accept digital files as well. Barbara said that the LWVNM archivist, Jody Larson, presented a useful spreadsheet on what needs to be saved and for how long. She will forward this to the board.

**Fund Drive Meeting**

The Fund Drive meeting was held on March 6 and eight League members participated (but Akkana and David North left early). Tracy McFarland was one of the participants, and she volunteered to maintain our list of Friends of the League. Rosmarie will send her list to Tracy.

**Annual Meeting**

Felicia secured an insurance waiver for our annual meeting. Barbara said that the April *Update* will have all the information members need to participate. It will go out the first week of April, so the April 1 deadline is firm.

Barbara suggested to Leslie Wallstrom, who is helping Ellen with nominations, that Past President be an officer position. Another change Barbara suggested was regarding board vacancies. The board approved both changes via email. These changes will be presented to our members for their approval.

Ellen said that there has thus far been no success in getting nominees for Voter Guide, First Vice President, or Treasurer. Barbara suggested that Marguerite McClay be approached for Treasurer and Andrew Fraser be approached for Voter Guide.

Jody submitted her study proposal to Barbara and Becky, who edited it to make it more conventional. Jody approved of their edits. The study proposal is entitled, “Should Large Scale Pit Production for Nuclear Weapons Occur in Los Alamos?” While this topic is of local, regional, and international interest, it will be a local study to make our citizens aware of what is happening, we can get local people involved, and our local government may use this to make decisions. A LWVNM study on nuclear power will be presented by Karen Douglas at the Convention.

Rebecca moved that Jody’s study proposal be presented to our members for their approval at the Annual Meeting and this was seconded by Akkana. All voted in favor.

As an aside, Bob mentioned the book he is currently reading entitled, “2052: A Global Forecast for the Next 40 Years” by Jørgen Randers. Bob also agreed to participate in Jody’s study if it is approved. Barbara is sure there will be others who wish to participate.

**2023 Convention**

Preparation for the 2023 LWVNM Convention is also underway. We now have six delegates from Los Alamos, and they include Felicia, Becky, Rosmarie, Jean, Ellen, and Karyl Ann. State board delegates will include Barbara, Rebecca, Akkana, and Ann LePage. Delegates need to send their registration forms to Rosmarie, because she needs to know who will be attending. The registration fee for non-delegates is $35 and the banquet at Pig and Fig will be $50. All necessary information will be contained in the spring *La Palabra*.

Barbara has been unable to reach Wendy Swanson about beverages, but she will try again. Rosmarie confirmed that the Lutheran Church has adequate supplies of dishes, which will need to be washed after the event. The church also has a dishwasher. Rebecca has not yet heard from Julie Williams-Hill about county materials, but she will try to reach her again.

**Miscellaneous**

David Izraelevitz approached Barbara about having the League of Women Voters of Los Alamos as a volunteer organization for the Volunteer Los Alamos web page David spearheads. She agreed and he will create a page for our League. It has yet to be advertised.

On Thursday, March 30, at 6:00 p.m., Becky and Jody will be presenting “From Women’s Suffrage to Local Governance: A Historical Perspective from the League of Women Voters.” This event will be held at SALA and is free to the public.

**Important Dates**

The deadline for the next newsletter is April 1, 2023.

The next board meeting will be April 27, 2023, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Rebecca Chaiken*