LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY
BOARD MINUTES
June 14, 2017

Members Present: Presidents Brook Soltvedt and Kathy Fullin, Helen Horn, Ingrid Rothe, Barbara Mortensen, Mary Anglim, Sue Fulks, Steve Ploeser, Cathy Berndt, Dorothy Wheeler, Mike Casey, Paul Lindquist, Gail Bliss. Absent: Sue Larson, Diane Martin Liebert.

President Soltvedt called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Secretary’s Report: Casey moved and Wheeler seconded approval of the May 10, 2017 board minutes prepared by Barbara Mortensen. Unanimously approved. Anglim moved and Horn seconded approval of the June 3, 2017 Strategy Meeting minutes prepared by Gail Bliss. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Horn presented the Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual for July 1, 2016 through June 6, 2017. Miscellaneous Income (#4700) is luncheon fees. Mortensen suggested calling #9000, Memorial Mutual Funds – Unrealized Gain.

Program: Wheeler reported that she held a Program Committee meeting on May 20th. Attendees were Mary Bean, Ingrid Rothe, and Janine Edwards. The September topic is “Understanding Rural Dane County”. Wheeler has invited Dane County Supervisor Nikki Jones, Oregon school board member Barbara Feeney, and Wisconsin Towns Association attorney Mark Hazelbaker. Wheeler and Larson are working on “Sustainability” for the October topic. Rothe will recruit speakers for the November topic, “Fair Voting Maps”. Jay Heck of Common Cause is suggested as a speaker. For January Lively Issues possible topics are “The Affordable Care Act” and “Public Education”. Julie Underwood or Julie Mead from the UW School of Education are possibilities as a speaker for “Public Education”. Another possibility is a speaker from the Wisconsin Public Education Network (WPEN). The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families could be a resource for “The Affordable Care Act”. Bliss suggested that a union representative could be a speaker for “Workers’ Rights”, a possible topic for March or April. Another possible topic is “Criminal Justice”. Fullin noted that she and Rothe were able to have a minimum wage study approved at the Annual Meeting of the LWVWI, which makes it a possible topic for next year. The next Program Committee meeting is June 30th at 10:00 a.m.

Bulletin: Casey informed the board that the online Bulletin will be ready about July 23rd and the deadline for contributions is July 7th. An email is being sent to new members to ask them if they are interested in working on the electronic format for the online Bulletins. There will be a subscription method for paper copies of Bulletins to be mailed to members requesting them. The September Bulletin will be printed and mailed to all members.

Fundraising/ILO: Larson was absent but sent in a written report. The May Member Challenge appeal has reached $4,245 with an additional donation promised this week so we have reached the matching grant of $4,250. The May Member Challenge started in 2009 and is now a key component of the LWVDC annual fundraising. Soltvedt informed Berndt, who will be
replacing Larson as Fundraising Chair, that we have a member who is a professional fundraiser. Berndt will contact her for suggestions.

**Membership:** Anglim reports that from fall 2016 to June 10, 2017, 69 new members joined bringing our total to about 350 members. Our online membership joining/renewing process is now functioning well thanks to Soltvedt, Fullin, Ploeser, and our Office Administrator, Elaine Sinagra. Now the team is working on placing the membership interest sheet online so those paying online can respond in a way that Sinagra can easily enter into Access. Horn moved and Fulks seconded that the online membership form keep the $20 minimum payment statement for a scholarship membership. The 2017-18 renewal letter is being drafted and is expected to be ready June 19th. Mailing is scheduled for June 27th. Sinagra suggested that we send a survey to Life members to find out more about their participation in LWVDC.

**Voters’ Service:** Bliss reports that our new Voters’ Service Chair, Paul Lindquist, has created a spreadsheet to collect data about voter service locations and appropriate technology. Our office sent out invitations on June 7th to our old SRD list inviting people to training sessions scheduled by the City of Madison Clerk on June 16th and August 23rd. The farmer’s market on the Square voting information table will probably start up August 19th, once students have moved into their apartments. Fullin noted that the new voting information bookmarks and flyers, funded by the Evjue grant, are in. They will be handed out at farmer’s markets and libraries. Bliss noted that she was contacted by a representative from COVO, Sally Sieber, asking about sharing information. She responded and copied Lindquist and Rothe. (See more discussion of this in the Publicity/HSVE report.) Also, Shirley Haidinger inquired about whether the DMV is informing new WI drivers about how to register to vote and whether the issue was discussed at the LWVWI Annual Meeting. It was not discussed and there is no information on DMV practices.

**Vice-President’s Report:** Rothe represented LWVDC at a Team 19 meeting/party celebrating the 98th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and gave a 10-minute talk on voting and ID issues. Team 19 is a newly formed group, named after the 19th Amendment, which has an email newsletter that includes actions individuals can take on current political issues. The members are mostly young women and some men and LWVDC should look for ways to collaborate with the group. At the LWVWI annual meeting Rothe learned that there will soon be some hearings on administrative rules being promulgated by the state on various programs of interest to us, including Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and child care. She plans to try to find members who would be willing to work on an Action Team on these issues and perhaps give testimony.

**Voter ID Coalition:** Molly McGrath led two well-attended trainings on how to be a Voter ID responder, to work with people who ask for assistance in getting an ID. All people who still plan to work with the Coalition in this way were asked to join the Coalition. Lindsay Lemmer will have drafts of the Coalition’s bookmarks, etc., shortly.

**Publicity/High School Voter Education:** Fulks will contact Inspire US to see when WI will be added to states targeted for voter education and registration. Soltvedt talked to LWV/Milwaukee to find out about its program, which works with student councils to get peer-to-peer help with voter registration. Soltvedt also reported on her meeting with Inspire US representative, Hannah Mixdorf, on June 8th. Also at the meeting were Erin Grunze, Voter
Education Coordinator of LWVWI, and four people from COVO, a voter outreach group that worked with the League in Green Bay/Brown County, to register voters at 15 high schools and three colleges. Inspire US is a non-partisan group founded by Ira Lechner and Eileen Haag, which is part of the Project High Hopes Foundation. It works with students in peer-to-peer registration and with school administrators, teachers, and student councils. In some states it partners with the secretary of state or the state school board to give an award for most registrations. Hannah will be meeting with Kris McDaniel, who is in charge of social studies at the WI Department of Public Instruction, to ask for its help in promoting student voter registration. The board agreed that it is desirable to work with Inspire US as well as work on our own activities concurrently. The next meeting of the HSVE Committee on June 22nd will discuss ways to work with Inspire US. Some ideas to work with the group are to hand out its pledge cards or direct students to its website.

Business Systems: Ploeser reported that he is working on the online Renewal Form and Member Interest Survey. Lindquist has downloaded the “Access 2016” software onto Ploeser’s computer so he can work at home. He is also exploring whether “Mailchimp” would be helpful for Elaine to use.

Webmaster: Solvvedt posted Action Alerts regarding the jail remodeling project and health care. She added news items about the LWVWI Annual Meeting, a Wisconsin State Journal article about the jail, the Carrie Chapman Catt award, and an Associated Students of Madison award to LWVDC accepted by Paul Malischke and Ingrid Rothe.

President’s Report:

1. Board members should be prepared at the July board meeting to sign that they have read and understand our Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, and Board Portfolio Descriptions.
2. The board discussed whether to approve having Kelly Warren continue to make and edit audio recordings of our forums at $50 per event. Casey moved and Bliss seconded a motion to do so. Unanimously approved.
3. Horn has agreed to be re-appointed to the board as Assistant Treasurer for the 2017-2018 year. Rothe moved and Fulks seconded a motion to re-appoint her. Unanimously approved.
4. Rothe moved that the board appoint Horn and Anglim to the Executive Committee. Unanimously approved.
5. At the July board meeting the following actions need to be taken:
   a. Appoint two board members to serve on the Nominating Committee.
   b. Designate and rank three members to carry out the functions of the President temporarily, in the event of absence, disability, or death of both the President and the President-Elect (or Vice President).
   c. Appoint a Finance/Development Committee of at least five members, including the Treasurer, at least two directors, and at least one member of each subcommittee.
6. Executive Committee actions:
a. Approved a League statement before the June 6th Dane County Board joint meeting of the Public Protection and Judiciary and Health and Human Needs committees about jail diversion.

b. Purchased a new phone, an Epson projector, and an expandable screen that may be placed on a table.

6. *Community Shares of Wisconsin* is giving a Changemaker award to Andrea Kaminski on September 27th. Tickets for the event are available at: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-csw-community-change-maker-awards-event-tickets-33092610890](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-csw-community-change-maker-awards-event-tickets-33092610890). Tickets must be purchased by July 10th if you want to be listed in a booklet at the awards ceremony.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Rothe moved to recommend Edith Sullivan as the LWVDC representative to the Madison Transportation Citizen Advisory Committee. Bliss seconded. Unanimously approved. Starting in July our meeting times will be 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be July 19th and the second Wednesday of the month after that. Soltvedt wants to set dates for training about Google calendar.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

**The next meeting is July 19, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at the office.**

**The August meeting is August 9, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at the office.**

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Mortensen, Secretary