

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of APPLETON
ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, May 21, 2015



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League of Women Voters of Appleton
Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 21, 2015 - Liberty Hall, Kimberly

Social Hour: 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:00 p.m., Business Meeting 6:45 p.m.

Presiding: Sara Companik Recorder: Sara Companik

AGENDA

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Sara Companik |
| 2. Introduction of Parliamentarian | Sara Companik |
| 3. Remarks from the Parliamentarian | Deb Cronmiller |
| 4. Adoption of Agenda | Sara Companik |
| 5. Acceptance of Minutes (2014 Annual Meeting) | Sara Companik |
| 6. Appointment of Readers (2015 Annual Meeting Minutes) | Sara Companik |
| 7. President's Report | Sara Companik |
| 8. Treasurer's Report | Barbara Kelly |
| 9. Membership Report | Stephanie Malaney |
| 10. Proposed Revision of Bylaws | Stephanie Malaney |
| 11. Budget Presentation | Barbara Kelly |
| 12. Re-adoption of Local Positions | Sara Companik |
| 13. Local Program | |
| ➤ Report on 2014 - 2015 Local Study | Irene Strohbeen |
| ➤ Presentation of Recommended Program | Gayle Hardt |
| ➤ Presentation of Non-Recommended Program | Gayle Hardt |
| ➤ Adoption of Recommended Program for 2015 - 2016 | Sara Companik |
| 14. Adoption of Local Program for 2015 - 2016 | Sara Companik |
| 15. Adoption of Bylaws | Sara Companik |
| 16. Adoption of Budget | Sara Companik |
| 17. Presentation of Slate of Officers, Directors,
Nominating Committee | Nadine Miller |
| 18. Nominations from the Floor | Sara Companik |
| 19. Election of Officers, Directors, Nominating Committee | Sara Companik |
| 20. Other Business | President |
| 21. Advice to the Board | President |
| 22. Announcements | President |
| 23. Motion to Adjourn | President |

League of Women Veterans of Appleton
2014 Annual Meeting
Thursday, April 17, Liberty Hall
Social Hour: 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:00 pm, Business Meeting 6:45 pm
Presiding: Sara Companik Recorder: Secretary Lois Bressette

Members and guests present: Penny Bernard-Schaber, Lois Bressette, Sara Companik, Deb Cronmiller, Sheryl DeHart, Miriam Douglass, Marcia Engen, Beth English, Marlys Fritzell, Marti Hemwall, Barbara Kelly, Jacqueline Klimaszewski, Stephanie Malaney, Helen Nagler, Amy Oberg, Jan Quinlan, Cheryl Reissmann, Ligia Rivera, Penny Robinson, Colleen Rortvedt, Joan Schneider, Richard Schoenbohm, Shirley Strange, Irene Strohbeen, Cathy Thompson, Deb Werth, Kim Wetzel.

Reported by Shirley Strange, Anniversary Committee
League of Women Voters of Appleton Celebrates 75 Years
"League Memories" Discovering Our History

Accomplishments:

The first municipal service of garbage and rubbish collection and the disposal program in Appleton resulted from a study and campaign by the league during the years 1944-1946. The women steadfastly pursued the issue. After careful study (always the League way), they presented a resolution to the city council, had an interview with the mayor, and petitioned signatures from community residents.

In April of 1946, the league's work resulted in bringing the issue before the people on the spring election ballot. The League's work was done.

In 1995 following a library study to update the 1975 library positions, the league made a concerted effort to support expanding the library. The league petitioned for the expansion project to be included in the Capital Plan of 1995 along with money in the budget to support it. The library did get its expansion.

Tidbits:

- February, 1947, the membership came to agreement that there would be no smoking at General Meetings.
- August, 1971, On August 4 a motion was made to refer to a League member by her given name rather than by her husband's name, e.g. Sally Smith rather than Mrs. John Smith.
- March 1961, Appleton held a Local League Convention on Wednesday evening at Bernie's Supper Club. Reservations for a Prime rib dinner...\$3.00! Yes, three dollars!
- January 1962, The League had 85 members. Dues were \$5.00! Now stop that!!! The previous year they were \$4.00.

President Sara Companik called the meeting to order at 7:10PM.

Parliamentarian Deb Cronmiller briefly reviewed procedures of Robert's Rules of Order running the meeting. There were no non-recommended items.

Marti Hemwall moved adoption of the agenda. Jan Quinlan seconded and the motion carried.

The minutes of the May 16, 2013 Annual Meeting minutes were read by a committee, approved and filed. The President appointed a committee of Deb Cronmiller, Marti Hemwall and Jacqui Klimaszewski to review and approve the minutes of the 2014 Annual meeting.

Barbara Kelly presented the Treasurer's Report which was accepted.

In her President's Report, Sara Companik described an active and innovative year through participation in a variety of community events, all made possible through donations. There are several new members. Sara thanked the board members for their hard work this past year. A special thank you to Shirley and Dave Strange for their work on the league website. The League Speakers bureau is currently being organized to give talks about redistricting. Increasing observer corps participation at local meetings is a goal for the next year.

The Membership Report by Stephanie Malaney showed 60 current members. Stephanie passed out the membership master list so we could make corrections, if needed, to keep the list/data base current. Membership dues were increased to \$75.00. The goal for the next year is to increase our membership for observer corps and other league duties. Dues assistance is available thru scholarship for those in need.

Barbara Kelly reviewed the budget contained in the meeting packet. The committee tried to be more conservative this year with the budget. Contributions from members were close to our projections, but fell short for non-member contributions.

Program Vice President Kim Wetzel reported that during the 2013-2014 year, the League held a total of six events, including the Annual Meeting in April. Last fall we had speakers who helped us better understand: The Affordable Care Act, Human Trafficking and Redistricting. This winter, we had considerable numbers turnout for: Lively Issues, Mental Health, Crisis Intervention and Law Enforcement (NAMI speakers), Library Consensus Study (LWV-Appleton committee, chair: Miriam Douglass). We've had excellent community attendance and involvement with our programs, with much of the accolades going to the Appleton Public Library for not only hosting our events, but broadly marketing them as well. A sincere thank you especially to Elizabeth Eisen for her help.

Miriam Douglass reported on the 2013-2014 Local Study. During the annual meeting two years ago the local study was decided. The nature of libraries has changed. Innovation has taken place to keep libraries current with the latest technology. David Lankes, author of the book, "Expect More" was used as a resource for the study. The study overlapped with the Appleton Public Library long range study which helped with our study. Due to the consensus, the job now is to support the APL as it works to build a new library for our city.

Kim Wetzel led the discussion of the Recommended Program. Kim said the Lively Issues forum was fabulous. The recommended study is a national, regional and global issue: Human Trafficking. We need to oppose all aspects of human trafficking in terms of labor and sex. Texas and New Jersey has a completed a Human Trafficking consensus study. If the National Convention decides to pass this as a study, we recommend proceeding to act on it.

We can concur with the New Jersey consensus study to make it more local.

Motion by Shirley Strange that the Appleton League take on the study of human trafficking as the local study. Second by Irene Strohbeen. Helen Nagler amended the motion, accepted as a friendly amendment by Shirley, to study human trafficking and research local services available to victims. Second by Stephanie Malaney. Motion carried.

Kim Wetzel further led the discussion to look into non-public transportation. We should look at the city plan and work concurrently with the city of Appleton.

Helen Nagler made a motion to add to the recommendation that Outagamie County and greenways committee are included with the city plan for non-public transportation. Second by Barb Kelly. Offering as a friendly amendment, Penny Bernard Schaber asked to add non-public transportation such as bike lanes: the league should act to remind local governmental entities to follow through with the decisions/plans they have already adopted and advocate to move forward with and encourage the local governmental entities to follow and implement the adopted plan. A core group with the league should know and understand the city's plan on non-public transportation and advocate to move forward with the adopted plan. Second by Richard Schoenbohm. Motion carried.

Motion by Miriam Douglass that we re-adopt our local positions. Second by Stephanie Malaney. Motion carried. Two abstain: Jan Quinlan and Colleen Rortvedt.

Motion by Shirley Strange to adopt the budget. Second by Jan Quinlan. Motion carried.

Sara gave an update on the League Anniversary Committee. Personal invitations were mailed out for the 75th anniversary dinner. The committee is streamlining reservations to the state League to make it easier.

Shirley Strange presented the Nominating Committee Report. The slate of officers and directors for 2014-2015 are:

VP Action - Jacqui Klimaszewski

VP Program 1 year - Gayle Hardt (remainder of Kim Wetzel's term)

Treasurer - Barbara Kelly

Director 2 year - Irene Strohbeen

Director 2 year - Stephanie Malaney

Director 2 year - Penny Robinson

Director 1 year - Deb Werth

Continuing Board Members (Year 2 of 2)

President - Sara Companik

Secretary - Lois Bressette

Director - Karen Jansen

Nominating Committee 2015: Nadine Miller (Chair), Miriam Douglass, Marti Hemwall.

There were no nominations from the floor.

Unanimous acceptance of the Nominating Committee slate was moved by Irene Strohbeen and seconded by Marti Hemwall. The motion carried.

President Sara Companik reminded members to be non-partisan when speaking on the League's behalf. Be mindful of where we are and what we say to protect the League.

Directions to the Board:

- Penny Bernard Schaber, continue to support Stephanie and encourage new members. Implement the scholarship program for membership.
- Irene Strohbeen said this is an election year, time for the League to shine. Irene loves voter services and is available to help Jacqui. Jacqui has great ideas.
- Richard Schoenbohm is available to speak on redistricting. Jacqui would like speakers to go into the high school and college classes. Jacqui will help with a proposal to principals. Helen Nagler will help with the speaker's bureau. Amy Oberg will help with expanding the speaker's bureau to include other topics.
- Shirley Strange said thank you to the board. It is time for the League to educate the public on how important it is to vote in the primary elections.
- Helen Nagler feels let down by the League. County services are absent from the League. The League needs to play more of a role in county elections.
- Marlys Fritzell concurs with Helen.
- Deb Cronmiller said we need to continue with membership and leadership development. Use the Joyce Fund money to help with education programs.
- Penny Robinson said this year has been disastrous for the League and voter rights.
- Jan Quinlan commended Miriam and the committee on the League study. Jan appreciates the League taking on the library study.
- Kim Wetzel thanked the League and board.
- Stephanie Malaney said we need to increase membership. We need more people to help with League activities.
- Miriam Douglass said we have strong library support and hope to continue working with future library development.
- Colleen Rortvedt is impressed with the dedication of the library committee and encourages the League to continue its support.

Jacqui announced that she needs help with voter registration on Sunday, June 22 from noon to 5PM in the park. Let her know if you can help.

Colleen Rortvedt gave a presentation on the Future of Libraries.

Motion by Jacqui to adjourn. Second by Lois Bressette. Motion carried.

The League of Women Voters of Appleton
Lively Issues Minutes
January 24, 2015
Appleton Public Library
10:30 am- 12:30 pm

Present: Cathy Thompson, Barbara Kelly, William Kelly, Cheryl Reissmann, Helen Nagler, Irene Strohbeen, Miriam Douglass, Maren Peterson , Renee Gralewicz, Jacqueline Klimaszewski, Marcia Engen, Richard Schoenbohm, Marcia Hittle, Deb Cronmiller, Amy Oberg, Colleen Rortvedt, Jan Quinlan, Elizabeth Laux, Sarah Leet, Penny Robinson, Becky Boulanger (guest), Gayle Hardt, Sara Companik.

President Sara Companik: Called the meeting to order at 10:30AM and welcomed members and guests. Attendees introduced themselves.

A 2015 Meeting Packet had been emailed to League members three times in the past two weeks for members to acquaint themselves with national, state, and local league program items.

Sara Companik overviewed the packet materials of the LWVUS 2014-2016 current priority program issues.

National –LWVUS for 2014-2016

- Motion Approved to retain all current LWVUS Positions in the areas of Representative Government, International Relations, National Resources, and Social Policy.
- Motion Approval of the Concurrence with the LWV New Jersey Human Trafficking position
- Motion Approved to adopt a comprehensive three-part program combining study and review of key, specific structure of American democracy, consisting of 1) A study of the process of amending the U.S. Constitution; 2) A review and update of the League position on Campaign finance; 3) A review of the redistricting process of the U.S. Congress.
- Adopted the motion that the LWVUS Board quickly appoints the committees to review campaign finance, the Constitution, and redistricting.
- Motion Approved: The LWVUS should support a price on carbon emissions that will increase in stages.

State Program for 2015

- According to the GAB, the voter ID law is still blocked by order of the US Supreme Court. It will not be in effect for the February 17 Primary Election (unless the Court Issues a different ruling).
- The State League is renewing the redistricting reform efforts in 2015.
- The State Legislative Committee has openings for the Children & Families, Gun Violence, and Reproductive Rights portfolios.

Sara Companik reviewed the LWVWI State Program

- State Water Education- On the LWVWI website there are water related educational materials for review.
- County Government- There is not statewide interest in updating the existing County Government position. There were no member comments for the state about County Government.
- Citizen Rights Positions- There were no member comments for the state.

- Proposed Revision to Social Policy/Equal Rights positions- The Appleton League Board members will vote and send their comments to the State.

State Announcements:

Deb Cronmiller, member of the LWVWI state board announced the 2015 State Annual meeting would be in the Ashland/Bayfield area on June 5-7. There is planning around driving vans from various areas of the state and having Sunday to see the area.

Penny Robinson shared that members may be asked to take action to call their senate and assembly representatives in support of the GAB (Government Accountability Board).

Local Program

Gayle Hardt, VP Program led the discussion of the local program. Gayle discussed the purpose of Lively Issues as the planning meeting for the LWV of Appleton program for 2015. She reviewed the steps and criteria for choosing the recommended program.

Criteria for Lively Issues Discussion

1. Does the issue require a new position?
2. Does the issue fall within LWV principals?
3. Can LWV have an impact? Can government have an impact?
4. Is the issue timely?
5. What resources are needed for study and to take action?

The recommendations are sent to the Board to clarify and are then voted on by league members at the annual meeting scheduled for May 21st.

1. Update on Human Trafficking Study

Irene Strohbeen and Cathy Thompson, Co-chairs of the Human Trafficking Study updated the group on the study interviews with local agencies. The committee plans to draft a position statement in March and bring it to the Board and membership. The plan is for a one year study.

An educational forum will be held February 11 at the D.J. Bordini Center from 6:30 -8:00 pm. A panel will present information; Lt. Elliott will talk about incidents, a panel will discuss services, and representatives of Outagamie County will talk about what the county is doing.

The Human Trafficking committee started last summer and has conducted five interviews so far. The first objective was to understand locally the incidents of human trafficking. Specifically, local services for victims is being studied. 75-80% of trafficking in this area is sex trafficking. Statistics were gathered from Lt. Steve Elliot who heads the local sex trafficking task force. Three key factors for influencing sex trafficking- highways, hotels, and men-plus access to the Internet. Most trafficking happens on the Internet. Milwaukee influences what happens in the Fox Valley.

Interviews have been done with Lt. Steve Elliott, REACH Counseling, Sexual Assault Center, John Rathman and Mark Mertens.

from Outagamie County Health and Human Services, and nationwide expert Jonathan Cloud who is contracted with Outagamie County to do data analysis. He has defined "The Pathway to Sex Trafficking" starting with community and family factors, leading to increased vulnerability. He is

working with the Outagamie County Human Trafficking Steering Committee. The next steps of this three-year program are to identify priorities. Researchable factors such as poverty levels, youth who have no social connections in school, runaways, and foster home placements apply.

2. Open Discussion of local issues

Gayle Hardt, VP Program led the discussion of the local program. Members were asked to address position areas according to 1. Local Government 2. Natural Resources and 3. Social Policy.

Suggestions may include a new study or updating of any current positions. Suggestions may also include current positions and where action may be needed.

A. Local Government:

1. Helen Nagler shared her concern for the lack of a league position about the Outagamie Alternative Courts. The Outagamie County has four specialty courts: a Truancy Court, a Veterans' Court, a Mental Health Court, and a Substance Abuse Court. The County Board has no control over state employees or elected state employees such as officers, sheriff, district attorney, and judges. The Board has only budget control over elected employees. There has not been a study on alternative courts. The jail population has gone down. The school district would also be involved when studying the Truancy Court. Deb Cronmiller suggested a review of efficacy of Alternative Courts in Outagamie County and the best practices.

(New study: Local Government Efficacy of the Alternative Courts of Outagamie County)

2. Sarah Leet suggested looking at the makeup of the county board. She has a concern with the lack of women on the county board. What are the roadblocks for minorities in getting involved in local government? Irene Strohbeen presented information from the LWVUS convention on a system of democracy called Proportional Representation. That is a way of dividing representative government to better represent the diversity of the population. It was suggested as a state study. Deb Cronmiller suggested this as an action item using our current positions.

(Update: Local Government Proportional Representation)

3. Colleen Rortverdt suggested updating the position on Land Use Planning in Appleton and Downtown Development. This would involve looking at where residential and major entities should be placed. The current position is from 1976 with a downtown subsection of the position updated in 2001. There have been shifts in downtown since then. Current city plans are coming out this year. Doing a study concurrently with downtown overviews would be effective in gathering information.

(Update: Local Position- Government IX. Land Use Planning in Appleton A-C and F. Downtown Development)

Note: D and E. are missing.

4. Penny Robinson had a concern about the process of selecting a new Appleton police chief with no input by the community. This may be an advocacy item. A letter to the Editor or Commission should be sent to the in regard to open government policy.

(Action: Local Government)

B. *Natural Resources:*

1. Helen Nagler discussed that the county is an arm of the state. The issue of pollution of ground water is a state issue.

C. *Social Policies:*

1. Amy Oberg brought to the discussion the issue of neighborhood revitalization. An example is northern Appleton downtown areas, which are setting, Best Practices. There is a current Housing position, which could be reviewed. There have been targeted neighborhoods that have received grant funding.

This issue may cross over with Local Government (VI) Housing position (1995) and Land Use Planning in Appleton. A review could lead to advocating for Sustainable Fox Cities.

A discussion of the suggested topics was held to compare the issues. Members voted:

1. Efficacy of Alternative Courts- 9 Votes – Non-recommended Study
2. Study to Update Land Use Planning- 13 Votes - Recommended Study

UPDATES

1. An efficient way to register voters at the High Schools has been to meet during a free period in the computer lab with eighteen year old students or those about to turn. Voter Services needs volunteers for January 28 or February 2 to register the North High School and West High School students. Maren Peterson volunteered for February 2nd.
2. The League will make a presentation to the Leadership Fox Cities Youth Program on Government/Law Day, February 4 at the Appleton Police Department with the topic “Why Vote”. Jacqueline Klimazewski and Richard Schoenbaum have volunteered to make the presentation. Jacqueline has developed a PowerPoint, which can be used for future presentations by the Speakers’ Bureau.
3. The Human Trafficking Educational Panel discussion is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11, 6:30 pm at the Bordini Center. Please share this information with others.
4. Thursday, March 25 the Candidate Forum for the Appleton City Aldermanic races will be held at the Appleton Library.
5. Wednesday, February 18, 11:30 at the Paper Mid-Day Alliance will have a panel discussion on “Why Legislation Matters to Women”. Legislation point of view, Penny Bernard Schaber and a representative from the Chamber of Commerce to give the Business point of view.
6. Guest Becky Boulanger, Director of the Women’s Fund was introduced.

Adjournment: 12:30 PM

Submitted by: Sara Companik

League of Women Voters of Appleton 2015 – 2016 Program

The following recommendation for local study resulted from the Lively Issues meeting held on January 24, 2015.

Recommended Study

1. Update of Local Position on Land Use Planning In Appleton

Local Position: Government IX, Land Use Planning in Appleton A-C and F.

2. Update of Local Position on Housing

Local Position: Social Policy IV, Housing

Land Use Planning: The current position is from 1976 with a downtown subsection of the position updated in 2001. The update would involve looking at where residential and major entities should be placed. Current city plans are coming out in 2015, and conducting a study concurrently with recent downtown overviews would be effective as far as information gathering.

Housing: The issue of neighborhood revitalization was brought to the discussion at Lively Issues. There are targeted neighborhoods that have received grant funding from the city to improve housing. Northern Appleton downtown areas have received grant support and are setting best practices. The current position on housing was adopted in 1995 and is focused on the shortage of affordable housing for individuals and families who are low-income or have special needs. It does not address neighborhood revitalization. This issue crosses over to local government and land use planning and could lead to advocating for Sustainable Fox Cities.

Non-Recommended Item for Study

Efficacy of Alternative Courts

Local Government: Efficacy of Alternative Courts of Outagamie County

Concern was expressed that the League has not conducted a study on Outagamie County Alternative Courts and does not have a position on these courts. The county currently operates four specialty courts: Truancy Court, Veterans Court, Mental Health Court and Substance Abuse Court. The county board has no control over state employees or elected state employees. The board has only budget control. *(A 2/3 vote is required to bring a non-recommended item to the floor for consideration.)*

Recommended Action Item: Selection of Appleton Police Chief

Local Government: Currently the League does not have a position on the selection of the police chief.

Concern was shared about the process of selecting a new police chief without input from the community. The Police and Fire Commission selects the police chief. A letter to the editor of the Post Crescent and/or the Police and Fire Commission should be sent in regard to open government. *The request for action on this issue has been rescinded.*

League of Women Voters Appleton 3/19/2015					Proposed Budget 2015-16 Income
INCOME	2014-15 Budget	Actual YTD	In Kind	Total	
A. Dues	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,405.00			\$ 4,440.00
B. Contributions					
1. Member Contributions	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,069.50			\$ 2,000.00
2. Non-member Contributions	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,470.00			\$ 1,000.00
C. Event Income					
1. Holiday Brunch	\$ 550.00	632.50			\$ 650.00
2. Annual Meeting	\$ 550.00				\$ 650.00
3. Women's Equality Day	\$ -	\$ 760.00			\$ 700.00
					\$ -
D. Other Income					
1. Interest	\$ 50.00	\$ 23.85			\$ 25.00
2. Transfer from Savings	\$ 1,870.00				\$ 3,000.00
3. Grants					\$ -
4. Merchandise Sold					\$ -
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 9,520.00	\$ 9,360.85			\$ 12,465.00

League of Women Voters Appleton 3/19/2015					Proposed Budget 2015-16 Expenses
EXPENSES	2014-15 Budget	Actual YTD	In Kind	Total	
Board and Committees					
1. Fund Raising	\$ 350.00	\$ 412.58		\$ 412.58	\$ 400.00
2. Membership	\$ 100.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
3. President	\$ 250.00			\$ -	\$ 250.00
4. Board				\$ -	\$ -
Communication					
1. Newsletter				\$ -	\$ -
2. Website	\$ 100.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
Delegates, Travel & Workshop					
1. State Annual Meeting	\$ 600.00			\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
2. National Convention				\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
3. Workshops	\$ 500.00		\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 500.00
4. Committee Travel	\$ 250.00			\$ -	\$ 250.00
Educational Activity					
1. Program (Local,State,Nat.)	\$ 200.00	\$ 129.00		\$ 129.00	\$ 200.00
2. Voter's Service	\$ 750.00	\$ 330.53		\$ 330.53	\$ 750.00
3. Observer corps	\$ 50.00			\$ -	\$ 50.00
4. Archive	\$ 20.00			\$ -	\$ 50.00
5. Voter video grant	\$ 200.00			\$ -	\$ 200.00
				\$ -	\$ -
Event Expenses					
1. Holiday Brunch	\$ 550.00	640.52		\$ 640.52	\$ 650.00
2. Annual Meeting	\$ 550.00			\$ -	\$ 650.00
3. Women's Equality day	\$ 500.00	\$ 727.32	\$ 98.00	\$ 825.32	\$ 700.00
4. Lunch and Learn	\$ 300.00			\$ -	\$ -
6. Making Democracy Work Award	\$ 100.00				\$ 200.00
Financial Support for League					
1. Lake Michigan Interleague	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
2. State PMA	\$ 1,545.00	\$ 1,635.00		\$ 1,635.00	\$ 1,650.00
3. National PMP	\$ 1,595.00	\$ 1,275.00		\$ 1,275.00	\$ 1,650.00
Operating Costs					
1. Corporate Filing Fee	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00		\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
2. General Supplies	\$ 250.00			\$ -	\$ 250.00
3. Insurance	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
4. PayPal Fees	\$ 50.00	\$ 45.07		\$ 45.07	\$ 50.00
5. Post Office Box	\$ 125.00	\$ 128.00		\$ 128.00	\$ 130.00
6. Postage	\$ 50.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 50.00
7. Telephone Answering Svc	\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
8. Scholarship	\$ 150.00			\$ -	\$ 150.00
Position Advocacy	\$ 100.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 9,520.00	\$ 5,608.02	\$ 218.00	\$ 5,826.02	\$ 12,365.00

**President's Report
2014-2015 Fiscal Year
Sara Companik**

The League of Women Voters of Appleton has been active, visible, and vibrant this year with programs, advocacy, and action. Thank you to members for your support through membership dues, donations, and participation. The league is a valuable and respected civic organization in our community.

We welcomed new members to the Appleton League this year: Karen Bachhuber, James Bowman, Bruce Companik, William Kelly, Elizabeth Laux, Sarah Leet, Becky O'Conner, Maren Peterson, Jeanne Roberts, Joan Schneider, and Dave Strange.

The Appleton League culminated its 75th Anniversary celebration, with a variety of events in May of 2014. At the May 19th City Council meeting, Mayor Hanna proclaimed May 26-31 as League of Women Voters of Appleton Week in the city. On May 26, league members and husbands marched in the Appleton Memorial Day Parade. During the month, WHBY interviewed league members Deb Cronmiller and Marlys Fritzell and the Post crescent featured the league's history. Our league hosted the 2014 LWV Wisconsin State Annual Meeting at the Radisson Hotel on May 30-31. Along with state delegates, the league invited the community to our 75th Celebration Dinner to share in an evening of remembering our history. Mayor Hanna and Editor of the Post Crescent Dan Flannery presented the first LWV of Appleton Making Democracy Work Award to Kathy Flores. A huge thank you to the 75th Anniversary Committee

(Shirley Strange, Gayle Hardt, Irene Strohbeen, Sue Eich, Marcia Hittle, Sara Companik) and the Making Democracy Work Award Committee (Gayle Hardt, Marti Hemwall, Marcia Engen, Beth English). These dedicated volunteers orchestrated an effective, enjoyable, and memorable anniversary year.

Women's Equality Day has become an annual event for the Appleton League. On August 26, 2014, the Appleton League hosted community members at Riverview Gardens for a social gathering to hear Dr Ivy Cargile share research on "The Leadership Gap". Much appreciation to the 2014 WE Day Committee (Sue Siltan, Cheryl Reissmann, Shirley Strange, Amy Oberg, Stephanie Malaney, Barb Kelly, and Sara Companik) for a well attended, successful event.

Thank you to the League Board Directors for their creative ideas, their talents, knowledge, vision, and dedication to making democracy work in our community. I was privileged to work with these impressive and strong board members. Each one is involved in different community organizations, which benefit others, and have shared their valuable time with the league. When you read their reports, you will see how each one has contributed to the visibly and energy of the league program.

Thank you to Shirley and Dave Strange for managing the league website, and adding Paypal options to move us forward with technology. The addition of a Communications Team would reduce the responsibilities from one or two people to a team effort in our high tech world.

The league has had a busy year with timely forums on Public Education, Human Trafficking, Downtown Appleton Updates, two Water Education presentations, and fall and spring Candidate Forums.

As I conclude my league office as president, I think of the significance of the League of Women Voters in our community. The initial principles and issues of registering, educating, protecting, and engaging voters, has grown from its many national, state, and local studies to advocating for diverse and vital issues of concern to members and the public. This year's Human Trafficking Study, co-chaired by Irene Strohbeen and Cathy Thompson has highlighted this issue to our community for advocacy and action. I am proud to be involved with LWV of Appleton and its vision for the common good.

Treasurer's Report
2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year
Barbara Kelly

The 2014-15 financial report and the proposed budget for 2015-16 are included in this annual meeting packet. Thanks to Shirley Strange, Miriam Douglass, Sara Companik and Sue Kinde for serving on the budget committee. We continue to work to make the budget more nearly reflect likely expenditures. There is a small change from the version you received earlier: the amount designated “transfer from savings”, which is included for purpose of balancing the budget, should be \$2900 instead of \$3000. We removed a budget of \$100 for the newsletter, since that is done almost completely by email now.

Both member and non-member contributions came in very well this year. Big thanks go out to Sue Kinde, who donated \$1000 to the League from the Paul & Elaine Groth Mentoring award presented to her. We still believe that our budget should fully cover costs without depending on members to make as many in-kind contributions. The budget proposal document includes actual YTD (through mid March) expenses including in-kind for each line item. I do have a printout of the actual YTD costs through last week if anyone would like to see that.

Account Balances as of 4/20/2015

CD 18955	\$5,000.00
Checking Account	\$8846.00
Total	\$13,846.00

I continue to enjoy serving as your Treasurer, and hope that my reports are helpful to all of our understanding of LWV Appleton operations.

Membership Report
2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year
Stephanie Malaney

We currently have 67 members which is an increase of 7 members over last year. Three of the 67 members are life members of 50 years or more. We added 10 new members this year and had 4 that decided not to continue their membership. All members listed had paid dues of \$75 by January 31. New members this year are: James Bowman, Bruce Companik, William Kelly, Elizabeth Laux, Sarah Leet, Becky O’Connor, Maren Peterson, Jeanne Roberts, Joan Schneider, and Dave Strange.

PROPOSED POSITION STATEMENT: LWV of APPLETON STUDY ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Whereas the LWV-US opposes all forms of domestic and international human trafficking of adults and children, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking; and

Whereas the LWV-US believes that legislation and changes in public policy should be taken to prevent human trafficking; and

Whereas the LWV-US urges that prosecution and penalization of traffickers and abusers should be established and existing laws should be strictly enforced; and

Whereas the LWV-US recommends extensive essential services be applied where needed and education and awareness programs be established in our communities and in our schools; and

Whereas police records indicate a significant presence of sex trafficking in Outagamie County:

The LWV-Appleton supports community-wide collective impact efforts to eliminate human trafficking of adults and children, especially sex trafficking. Further, LWV-Appleton endorses and supports the collaborative work of county health & human service departments, law enforcement agencies and multiple nonprofit agencies such as Sexual Assault Crisis Center and REACH Counseling in the following four areas:

- **Prevention:** through raising awareness and educating the community and elected officials, including citizens, elected officials at all levels, law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, judges, medical and mental health professionals, school personnel, adoption agencies and others. Also by reducing community factors that lead to vulnerability of our youth, including poverty, serious family conflict, child abuse and neglect, out-of-home placement, running away from home, etc.
- **Protection:** through providing safe housing for adult and juvenile victims and their families to protect them from harm from her/his traffickers and provide guardianship/protective custody for trafficked minors.
- **Treatment:** through providing all needed services for victims from arrest to normalcy, requiring strong collaboration across all relevant agencies: safe housing/safety and security, self-care training, medical services, legal services, trauma counseling and therapy, job training, financial training, addiction services, education, etc.
- **Prosecution:** through updated laws and public policies, applying appropriately severe penalties including rehabilitation services to perpetrators (pimps, johns and other exploiters of the victims), and seeking to protect rather than prosecute victims.

League of Women Voters of Appleton

The Nominating Committee is honored to present this slate of candidates to the Board for presentation to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Nominating Committee: Nadine Miller (Chair), Miriam Douglass, Marti Hemwall, Jacqueline Klimaszewski (Board rep) & Stephanie Malaney (Board rep)

Nomination Slate 2015-2016

All to be elected to 2-year terms:

President	Stephanie Malaney
VP Program	Gayle Hardt
Secretary	Cindy Fallona
Director	Elizabeth Laux
Director	Cathy Thompson
Director	Sarah Leet

Nominating Committee

All to be elected to 1-year term:

Marti Hemwall

Shirley Strange

Marge Koepke

(+ 2 members appointed by the Board)

For information only

Continuing Board Members (Year 2 of 2-year terms)

VP Voter Services	Jacqueline Klimaszewski
Treasurer	Barbara Kelly
Director	Irene Strohbeen
Director	Penny Robinson

LWV-Appleton Voter Service Report—2014-15 Fiscal Year

Submitted by Jacqueline Klimaszewski

Dear LWV-Appleton members,

The second year as Voter Services VP was very busy year for LWV-Appleton with a fall election and a back-and-forth issue with the Voter ID law which was certainly a challenge. Voter registration activities will now include information on Voter ID.

See below for a summary of Voter Service action.

SUMMARY OF ACTION 2014-15

Voter Registration:

- Held two training and review sessions for helping citizens register to vote in September.
- Printed posters to advertise voter registration events.
- Participated in National Voter Registration Day.
- Connected with the City Clerk, Dawn Collins, to have League members trained to register City of Appleton Voters directly.
- Voter registration assistance offered at FVTC, UW Fox Valley, Juneteenth, three Appleton high schools, Appleton Public Library,

Registration Sessions-June to May: 23 sessions

- 142 Voter Registrations (new voters, name change and address change)
- Provided forms for 75 other individuals with registration instructions and provided 11 Requests for Absentee Ballots.
- A thank you to all who assisted with registration:
Anne Ahrens, Diane Ostrand, Shirley Adams, Ellie Olson, Gayle Hardt, Helene Iverson, Karen Jansen, Shirley Strange, Irene Strohbeen, Sara Companik, Becky O'Connor, Cynthia Whitely, Laura Hoepfner, and Joan Opsteen, Georgia Berceau, Irene Kocher, Dan Kocher, Ruth Park, Connie Kanitz, Jan Griffith, Gypsy Vered Meltzer, Judy Christiansen and Ann Muenster.

Candidate Forums:

We participated in setting up and running 3 separate candidate/information forums in October and two more in March.

- 34 people attended the Assembly District #57 forum with Stuck and Klein
- 93 people attended the Public Education Forum with 8 candidates.
- The Senate 19 forum with Schaber/Roth was held in Perry Hall at UW Fox Valley and was live streamed. This was put on with the Winnebago League.

- Downtown Appleton Update on March 23—183 attended. Gayle Hardt, Jan Quinlan and Sara Companik did most of the planning.
- Candidate Forum was held on March 25 with 70+ attending. 11 of the 12 candidates were able to attend. Due to the number of candidates, the time was extended by a half hour. However, with 6 districts with contested seats, in the future this will be divided into 2 sessions of an hour each. Each session will have three districts.
- Published Candidate Voter Guides for these races which were posted on our website along with the video of the Alderperson forum.
- Deb Werth, Gayle Hardt, Sara Companik, Penny Robinson, Lois Bressette, Karen Jansen, Irene Strohbeen, Amy Oberg, Sarah Leet, Shirley Strange, Maren Peterson, Stephanie Malaney and Elizabeth Laux.

Canvass Training to Get Out the Vote:

- 7 people participated in the canvass training for Get Out the Vote in September and VOTE handouts in Spanish were delivered to 19 businesses that serve a large Hispanic clientele. These individuals canvassed in various locations in Appleton from lists provided by Wisconsin Voices.

Voter Education – Presented with Richard Schoenbohm at the Leadership Fox Cities Youth program on February 4. Our topic was “WhyVote?” and our audience consisted of high school juniors from throughout the Fox Valley.

**Programs Report
2014-2015 Fiscal Year
Gayle Hardt**

During the 2014-2015 year, the League of Women Voters of Appleton held a total of 9 program events including the Annual Meeting on May 21, 2015. Highlights include:

- “Move to Amend: The Case For and Against” presented by Jim Bowman was held in September 2014. Our League partnered with the Winnebago County League and Menasha Public Library for this event. We had good attendance and great discussion.
- In November, a candidate forum was held for state senate and assembly contested seats. The forum focused specifically on the topic of public education. The League partnered with the Appleton Public Library and the Fox Cities Advocates for Public Education to coordinate the forum.
- The Annual Holiday Brunch highlighted keynote speaker, Andrea Kaminski, Executive Director of LWVWI.
- Lively Issues was held in January and attracted a good representation of our membership. As usual, the discussion was energetic on issues facing our community.
- “Understanding Human Trafficking in the Fox Valley – the Crime, the Victims and the Community” was coordinated by our local study committee and was held at the D.J. Bordini Center in Grand Chute. Five panelists provided information about trafficking activity in the area and the services available. The event drew a large turnout by the community with over 100 people attending.
- Along with an aldermanic candidate forum in March, the League offered two presentations on water quality. Presenters were Dr. Kevin Fermanich of UW Green Bay and Dr. Maureen Muldoon of UW Oshkosh. Karen Jansen, League board member responsible for the natural resources portfolio, arranged for these informative presentations.
- Also in March, a forum was held updating the community on Appleton Downtown and the proposed new library and exhibition center. The panel featured Mayor Timothy Hanna, Colleen Rortvedt of the Appleton Public Library, Jennifer Stephany of Appleton Downtown, Inc., and Danielle Englebert of the Appleton Y. The information provided by city officials was excellent and provided an overview of the processes and planning that have taken place for the proposed changes for our downtown. The forum attracted approximately 180 citizens.

The League counts on the Appleton Public Library as a venue for many of our programs and for partnership in programming from time to time. Library staff often assist us in various ways, and we are most grateful for use of the facility as well as help from staff members. In addition, the following members need to be acknowledged for their guidance and help. Throughout the year, they have led and/or assisted in the coordination and publication of our programs. They are Sara Companik, Jacqui Klimaszewski, Marcia Engen, Karen Jansen, Jan Quinlan, Irene Strohbeen, Barbara Kelly and Shirley and Dave Strange.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT
2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year
Penny Robinson

To keep our League informed of issues of interest, I participate in the LWVWI Legislative Committee. It is currently comprised of 15 members to advise Executive Director Andrea Kaminski on the following portfolios: Election Law/Voting Rights, Campaign Finance, Redistricting, Predatory Lending/consumer protection, Corrections/Juvenile Justice, Healthcare/Aging/Reproductive Rights, Tax Policy, Education, and Public Transportation (Penny Robinson). Currently individuals are needed with interest in Children and Families, Gun Violence and Reproductive Rights.

Priorities for the year: defend the Government Accountability Board, redistricting reform, public education, and groundwater.

As a result of our work, the LWVWI sent out letters and/or press releases to the Governor and/or legislators on a number of issues, including the budget, school vouchers, Government Accountability Board, conservation and the Department of Natural Resources, Badger care, the Right to Work Bill, and background checks for all firearms purchases. The League also encouraged presidents or spokespeople around the state to testify at Joint Finance Hearings and write letters to the editor regarding the proposed budget.

The Committee reviewed several issues, including policy on coalitions. It updated the policy on marital property to support legislation to insure that economic value is placed on the work of both spouses regardless of earned income, the tax structure is equitable to both partners; legally, marriage is considered an economic partnership that establishes rights and obligations; and marriage is an option for both heterosexual and same-sex couples.

The LWVWI also submitted an *amicus* brief to the U.S Supreme Court in support of groups challenging the Wisconsin voter ID law. The LWVUS filed the brief, along with the Wisconsin and Texas state Leagues.

The state league also encouraged league members around the state to contact legislators regarding the issue of public transit. I personally had reported on the need to keep funding for public transit in the segregated Transportation Fund and the need to increase secure funding for transit.

Natural Resources Report
2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year
Karen Jansen

“Plans to protect air and water, wilderness and wildlife are in fact plans to protect man.”
Stewart Udall

Environmental advocacy, and promoting an environment beneficial to life through protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest has been a League concern since members conducted a study of flood control, erosion and the creation of the Tennessee Valley Authority in the 1920's and 1930's. The truth of the matter is that the means to monitor and protect natural resources involves legislation. Good judgment and sound legislation applies to natural resources in the same way that it applies to protecting the legal framework which supports our civil liberties, or nurturing the integrated social and legal networks which sustain families and are used as tools to build strong, healthy, resilient communities.

Improving opportunities for public participation on natural resource issues has always been a League theme. Other tangible areas of interest historically include: solid and hazardous waste issues, recycling, the passage of federal legislation including the Clean Water Act and its recent updates, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and Superfund. Most recently, the League has joined in the national debate on reducing the effects of global warming, and on updating the Clean Air Act. As a national organization, the League recognizes that legislation targeted toward managing the environment needs to be seen as part of an integrated whole.

On a state level, the water quality position adopted by LWV WI at least year's convention shows state and local awareness of natural resources as an integrated system:

Water quality and quantity standards need to be addressed in terms of whole basin management and the hydrologic cycle. That is, management not just of the water itself, but of the land and watersheds which drain to wetlands, aquifer, meteoric groundwater, river, lake or other body of water, whether it is naturally occurring or constructed, and wherever it is located. Water management is therefore accomplished as management of all parts of an integrated system within basin boundaries and of any water which may move into or out of that system.

In March, the Appleton League explored the concept of stakeholder involvement in managing integrated environmental systems with presentations on the quality of local sources of both surface and ground water. Both emphasized how an environment out of balance can produce scarcity in a natural economy of abundance, and how improving on our current methods of controlling agricultural runoff and working within the seasonal schedule of the hydrologic cycle could potentially reduce the negative effects of excessive potassium and nitrogen in the NE Wisconsin regional watershed. Prof. Kevin Fermanich of the Environmental Science and Policy Program at UW Green Bay addressed oxygen depletion in the surface water which is our primary source of municipal water supplies. Prof. Maureen Muldoon, who is Associate Professor of Hydrogeology and Environmental Geology at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, outlined the dynamics of the vulnerability of local groundwater supplies and wells.

I urge everyone to continue to advocate for a healthy environment, at all levels of local, state and national involvement, and to address water concerns as a part of the many aspects of an integrated system; continue to be involved in the national debate, and to be excited about exploring ways to learn more about how national issues are being expressed throughout the integrated NE Wisconsin region; continue improving legislation which will determine the quality and quantity of what natural resources will be made available for future use.

The LWV Statement of Position on Natural Resources, as Affirmed by the 1986 Convention, Based on Positions Reached from 1958 Through 1986:

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that natural resources should be managed as interrelated parts of life-supporting ecosystems. Resources should be conserved and protected to assure their future availability. Pollution of these resources should be controlled in order to preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of ecosystems and to protect public health.

**Observer Corps Report
2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year
Sarah Leet**

I was pleased to be appointed to the League board last November to lead the Observer Corps. We have many opportunities, and responsibilities, in our greater community to observe our local government, communicate our findings, encourage fellow citizens to get engaged, and to take action on our position statements. The Observer Corps serves as the eyes and ears of the League, and we could really use your support. I have personally been present at many local council and board meetings over the past six months, but I cannot serve us alone. There are a plethora of meetings that we can attend: city council, town boards, county board, school boards, and the various committee-level meetings for each of these. I have received minimal response through past recruitment requests for the Corps, and I am seeking volunteers as well as ideas for recruiting members to become involved in this critical part of the League. There are many ways to participate (including options that don't require you to physically attend the meetings), and different commitment levels; we encourage all of our members to participate at least once or twice! We want to have a strong showing of the League as we move into 2016, a spring and fall election year. I am also seeking members who are interested in the minutiae of open meetings laws to monitor postings and to help to coordinate a presentation to the community, similar to the one hosted by our friends of the Door County League in March. Please join me in this fun and hand-on opportunity to see our local government in action! Contact me anytime if you are interested at sarah.e.leet@gmail.com. I would like to start a committee mailing list to get organized for this fall.

**LWV of Appleton
2015 Making Democracy Work Award
Marti Hemwall**

The Making Democracy Work Award celebrates community leaders; individuals who have envisioned a way to improve the Fox Cities community and have mobilized others to effect change that has benefitted the broader community. In 2014, the League of Women Voters – Appleton presented the inaugural Making Democracy Work Award in celebration of our 75th anniversary.

This year, the committee, composed of Marti Hemwall, Marcia Engen, Marcia Hittle and Deb Werth, revised the nomination guidelines based on last year's experiences and information from LWVUS. Dan Flannery, who worked with the League last year in his role at the Post-Crescent, has continued to provide assistance with media and marketing.

The committee anticipates selecting the award winner in early June, leaving plenty of time to conduct media outreach to highlight the winner prior to the award presentation at our Women's Equality Day event on August 26.

**Fund Raising Report
2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year
Shirley Strange**

I have often asked: To what organization can you give your money and know that every single dollar, every single penny is spent on the mission and work of that organization? You are right, without exception, it is The League of Women Voters of Appleton. **League members and friends** of the league who understand the league's good work and importance to this community, continue to be the solid foundation of financial support.

League members contributed just over \$2000 to the league coffers from our letter writing campaign in September 2014. Thank you. As you know a very small portion of membership dues support the local league. **The Regular Membership of \$75.00 is divided among local, state and national.** The actual amount our local league receives from each membership is **\$13.00.** The Appleton League is always reluctant to raise membership dues as that may price some people out. Therefore we must be serious about fund raising.

Friends of the League make up a small but important group supporting the League. This is an area where you as League members can be ambassadors. Let people know of the good work and mission of the League and invite them to consider supporting the League financially. Our friends contributed just over \$1000 in 2014.

Two of our members, Kim Wetzel and Beverly Wieckert, secured **matching (or better) donations** from their place of employment. Please check your place of employment for the possibility of this additional source of revenue.

Irene Strohbeen joins St. Paul Lutheran Church working a booth at the Packer games. Irene worked four games, earned and shared her \$400.00 with the League. Now that's dedication!! Thanks Irene.

Just over \$300 was realized through **in-kind donations.** It is often the case that board or committee members donate out of their own pocket when working on particular projects.

Finally, let us thank **Sue Kinde** for her generous donation of \$1,000 from the grant money for receiving the Paul & Elaine Groth mentoring award. A hearty CONGRATULATIONS to Sue for being recognized as one of the volunteers of the year!

Thank you all for your generosity in supporting our hardworking, important organization.

Remember to:

- 1. Encourage your friends to become donors of the League.*
- 2. Check to see if your employer makes matching donations to nonprofits.*
- 3. Share any ideas you may have for fund raising efforts. (I'm all ears).*