

Minutes
LWV-TLC Board Meeting
January 16, 2006
Peg Hull Smith's Home

Co-President Sue Nichols called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Members present were: Sue Nichols, Peg Hull Smith, Mary Karazim, Bonnie Bishop, Margaret Kaya, Diane Mieczkowski, Phyllis Barnes, Sharon Friedman, Ann Payne, Nina Sabrack, Terry Mills [7:16 P.M.], and Yvette Thompson [7:30 P.M.].

Members absent were: Meg Murphy and Anita Levin.

Minutes

Mary Karazim presented the minutes for the November 14, 2005 meeting.

Motion: It was moved by Peg Hull Smith and seconded by Margaret Kaya that the minutes be accepted. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Margaret Kaya distributed the Treasurer's Report. She noted that the amounts were almost final. There are a few details to check with at the State Office. It was noted that all is in pretty good shape.

Announcements:

The March 21 meeting will be at Perrysburg. It will be on water, but with a different focus than our January topic. Perrysburg LWV members are coming to our January meeting and the topic is the Quality and Sustainability of the Great Lakes.

Lawsuit Update: The lawyers are happy because the opposition's challenge of our right to bring the lawsuit was denied. The judge also added an urge to get moving. The attorneys feel it will go to court in June. Some leagues in the smaller areas are concerned that this will cool relations they have with their local boards of election. They have written letters to their boards of election.

The telephone survey didn't work. We do need to have a telephone tree. We need a chair and a committee to do the calls. Phyllis Barnes volunteered to be the chair.

Community Shares

Peg Hull Smith reported that the Executive Director had open heart surgery and will be out until the end of February. As a result, the check due in December will be delayed. The Executive Director USA will come and have a discussion/presentation to help local agencies get more out of Community Shares. The meeting will be February 2 at the Lutheran church on Heatherdowns. The time is 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. There is a fee of \$15.00 per organization. Peg Hull Smith and Nina Sabrack will attend.

Membership

*Sue Nichols thanked Bonnie Bishop for the new membership list. We have 77 members, counting the national members. Sue remarked that she was curious about long time members who have not joined this year. Special concern was expressed for Mary Ann Niedzielski. Diane Mieczkowski will give her a call.

*Nina Sabrack announced that Laura and Mark Berling have a new member, Christen Thomas Berling.

*A membership meeting will be held at Bonnie Bishop's home on Tuesday, January 31 at 7:00 P.M. Ann Payne, Phyllis Barnes and Terry Mills will attend.

Voter

The Voter is ready to come out. There will be an article about Community Shares. Community Shares has a very good newsletter and it highlights new agencies. Peg Hull Smith stated that the Voter should go to all members of the Community Shares Board. All league board members are responsible, a few days after the meeting, to get an article to Terry Mills. Terry suggested specific topics for individuals. Peg Hull Smith will follow up with phone calls.

Program/Calendar

This is the year to do National Program Planning. In February Ann Payne will conduct both the National and the local. There is an issue on capital punishment that a league in Illinois wants to take to the national meeting. The Ohio Board has agreed to link in with the caucuses. We should think about a discussion this in February.

We need a delegate to the National Convention.

Phonathon

Bonnie Bishop has not made any plans. All who can are to meet at Sue Nichol's home on March 12, with their cell phones.

The Phonathon is being done because the State didn't reach the projected amount. Nina Sabrack reported that they considered letting a marketing firm do the calling but this was rejected. It remains league members calling league members. We will do ours and take on extra names. As an incentive, if the goal is meant, calling leagues will get a greater percentage.

Signature Event

Yvette Thompson reported that she has contacted the state office to get suggestions. Luncheons work well. An honoree does not have to be a league member. Yvette has a list from the Chamber of Commerce. We need to feed information to those we wish to highlight a few months before we send the invitation.

We have the Olive Colton Award already established. In the past it has been awarded to a person or organization that has provided service to the league. It was suggested that the award go to Jack Ford for the establishment of Care Net. We should also involve Pro Medica and Mercy Partners. This would be an opportunity to also highlight the league's position on health care.

Motion: It was moved by Bonnie Bishop and seconded by Phyllis Barnes that we investigate the possibility of honoring the significant founders of Care Net through a mid-May event. The motion carried.

TRY

*Sue Nichols reported that the TRYs are about done. There are just some minor details to take care of. The only changes were in local governments. We will contact 5/3 Bank for support, but we have the money to print without their help.

*Sue needs someone to chair the distribution. Last year we printed 2000. Bonnie will contact Fletcher Ward for storage space. Diane Mieczkowski, Ann Payne and Bonnie Bishop will help with distribution.

*Bonnie Bishop moved that 3000 TRYs be printed. The motion died for lack of a second.

Brochure

Bonnie Bishop and Yvette Thompson distributed a mock up example of the format they would like to use for the brochure. The plan is for the brochure to contain general league information and highlights of the things we do. We should stay away from a calendar of events so that the brochure can be used long term. There will be images.

There will be a brochure meeting at Bonnie Bishop's home on Sunday, February 5 at 1:00 P.M.

Voter Services

*Diane Mieczkowski expressed concern about House Bill 3. Hopefully the changes will take care of generic voter registration forms. Things must be finalized in time to go into effect before the May primaries.

*The information about Bill 234 should be placed on the website.

*We should be rethinking what to do with candidate forums. Our league members don't even come. There has been no contact from outside groups to coordinate any forums.

State Town Hall Meeting

The State Board Membership Committee has decided that instead of doing regional meeting they would send someone from the State Lobby core to come and talk on a topic decided by mutual agreement. Their availability would have to be coordinated. We could work with Perrysburg and Bowling Green. The idea is to be helpful to local leagues.

Agenda For Action

The Agenda For Action pamphlet which gives all the LWV-Ohio positions has information that is good for two year.

Motion: It was moved by Peg Hull Smith and seconded by Ann Payne that we purchase 50 copies to be distributed to our member. The motion carried.

Nominating Committee

Sue Nichols asked for volunteers to serve on the committee. Ellen Haigh and Kathy Chamberlin were elected at the Annual Meeting. Bonnie Bishop, Phyllis Barnes and Yvette Thompson volunteered to serve.

Reception for Public Officials

The plan was to hold a reception on a Friday in June. It was suggested that we postpone the event and hold it as a 19th Amendment Anniversary celebration.

Sue Nichols will contact Dan Smith to see if it would be possible to use the Maritime Plaza.

We do not have a chair. The event will be held pending we find a chair.

Eberly Center for Women

The Eberly Center at UT has a project to raise money to create a courtyard by selling bricks. The cost for one brick is \$250.00. Ms. Eberly was a LWV president in the 1960's. She was killed in an automobile accident on her way to Columbus. It is good to help with programs that support women.

Motion: It was moved by Yvette Thompson and seconded by Bonnie Bishop that the league purchase a brick. The motion carried.

Other:

*Yvette Thompson gave information about a woman who is a victim of domestic violence who would like to speak out. Yvette asked if the league could help. It was decided to have Yvette contact Gabriel Davis, a new member, who is working at the Law Clinic. She is working on domestic violence.

It was suggested that both women could be invited to present at the April 27 meeting.

*Bonnie Bishop has attended the Westgate Neighbors meeting. It is not true that they are against Cosco, but they are against the gas station. Bonnie distributed packets of information from Westgate Neighbors.

*We have received a written request from Peggy Daly-Masternak who represents the State and Family Rights and Privacy Committee. She is asking for our support. Sue Nichols and Bonnie have searched our materials and cannot find any studies on the issue. They will inform Peggy that the league can only support something it has studied. There are other leagues that are looking into the issue. Peggy has also asked if she could come and speak. This can be done only if we also offer input from the other side. This could be a possible program for next year.

*Nina Sabrack announced that the State League is holding a contest for all league Voters. Sue Nichols will be one of the judges.

Motion: It was moved by Peg Hull Smith and seconded by Terry Mills that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Karazim, Secretary