

Smiley

From: Michael and Marcia Hittle <mmhittle@new.rr.com>
Subject: LWV 2011 Annual Meeting Minutes
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League of Women Voters Appleton
Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 12, 2011
Liberty Hall
Social Hour 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Business Meeting 6:45 p.m.

Present: Shirley Strange, Barb Dorzweiler, Jan Quinlan, Sue Silton, Marcia Hittle, Sara Companik, Beth English, Marlys Fritzell, Miriam Douglas, Sue Eich, Gayle Hardt, Marty Hemwall, Barbara Hoffman, Carolyn Mewhorter, Colleen Rortvedt, Irene Strohbeen, Leslie Taylor

President Shirley Strange called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. She asked the members to introduce themselves by going around the table and having each person give her name and LWV responsibility.

Marlys Fritzell, the parliamentarian, briefly set out the guidelines to be followed in running the meeting.

Carolyn Mewhorter moved the adoption of the agenda. Jan Quinlan seconded and the motion carried.

The president appointed a committee of Miriam Douglass, Jan Quinlan, and Sue Eich to review and approve the meeting minutes.

Treasurer Sue Silton presented the Financial Report for 2010 - 2011. She explained the membership payments which the Appleton LWV must make to the state and national League. The finance drive, which has been targeted at current and former members, is doing well. About \$1,000 has been raised so far. In the fall, the finance drive will expand to solicit the business community. One of Sue's goals is to contact other Leagues to find out what software they are using to maintain their financial records. She would like to use this software to ensure that there is a seamless transition to the new treasurer when Sue's term in office ends. It is expected that League will finally gain 501C(3) status this year. If this happens, \$75 of LWV dues would be tax deductible.

In her President's report, Shirley lamented that the celebration (petit fours and champagne!) which she had planned to honor this year's board members had to be cancelled due to a snow storm. The new board will have it's organizational meeting on June 14. Shirley expressed the hope that it will function as effectively as this year's board.

Sara Companik presented the membership report, in the absence of the membership chair, Winnie Doxsie. There has been an increase in membership this year up to 50 members. We have been following the suggested strategies of the Membership Recruitment Initiative to gain new members. She also announced that Miriam Douglass won the Carol Steel Award for women of courage.

Sue Silton presented the proposed Budget for 2011 - 2012. The only major expense still coming up this year is the State Annual Meeting in June. She pointed out that next year it may be necessary to take more than \$4,000 out of savings to balance the budget. Sue raised the possibility of increasing the membership dues for next year. The current local dues fall \$5 short of covering our dues payment obligations to the state and national LWV. Sue calculated that the League actually spends around \$120 - \$130 per member per year. Jan Quinlan moved to increase the regular dues from \$55 to \$60 per year, and the household dues from \$70 to \$90 per year. Marty Hemwall seconded and the motion carried.

Vice president Barb Dorzweiler presented the program report. The local study committee is in the second year of the Regional Transit Authority study. Carolyn Mewhorter, who is co-chairing the committee with Shirley Strange, reported that the committee is organizing materials in preparation for an informational general meeting in the fall. Barb explained that no new study was recommended at the Lively Issues meeting because the RTA study will be continuing. Several topics for general meetings were suggested at Lively Issues: new library, new exhibition center, voter ID, riverfront development. Carolyn Mewhorter moved adoption of the recommendation to hold a series of educational programs on the above topics. Sue Silton seconded, and the motion passed.

Marcia Hittle presented the Nominating Committee Report in the absence of the chair, Helen Nagler. The slate of officers and directors for next year are:

- President: Shirley Strange
- Vice President Program: Sara Companik
- Secretary: Miriam Douglass
- Directors: (2 years) Barb Dorzweiler, Carolyn Mewhorter, Irene Strohbeen

ector: (1 year) Leslie Taylor

2012 Nominating Committee: Beth English, chair; Barbara Kelly, Marcia Hittle

Unanimous acceptance of the Nominating Committee's slate was moved by Jan Quinlan, seconded by Gayle Hardt, and the motion passed.

President Shirley Strange presented the changes in our Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation which must be adopted in order to bring the Appleton League into compliance with the requirements for gaining 501C(3) status. These changes are underlined in the Annual Meeting packet. There are also two small wording changes needed to bring our Bylaws into conformity with reality. (1) The date for the Annual Meeting is changed from "April" to "spring." (Article VI, section 2) (2) The word "honorary" is removed in reference to life members. (Article III, Section 2) Sue Silton moved acceptance of the Bylaw changes, and Jan Quinlan seconded. The motion passed with the required two thirds vote.

A discussion of the Articles of Incorporation followed. Most members were surprised to learn that our League was incorporated. Barb Hoffman then explained that incorporation had occurred in order to shield the organization from any liability that might be incurred as a result of "what she (Barb) might say to the mayor." The changes to the Articles of Incorporation are identical to the ones that the LWV-WI has made in the state Articles of Incorporation, in order to qualify for 501 C(3) status. These changes were approved.

Jan Quinlan moved the re-adoption of the local program positions. Sue Eich seconded, and the motion passed.

Carolyn Mewhorter moved adoption of the budget, seconded by Sue Eich. To reflect the increase in dues approved earlier at this meeting, Sue Silton moved to amend the budget to add \$310 to the dues line (A). Beth English seconded and the motion passed. Jan Quinlan then moved to add a line "Membership Scholarship" for \$180 under expenses. Marty Hemwall seconded and the motion passed. To reflect these changes and balance the budget, Sue Silton moved to reduce the amount under D.3, "Transfer from Savings or CD" from \$4,356 to \$4,226. Barb Dorzweiler seconded and the budget was adopted as amended.

New business: Carolyn Mewhorter reported that long-time member Len Weiss had died. The League will send a card to his wife, Donna, and a tribute will appear in the newsletter.

Directions to the Board: Gayle Hardt - continue image building.

Beth English - commended the membership committee for gaining six new members this year.

Barbara Hoffman - toot your horn all over the community, emphasize self-promotion

Jan Quinlan - commended Shirley on her leadership as president.

Sue Eich - schedule more general meetings.

Shirley - plans to schedule another tour of the recycling plant.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Hittle, secretary