

Minutes of the LWVLA Board Meeting
Thursday, March 31, 2016
Mesa Public Library, Los Alamos, NM

Call to Order

Barbara called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Barbara Calef, President	Rosmarie Frederickson, Treasurer
Becky Shankland, Second Vice President	Jody Benson, Publicity
Lynn Jones, Observer Corps	Julie Williams-Hill, Secretary
Tarin Nix, Voter Services	Guest: Akkana Peck, State LWV Webmaster
Amy Birnbaum, Reservations	
Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lunch with a Leader	

Minutes

Both the January and February meeting minutes were approved with corrections.

Treasurer Report

As of February 29, 2016, the checking account balance was \$5,323.38, down from the beginning balance on February 1, 2016 of \$5,413.34. Receipts totaled \$5 in donations and \$0.04 in earned interest. Disbursements totaled \$95 to reimburse the Los Alamos Monitor for advertising. Rosmarie reported that the balances for the savings account and the Ed Fund remained unchanged at \$2,144.88 and \$19,054.64.

As of March 30, 2016 the checking account balance decreased to \$5,305.79. Transactions included receipts in the amount of \$245 due to fundraising, less \$200 expended to the LWV in California for web services and less \$62.59 reimbursed to Rosmarie for fundraising supplies. The savings account remains unchanged with a balance of \$2,144.88. The Ed Fund increased by \$535 due to fundraising efforts, closing on March 30 with a balance of \$19,589.64.

Rosmarie compiled a list of names and addresses from fundraising letters that were returned by the post office as undeliverable. She will provide this information so that addresses and/or names can either be corrected or purged from future fundraising lists.

Information verifying the LWV non-profit status was provided to the Los Alamos Monitor. Rosmarie stated the Monitor accepted the documentation and the LWV was able to take advantage of reduced rate advertisements. Bills from Fuller Lodge and the Los Alamos Daily Post have still not been received.

Website Information

Julie briefed the group on a webinar hosted by the California LWV on March 11th in regard to the status of the League Easy Web (LEW). National LWV notified California LWV that they are no longer interested in supporting phase II of the LEW program, which was underway. California LWV wanted to assure LEW

users that there is a short-term solution which ensures that LEW will continue to be supported for current subscribers until the end of the election and through the end of December 2016. A long-term solution for LEW is being developed and California hopes to share it by the end of June 2016. There are a lot of moving parts, and California is not sure what it will be able to provide and for how much. Los Alamos LWV will need to make a decision for 2017-2018 as to whether or not we want to continue with the long-term LEW solution or use another web program.

Akkana noted that the New Mexico LWV uses a different web program, primarily html, and the site is not dynamic. It was suggested that if the cost for the new LEW is less than \$2,000, this is a good deal for Los Alamos.

Discussion continued on the shortcomings on various websites as it relates to voter information, districts, candidates, and existing incumbents. National has a 411 on its website, essentially a voter's guide which will include information on New Mexico. Barbara requested that Lynn follow up with Sharon Stover to find out what information is on the County Clerk's website, and the Secretary of State's website so that we can provide links on the Los Alamos LWV site to identify candidates at all levels. Tarin will also provide possible links.

Nonpartisan Policy

Not everyone had an opportunity to read the non-partisan policy. The vote to accept the policy is therefore postponed until the April 28th meeting.

Lunch with a Leader

Karyl Ann reported that Gene Grant, the host for New Mexico InFocus program, is confirmed for the April Lunch with a Leader. Meredith Machen, President of the State LWV, is confirmed for May. Possible suggestions for June include Nancy Partridge with the Chamber of Commerce or someone from the County and/or Architectural Research Consultants (firm hired by the county) to discuss the Comprehensive Plan. Tamara Baer is the County representative and the project manager of the ARC Contract.

Membership Report

Tarin requested guidance as to what needs to occur for the membership drive. Barbara advised that an email be sent on April 1st reminding everyone it is time to renew. Request that renewing members fill out the membership forms, they can pay dues at the annual meeting with a check or cash. Tarin indicated that she will post on facebook and issue a press release that highlights:

- 1) Speaker Gene Grant at Lunch with a Leader
- 2) Join the League
- 3) Stay for the annual meeting.

Jody will develop an ad as well. Tarin noted that she will send an updated membership form to Rosmarie.

Observer Corps

Lynn reported that the Arts in Public Places Board received the San Ildefonso pots that are to be installed in White Rock. She also reminded everyone that there is a council meeting on April 5th in which

a citizen petition will be presented to kill the round-about planned at the 502/Trinity/Central intersection.

Candidate Forum Scheduled for May 12

There are four Democrats running for council. Three have confirmed attending the forum and Kristin Henderson is a “maybe.” Three Republicans are running for council.

Two Republicans are challenging Ben Ray Lujan, Jr. for the US House of Representative seat for District 3: Michael Lucero and Michael Romero. Lucero has not responded to the forum invitation, which means that Romero will have no one to debate. Lynn was asked to contact the Republican County Chair, Bill McKerley, to see if he might influence Lucero to attend.

Suggested format for the candidate forum:

- 3 minutes for introduction statements
- 1 minute for questions
- 1.5 minutes for candidates to respond
- 1 minute for closing statements

Lynn will write a letter explaining the format and will track replies. Barbara will contact Margo Batha with the high school debate team.

Annual Meeting April 19

Rosmarie indicated that she might not be present at the annual meeting. If that's the case can someone assist with the collection of money for the Lunch with a Leader. Barbara reminded everyone that 11 am is the starting time for the silent auction.

Discussion followed about the proposed budget. Expenses are approximately \$1,000 higher than the revenue. Historically, once a budget is adopted, it functions more as a guideline. It was decided that at the April annual meeting we adopt the proposed one-year budget, but suggest a two-year budget moving forward. The two-year budget could be more general, placing importance on separating the taxable and non-taxable assets. Becky moved to approve the proposed one-year budget. Amy seconded the motion. Budget was unanimously approved.

LWVUS Convention in Washington, DC June 16-19

Wendee is registered to go to the National LWV Convention in Washington, D.C. A second slot is available for someone else to attend. Becky can attend but suggested that Akkana should go instead. Akkana will think about it.

State LWV Council Meeting May 21st

This year the council meeting is in Los Alamos at the New Mexico Consortium. The Los Alamos LWV will register the President and two representatives. Wendee will decide which board members the Los Alamos LWV will send as delegates; however, anyone can register on their own at their own expense. A friendly reminder will be sent out in May regarding the May 12 registration deadline. The purpose of

registering is for lunch. If one doesn't register, they can still attend, but will receive no lunch. La Palabra will come out on April 12th.

Next Newsletter Deadline is April 25th

There is only one county council meeting prior to the next newsletter. Julie should report on the Board of Public Utilities if anything relevant happens at the April 20th Board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

Barbara adjourned the meeting at 1:35 pm.