

League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette

Board of Directors

West Lafayette Public Library

January 29, 2008 5PM

Attendance

Betty Doversberger, Mida Grover, Jo Ann Mullen, Jean Andres, Donna Giroux, Winnie Adler

Minutes

The minutes of the November 20, 2007 meeting were approved.

Financial Report

Jean presented a quarterly budget report for the period ending 12/31/07. The report had been prepared and submitted by Jennifer Andres. Jean stated that much of the money from calendar sales has yet to come in. Sales from CVS in West Lafayette have not been received. There was a discussion of why sales might be down. Cathy Potter is credited with making some sales at the Legislative Breakfast.

Legislative Breakfast

Attendance at the 1/26/08 Legislative Breakfast was greater than last year. There was discussion of the optimal room configuration. The timekeepers were crowded too close to the legislators. Service by MCL staff was less than adequate, but food was more varied and plentiful than in the past. We will consider a different location next year. Elected official in the audience should be recognized. Publicity for the event was good.

Membership Recruitment

Betty presented the following example she has been using to provide a consistent message. Contact her with any suggestions for change. There was a brief discussion of how to emphasize our nonpartisan approach to research, education and action.

The League of Women Voters is an organization that believes that an informed and involved citizenry is essential for a strong democracy. The League uses a two-pronged approach to strengthening citizen participation; education through programs and forums and advocacy on issues of importance. The League is effective because it is highly respected for its non-partisanship and the thorough, grassroots research leading to the positions it advocates on issues. We invite you to join the League and participate with us in safeguarding our democracy.

WALLA Course

The course (4 sessions) we are arranging for WALLA is set for March. Jo Ann will find out how to register for the courses and get the information to Donna and Jane for distribution to members via e-mail and placement on our web site. It costs \$60 to take up to 10 courses.

Observer Corps

Winnie reported that no one expressed interest in becoming an observer. She has prepared a packet for anyone who wants to be an observer. It is hoped to get coverage

for at least 2 or 3 councils/commissions. The topic will be presented again at the annual meeting.

Outreach

Betty will prepare a letter to the editor about the voter ID law challenge currently before the Supreme Court. She asked for a board member to write a letter for Sunshine Week. We agreed not to have the planned Sunshine Week forum this year due to lack of a project head. We are considering a forum on the judicial system and a tour of courthouse

Winnie reported that the program organizers have sent invitations to targeted individuals and groups for the health care and juvenile justice forums.

Donna suggested and the board agreed that Kristin Floress be offered a scholarship from the Fern Web Fund. She has actively participated on the Immigration Reform Committee and is currently a graduate student. Donna will contact her.

Immigration reform

The board moved and passed acceptance of the immigration reform member consensus report. The committee, represented by Mida, was recognized for their good work. There was a discussion of possibly having a public forum on the topic in April, May or June when we do not have other events. No action will be taken until / if a chairperson can be found.

Juvenile Justice Forum

Donna agreed to find members to work at the Juvenile Justice Forum Feb. 25. She will find out from Patsy what the needs are.

Candidate Forums

We will not present any candidate forums for the spring primary election. No one was sure if the school board races in TCS or WLSC are contested. The final filing date is in February. We will partner with WALLA for at least one forum in the fall.

Voter ID Law hearing at the Supreme Court

Jean, Rona Andres and Joanne Evers attended the Supreme Court session during which the voter ID law appeal was argued. Look for their photo on the LWVIN web site.

Health Care program

Winnie distributed flyers to board members to post announcing the Health Care Forum on March 4.

Web Site

Everyone is very pleased with the web site, and thankful for Jane's work in getting our message presented so well.

Legislative Action Network

Donna sent an e-mail to our local network to see who wanted to receive the weekly LAN report sent out by LWVIN. Twenty members asked to receive the mailing.

There was a brief discussion about polling our e-mail network to see who wants to receive the LWVIN President's update. No action was taken.

Upcoming events

We have not yet received the first call to Council to be held April 25-26 in Muncie. Several board members are interested in participating. We are not limited in the number who can attend.

LWVUS Convention in June 13-17 in Portland, Oregon. We have fewer than 100 members so may have only one delegate. Donna is interested in attending, in addition to our delegate, Betty. She has contacted Joanne Evers to see if any other leagues in Indiana would allow Donna to serve as their delegate. League practice allows this.

There has been some confusion as to how many may attend Presidents Day Feb. 9 in Indianapolis. Betty clarified that any interested board member is welcome. Betty, Donna, Winnie and Jo Ann will go. Jean will participate as a member of the state board.

Jean suggested a public meeting with Jane Frankenberger discussing local ground water quality. A strategy of the membership recruitment initiative is to be active and visible year round. Further discussion of spring and summer activities was deferred till program planning in February.

Newsletters

The board discussed again who we want to send our local newsletter to. Elected officials and prospective members were mentioned. Since the newsletter is on our web site, not everyone agreed that additional mailings are necessary. No action was taken.

Program Planning

Local and national program planning will follow the **Feb. 19 board meeting**. A soup and bread supper will be offered between the meetings. Board members will provide the food and drink. The library closes at 8PM. Jo Ann is organizing the meeting. There was a discussion of how to arrange the work to be done and how to present the results with respect to priorities, positions and action so that it is understandable outside the league. Jo Ann will get information to Donna to send to members in the e-mail network.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Giroux, Secretary