

League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette
West Lafayette Public Library
August 21, 2007

Attendance

Betty Doversberger, Mida Grover, Jo Anne Mullen, Jean Andres, Donna Giroux, Winnie Adler, Jane Frankenberger Visitor: Joanne Evers, LWVIN President

Minutes

The minutes of the June 19 meeting were approved, with a clarification of the following sentence: “When Leagues do concurrence, they agree or disagree with a position on an issue reached by a committee or another League, or may decide they agree with certain parts of the proposed position.”

The minutes of the Annual Meeting were approved, with a clarification that Renee Thomas is Director of the Black Cultural Center.

Financial Report

The financial report prepared by Treasurer Jennifer Andres was accepted.

Education Fund

Jo Anne Mullen moved and Donna Giroux seconded a motion to take funds from the Education Fund for Immigration Reform Study Committee materials. The motion passed.

August picnic

The picnic will be held August 25, 2007 at Happy Hollow Park. Mida Grover will speak out the immigration reform study. The following opportunities will be announced: Volunteers needed for the Vote Center Forum; Juvenile Justice study; Voter registration at Purdue’s Constitution Day, Exit survey at Vote Centers on Election Day, Indiana Civic Engagement forum on Sept 11. Attendees will also be reminded that dues are due.

Immigration Reform

Mida Grover described good participation at the first Immigration Reform Committee meeting, with a good representation from newer members including students. Membership meetings are planned for Sept 25 and Nov 14 from 7:00-8:30 at the Tippecanoe County Public Library. The committee is meeting every two weeks.

Candidate Forums

Since little planning has taken place, it was suggested that we partner with WALLA who has done very similar forums to ours in the past. Betty Doversberger will contact WALLA.

Voter registration

A good place to do voter registration would be Constitution Day at Purdue on Monday, Sept. 17 from 9 to 3. Betty Doversberger will attend the organization meeting, and we will ask the League for volunteers.

Vote Center Forum

Jean Andres reported that the Forum is set for Thursday Oct 25 from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Tippecanoe Office Building. Wayne Pratt will be Moderator, and panelists will be Linda Phillips, Heather Maddox, Dave Williams, and Joanne Evers. Publicity is being organized.

Wabash River Development: Liz Solberg and John Corey will organize this later in the year.

Membership Recruitment Initiative

Joanne Evers said that the Indiana LWV has been selected to be one of five states in a special membership recruitment initiative. The National League has contracted a marketing consultant that will work to help local Leagues increase membership. LWVIN will choose about five local Leagues. Two Coordinators will be trained nationally, then train the local Leagues. Leagues in the pilot program all increased membership by at least 5%. Our League would need to apply, and sign a contract saying what we commit to doing. We would need coordinators that are willing to attend meetings, and all of us would need to invite people. Ramona Lawson has expressed interest, and Winnie Adler volunteered to work on publicity for this initiative. The Board decided to apply for the initiative, and Betty Doversberger will initiate the application.

Purdue Home and Family Conference

We were invited to have a booth or contribute a door prize at this gathering, but the cost of a booth seemed high. We decided to offer to register voters, and to contribute a door prize of a State League membership (\$40).

Exit Polling Study for Vote Centers

Jean Andres described an initiative to survey voters using Vote Centers to understand how the process worked for them. We will try to contribute volunteers, and have a sign-up sheet for this at the picnic. It is a good opportunity for members who want to make a contribution in a very limited amount of time.

Indiana Summit on Civic Engagement

This event will be held Sept 11 at the Tippecanoe Historical Society. Betty Doversberger and Joanne Evers will attend. Others will be invited at the picnic.

Web Site

The LWVGL web site no longer exists, as the service provider, which provided the site free of charge, is no longer doing so. The Board decided to use the League Easy Web system developed by the California LWV. Costs will be \$160/year plus \$75 set-up.

Secretary/Webmaster Positions

Because a new web site needs to be created, Jane Frankenberger volunteered to do it. Because she was currently serving as Secretary, she resigned and was appointed by the Board as Webmaster. The Board then appointed Donna Giroux as Secretary.

Fern Weber Fund

The Board decided on the following method of using the Fern Weber Fund to support membership scholarships. A box that can be checked will be included on the membership form in the future, which will say something like "Check here if you wish to receive assistance from the Fern Weber Fund". The Treasurer will pass this request onto the Board for approval. The Treasurer then needs to move the funds (normally 50% of the dues, but more in certain cases) from the Fern Weber Fund into general funds. A discussion was also held on whether the definition of "student" needs to be clarified for the reduced dues. The Board decided that students could self-identify.

Review of State positions

Committee members are needed, and a sign-up sheet will be brought to the picnic.

Next newsletter

Deadline is Oct. 5, so items can be discussed at the September Board meeting. The membership recruitment initiative should be included if we apply.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Frankenberger, Secretary