LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY
BOARD MINUTES
February 14, 2018

Present: Brook Soltvedt, Paul Lindquist, Mary Anglim, Helen Horn, Susan Fulks, Cathy Berndt. Ingrid Rothe arrived at 3 pm.
Absent: Gail Bliss, Diane Liebert, Mike Casey.

The meeting was called to order at 2:37pm.

Soltvedt opened the meeting by reading a message received this morning from Elaine Sinagra giving two months notice of her resignation (4/14/2018). The board regretfully accepted it. A committee will be formed to hire a replacement.

Lindquist moved and Anglim seconded a motion to approve the January 2018 minutes as amended. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Fulks moved and Berndt seconded a motion to approve the appointment of Kim Langley to replace Diane Liebert as treasurer until the next annual meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. At the annual meeting the nominating committee will include her in the slate of officers and board members to be voted on by the membership.

Horn reported the income is slightly ahead of budget for this time of year and the expenses are at expected levels. Net ordinary income is $4,738.

The budget committee met in February to begin planning the budget for fiscal year 2018-2019. Uncertainties with regard to moving prevented the committee from making good estimates of expected expenses. The committee will meet again in early March to complete the budget and present it to the board at the March board meeting.

Program Report: Soltvedt reported that we have received program-ready materials from LWV District of Columbia promoting League’s position on statehood for the District of Columbia. We also received program-ready materials from LWVIL about direct popular vote. The board decided to keep them for possible use as programs or as supplemental meetings for next year. They will be passed on to next year’s program chair.

A program planning survey from LWVUS will be returned agreeing with their proposal to focus next year on the core voting and election areas of LWVUS positions.

March study materials are ready and publicity is out. Rothe reported the April program is firming up and will be ready for publicizing on the website soon. Wheeler has prepared questions for the March program. The speakers will be asked to address them during their talks.

Joan Schwarz, a new member, has been preparing written materials about Fair Elections for the website. She will be encouraged to work with Ingrid on the April program. LWVDC will be encouraging members to pressure the Legislature to address fair elections in the legislative session next year, since the legislature will not be in session after this month.
Janine Edwards is organizing a forum on the school voucher issue with Julie Underwood speaking on June 6, 7 – 8:30 at Capitol Lakes. We will publicize it, but it is not an official LWVDC monthly program.

**Bulletin Report:** The March Bulletin is in process with a goal of having it ready by February 21, after review and feedback by the board.

**Fundraising Report:** The Valentine/birthday appeal was mailed on February 1. A fundraising letter to non-members has also been sent to non-members who previously contributed. It featured a $3,000 matching donation for Candidates’ Answers made by a long-time LWVDC member. Donations are coming in for both.

**Membership Report:** New members continued to join in December and January. Two new member coffees have been scheduled for Thursday, February 22, 4:30-6 p.m. and Saturday, February 24, 10:15-11:45 a.m. In addition new members are invited to attend the Northeast side unit meeting on February 21. Board members are encouraged to attend to meet new members. Horn, Rothe, and Fulks agreed to help call new members on the previous weekend. The coffees are an opportunity for new members to learn more about League basics and to encourage them to become actively involved in local government.

Anglim would like to find a way to get a group of people to work together on membership matters. Perhaps the nominating committee could explore that when they talk with prospective nominees for board positions, but who are not ready for a board commitment. Another suggestion is that we have people commit to ‘shadowing’ board people to prepare for being on the board.

**Voter Service Report:** Candidates’ Answers is online for the Spring Primary on Feb. 20 and the proofing is being done for the Spring General Election. Voter registration sessions on UW campus and at Epic Systems were successful. Lessons learned – specific training is needed for people who help register on the UW campus; also need specific training for helping with high school registration. Training needs to model how to approach and talk to people at the registration sites. Rotary Club members are interested in facilitating registration at high schools. Fulks believes that the high school registration project will eventually switch over to having students take charge entirely.

Paul Malischke is involved with the BEST Challenge contest. This year’s contest involves teams of students trying to develop and present the best idea for promoting voting.

All libraries in Dane County have agreed to offer people who are getting a new library card the opportunity to register to vote at the same time.

**Vice President Report:** See other sections of the minutes.

**Publicity Report:** Publicity for the June 6 program will have to be ready by early April since Fulks will be traveling later. The high school voter registration report is noted in the Voter Service report.

**President’s Report:**
1. Ronald McDonald House, LWVDC landlord, has given 90-day notice for complete eviction of our office space at 2712 Marshall Court (April 30). Soltvedt and Barbara Mortensen have
surveyed available rental spaces in the area and visited a number of sites. After extensive board
discussion, Rothe moved and Lindquist seconded a motion to authorize Soltvedt to negotiate a
lease at 4513 Vernon Blvd, Suite 106. Motion carried.

A further motion by Rothe, seconded by Fulks was made to authorize Soltvedt to negotiate with
PSR to sublet space in a new rental with a price based on the number of square feet they
choose to use in the new space. Motion carried.

2. The date for the annual meeting, which must occur in April or May, was set for Wednesday,
May 23 at Capitol Lakes. A motion was made by Fulks, and seconded by Anglim: If
necessitated by the upcoming move, materials for the annual meeting may be professionally
copied (and mailed?). Motion carried.

3. The nominating committee has been meeting and is making progress on a slate of officers
and board members for next year.


5. The LWVUS has updated its branding and wants all Leagues to use it. There is a new style
guide for publications. There are also new Mission, Vision, and Value statements. After
discussion, the board agreed to the use of the Mission and Vision statements, but is
uncomfortable with the Value statement. How to use them will be discussed further at a later
date.

6. Free classes to teach nonprofit people how to make better use of technology are offered by
MadTech and the Collaboration for Good. Anyone interested should check online or contact
them for information about upcoming classes.

7. Soltvedt will be talking about League at a meeting of the South West Wisconsin Area
Progressives on Feb. 23.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Horn

The next meeting is March 14, 2018 at 2:30 PM.