

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY  
BOARD MEETING  
May 14, 2012

**Members Present:** Earnestine Moss (President), Donna Norton, Barbara Mortensen, Kathy Kuntz, Kathy Johnson, Brook Soltvedt, Gail Bliss, Lois Kiggins

President Moss called the meeting to order at 6:00.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of April 9, 2012 were unanimously approved.

**President's Report:** We discussed how to recruit board members. Would it be possible to allow members to attend board meetings remotely? Soltvedt moved and Kuntz seconded a motion to allow members to attend remotely. It was unanimously approved. According to our bylaws we need at least six directors plus officers. Directors who would oversee membership and fundraising are essential. A director in charge of communications from and to the units and committees would be good to have. Johnson stated that the program for September is set but we need to decide on programs for the remainder of the year. She will bring suggestions to our next meeting. Norton will host a retreat on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, which will be announced at our September 5<sup>th</sup> general meeting. The meeting of the old and new boards is scheduled on June 18<sup>th</sup> at Norton's at 5:30. Moss, Johnson, and Margi Kindig are delegates to the LWV-WI annual meeting and Moss is the delegate to the LWV-US convention.

**President-Elect's Report:** We discussed the proposal of the Wisconsin Council of Churches to have a "*Season of Civility*" project beginning this fall and extending a few months. How could we participate? Norton will get more information as to how we can help. She suggested interviewing Lindsay Van Vonderen, who works part-time at LWV-WI, as a bookkeeper. The concern is that as a student, this may only be a short-term solution to our problem of finding a bookkeeper. Johnson and Helen Horn will look into this. We should survey our 58 new members as to their reasons for joining LWVDC and their interests in various committees and board positions. Norton moved and Bliss seconded a motion to do the survey. It was unanimously approved. Kuntz will draft the survey, which members can respond to on-line and let Sara know she's working on it.

**Treasurer's Report:** In giving her report Johnson reminded us that the \$75 dues we now assess is the maximum allowed under our 501c(3) status. We could publicize our scholarship program better. For budgeting purposes we don't owe Per Member Payments for the year in which people join if they join after January 1<sup>st</sup> but we would owe the full amount in the following year after they join. Bliss reminded us that people who register voters with our materials should be members.

**Bulletin/Web site:** Soltvedt discussed Katie Mulligan's assumption of bulletin duties. She currently has e-mail but no word processing program so she may need to use our office computer or google-doc. There is concern that our office computer lacks the proper security and capability and may need up-dating.

**Fundraising Report:** Bliss stated that \$1,300 has been donated so far to the May Member Challenge.

**Voters' Service Report:** Bliss has purchased 50 bus ads to be randomly located on various buses regarding Voter ID. Voter registration is being conducted near the four bus transfer points. She wants to purchase some signs without the League logo to be used for voter registration. She estimated that six 18 X 24 signs would be about \$200. Soltvedt moved and Mortensen seconded that the Voters' Service committee be allowed to spend up to \$250 from the Evjue Grant on the signs. Unanimously approved. Kuntz moved and Johnson seconded that we collect a \$20 deposit from non-League groups that use the signs, which would be returned when the sign is returned. Unanimously approved. The GAB says students can only register in one place either their parents' address or their school address so our registrars need to know this rule. Bliss has been requested to speak at the Madison Masters of Social Work meeting. Bliss moved to pay \$150 to Norm Littlejohn, the freelance graphic designer, who has worked on multiple projects for the Voter ID project including substantial work on the bus signs. Johnson seconded. It was unanimously approved to be paid from the Evjue Grant.

**Membership:** Johnson will host a new member reception in July or August at her house.

**Outreach:** Karen Gunderson and Joan Kanter agreed to staff a table at Juneteenth Day. We discussed our obligations as board members in relation to political campaigns. We should not openly participate in campaigns although we may give nominal amounts to campaigns (less than our dues) and sign petitions. The president and voters' service chair must be particularly careful to not actively identify themselves with candidates. Moss will talk to the African-American Council of Churches, which is not affiliated with the Wisconsin Council of Churches to see if it wants to participate in the "Season of Civility" program.

**Publicity:** Since there will be no printed *Candidates' Answers* for the primary on Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> Kiggins will send publicity to Isthmus to let people know to look for it on our web site. As to whether we'll have *Candidates' Answers* for the November elections we'll decide later.

**New Business:** We filled in the survey for the LWV-WI Parade of Leagues at the June annual meeting. Gail Bliss is a runner-up for the Meg McLane Award given by the LWV-WI.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31.

The next meeting is June 18<sup>th</sup> at Donna Norton's house.

Respectfully submitted  
Barbara Mortensen, Secretary