

Minutes
LWV-TLC Board Meeting
November 20, 2006
Reynolds Corner Library

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Peg Hull Smith at 7:04 P.M.. Members present were Peg Hull Smith, Bonnie Bishop, Sue Nichols, Mary Karazim, Diane Mieczkowski, Nancy Watts, Sharon Friedman, Yvette Thompson and Ann Payne [7:07].

Members absent were Meg Murphy, Nina Sabrack and Rose Mary Alloy.

Announcements

Peg Hull Smith reminded members that December 1 is the Sixth Annual Great Lakes Water Conference. It will be held at the UT College of Law Building. It is free and open to the public.

Yvette Thompson asked if there was a way that the League could participate in any way to foster the efforts of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Coming up is a bowling fund raising event co-chaired by Cynthia Ford. There is always a need for mentors. It was suggested that an article could be included in the newsletter.

Minutes

Mary Karazim presented the minutes of the September 18, 2006 Minutes. There were several editorial corrections.

Motion: It was moved by Sue Nichols and seconded by Yvette Thompson that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion carried.

Financial Report

Sue Nichols made a correction to the printed report. Ed Fund expenses were \$257.00. The reimbursements from the State League have not been received.

Motion: It was moved by Diane Mieczkowski and seconded by Nancy Watts that the financial report be accepted as amended. The motion carried.

By consensus, the tabled revision proposed for the Financial Policies was continued until the next meeting.

Voter Services

Yvette Thompson and Bonnie Bishop gave examples of problems both reported and personally observed at voting sites. There was a consensus that the League should do something but we need to talk to the lawsuit attorneys before we engage in any action.

Naturalization

The next Naturalization Ceremony will be at the McMaster Center on December 15. Our own member, Uta Schaub will be the speaker. The League will host a reception following the ceremony

It was suggested that the League do this as an annual project.

The Voter

Ann Payne stated that The Voter should be in the mail by Friday, November 24.

Community Shares

Peg Hull Smith distributed pledge forms for Community Shares. Peg urged every board member to contribute and stated that we should care enough to support our own organization.

Town Hall Meeting

Sue Nichols congratulated Yvette Thompson and expressed her appreciation for all the work Yvette did.

Yvette reported that the project stayed within the State budget. Approximately 45 people attended even though the weather was against us. Yvette thanked everyone for the support given to the project. A nice Thank You should be sent to the speakers. The speakers have suggested that for future events the League must do a video of the event.

We should work on the fact that local broadcast stations must supply a certain amount of public information.

We should consider a video for our general meeting speakers as well.

There were some inquiries about the League. Roz Marovitz was the winner of the drawing for a State Membership.

We should keep in Mind that the purpose for the Town Hall Meeting was voter education. A joint study conducted in Ohio and California reports that The League of Women Voters is considered the most trusted of those organizations that disseminate information.

Motion: It was moved by Yvette Thompson and seconded by Sue Nichols that a marketing committee be implemented.

The discussion centered on possibilities such as introductions to corporations about the league, have first hand information available, the Voter is one tool, also TRY. Determinations for sponsorships are made early in the year so timing is important.

The motion carried.

Membership

Bonnie Bishop reported that two new members were gained at the Beruit general meeting.

There needs to be a realization that the membership list and the Voter mailing list be accurate. The two lists are not identical.

We are attempting to create a bigger list gleaned from contacts and publicity lists. Care should be taken that the correct list is used for any particular mailing.

PR

Ann Payne nominated Yvette Thompson to chair the PR Committee.
Nina Sabrack, Becky Danials, Ann Payne, Kim Penn, Terry Mills and Nancy Watts will also serve.

Holiday Events

With the other leagues on December 5, at The Carranor.
Our Holiday Dinner, at Giannos on December 18

Fund Raising

Bonnie Bishop will chair the committee and work with the PR committee.

Public Official Event

Motion: It was moved by Diane Mieczkowski and seconded by Sue Nichols that the January 19 event for public officials be canceled.

Discussion comments included:

Once something is established it shouldn't be omitted.

It used to be held in the spring.

What can the elected officials do for us?

Typically the turnout has been small and it doesn't work if only the officials come and there are only a few League members.

This shows the importance of establishing a PR Committee.

We should concentrate our efforts on educational events, like the Town Meeting.

Part of the accountability is theirs, as well.

The motion carried. It was noted that the issue will be revisited at the January meeting

Signature Event

Yvette Thompson reported that the date is confirmed for Saturday, April 28. It will take the place of the April General Meeting. It will be a luncheon with the same general format at last year. The topic is Environmental and Health Safety Issues.

We are looking for a corporate sponsor. We will enlist the help of the newer members.

Sharon Friedman will help co-chair

Some possible contacts were mentioned for Yvette to consider.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Karazim, Secretary