

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2012

Members Present: Donna Norton, President, Lois Kiggens, Katie Mulligan, Barbara Mortensen, Gail Bliss, Kathy Johnson

President Norton called the meeting to order at 12:55.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of June 18, 2012 were approved as amended.

President's Report: The September 22nd retreat will be from 9-12 a.m. at President Norton's house. There will be a welcome presentation of "*Getting to Know LWVDC*". The history of *Candidates' Answers* will be presented along with other details of LWVDC history and policies. Discussion topics will be: *Community Outreach and Publicity* (brainstorming ideas to communicate with the public), *Prepare Survey Questions for a Member Survey*, *Getting Ready to Vote and Cutting through Negative Ads*. Kiggens wants to put her posters in neighborhood centers and would like ideas for an efficient way to do this. Norton gave an update on a community discussion of civility. Johnson said she has a list of members willing to serve on a *Civil Discourse* study committee. It was decided to postpone finding a President-Elect until after the November 6th election because many members want to be active in campaigns. Mary Conroy will be the Assistant Treasurer in 2012-13 and then Treasurer in 2013-14. Lindsay Van Vonderen from LWVWI is also willing to help with bookkeeping if needed.

Treasurer's Report: Secretary Mortensen presented the report for Treasurer Horn. A DSL upgrade proposal requested by PSR was discussed. Bliss moved that we tell PSR that we'll upgrade from 2 MB to 4 MB but PSR would pay the extra cost of \$240 per year. Johnson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. TDS will provide a new modem free. Treasurer Horn requested that the board approve the purchase of a new computer for her use. The current computer is 7 years old and has inadequate RAM for Quick Books. She is able to obtain a new computer for \$500-\$600 that includes security and Word software. Johnson moved that we buy the new computer. Bliss seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Our photocopier lease will expire October 30, 2012. Xerox has provided us with three options.

Option 1 – New five-year lease with new copier that is more efficient than the current one.

Option 2 – Purchase current copier for \$291 on October 30, 2012. There is a monthly charge of \$100 for service and standard supplies with no print charges (charge/copy.)

Option 3 – Purchase new copier for \$5,102 and pay print charges estimated by Mortensen to be about \$4,134 for five years.

Mortensen estimated the present values of the three options.

Option 1 - \$8,425

Option 2 - \$4,992

Option 3 - \$8,341

Mortensen moved to choose Option 2. If the machine becomes non-repairable after purchase we'll choose Option 1. Kiggens seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Bulletin: Mulligan presented suggestions for the newsletter, which the board found acceptable. The board agreed that the editor should be responsible for editorial decisions. Mulligan will e-mail us with the deadlines for future newsletters.

Membership Report: Ploeser was absent but we received a written report that stated that as of August 8, 2012 54% of members have renewed for 2012-13. We have four new members since July 1, 2012. We received \$3,925 in donations from renewing members and 50-year members combined. Johnson stated that the new member reception would be September 5th from 6:00 to 7:00 prior to the monthly program.

Program Report: Johnson said our fall programs are set. They are:
September – Clean Lakes
October – Health Report Card
November – Civility

Although spring programs are not yet arranged, she plans for “*Judicial Independence*” to be one topic and “*Education – Has four-year old kindergarten made a difference?*” to be another topic. She has not started making arrangements for Lively Issues yet but is considering asking newspaper representatives to speak and will look for a downtown or campus location.

Publicity Report: Kiggins said that Fran Bicknell has offered to help with advertising *Candidates’ Answers*. Caryl Terrell will send announcements of the September program to environmental organizations. Bliss asked Kiggins if she could ask the City Clerk’s office to provide a link to *Candidates’ Answers* and Kiggins agreed.

Voters Service Report: Bliss said that Scott McDonell, Dane County Board Chair, suggested that Dane County might help pay for public service announcements for Voter Registration if LWVDC could make the arrangements. She talked to two radio groups about the possibility of such announcements. Epic Systems asked for help with voter registration at its Madison office. Hospitalized patients can now get a form online to vote from the hospital. WisDOT is still handing out free identification cards in case Voter ID is implemented after the November elections so we’re still going to help people get birth certificates.

Old Business: None

New Business: Johnson said that the *Wisconsin Women’s Network* is having Women’s Equality Day August 30th.

The next meeting is Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 1:00.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Mortensen, Secretary