

Minutes
LWV-TLC Board Meeting
September 19, 2005
Peg Hull Smith's Home

Co-President Sue Nichols called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Members present were: Sue Nichols, Peg Hull Smith, Bonnie Bishop, Mary Karazim, Ann Payne, Terry Mills, Meg Murphy, Phyllis Barnes, Sharon Friedman, Yvette Thompson, Nina Sabrack and Margaret Kaya [7:14].

Members absent were: Diane Mieczkowski, and Anita Levin.

Law Suit

Sue Nichols gave a status report on the law suit. On August 29 Judge Carr denied the other party's motion to deny the charges. On August 30 it was decided that the trial date would be set for sometime in June. This was after a conversation with the parties. This will be good timing for us. Sue reported that Bonnie Bishop has written a history of problems with the election officials that have affected our [the league's] reputation. There has been a collection of past documents.

It has been decided that Bonnie Bishop and Ann Payne will sit for the depositions.

Minutes

The minutes of the August 11 Board Meeting were presented by Mary Karazim

Motion: It was moved by Meg Murphy and seconded by Terry Mills that the minutes be accepted as corrected. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Margaret Kaya, newly appointed Treasurer [Executive Board appointment] reported that she has been working on little glitches and she will have a full report in October. The Charter Bank account has \$2,426.18. This will be closed out and put into savings. The Eric Shores account has also been closed and put into a Fifth-Third savings account. In August deposits totaling \$545.00 were made and \$217.87 was paid out. Some of this went to Bonnie Bishop to pay for membership brochures.

Audit Committee Report [see attached]

Sue Nichols and Bonnie Bishop presented the report of the Audit Committee. Sue commented that she was amazed at Terry Mills' detailed bookkeeping. She kept careful notes on where each item was. It was a joy to audit. When a bill was turned in there was an explanation of what category it was in. The audit committee had to move a few items around.

All were reminded that when a person spends money they should tell what it is for. The treasurer should not have to guess.

Membership

Meg Murphy issued a list from the LWVUS website. Anyone who paid for 2005-2006 has a 6/60 date assigned.

Motion: It was moved by Nina Sabrack and seconded by Peg Hull Smith that \$25.00 be waived from Yvette Thompson's dues because of miscommunication at the time she joined. The motion carried.

Bonnie Bishop and others will make a "one more time" phone call to those who have not rejoined.

Bonnie also proposed a mentoring process whereby board members take a new member, call her for events, offer a ride, and greet and introduce her to others. Yvette Thompson will work with Rosemary Alloy, Bonnie bishop will work with Gabrielle Davis and Ann Payne will host both J. Murphy and Jane Ranson.

Voters' Services

The mayoral form was very successful. There were 250 chairs set up and people were standing in the back. The next forum will be October 6 for city council candidates, at Nietzsche Hall. This will be with the Urban League of Young Professionals. They have set up a mathematical formula to determine who answers which questions since there are twelve candidates.

The judicial and municipal judges' forum will be October 20 at the law school also with the Urban League of Young Professionals.

The forum for school board candidates will be November 1, but a site has not yet been determined.

Stephanie Kaiser, Bonnie Bishop and the Urban League of Young Professionals have been doing a lot of work with sending out mailings to churches, professors and instructors.

Concern was expressed over House Bill 3. On the national level there is thinking about requiring photo IDs for elections. All were urged to contact Feder and the house representatives to let them know our concerns.

Community Shares

Peg Hull Smith reported that only a little over \$1000.00 was realized from the Block Party. There had been hope for \$10,000.00. This had been put together quickly. Now there will be a full year to plan ahead. If enough money can be made to pay staff things will be better.

Yvette Thompson reported about the Community Information Fair held on August 21. There were nine community shares organizations represented. Employees were given a questionnaire which asked if there was a desire to have other choices available along with United Way. Now that the United Way campaign is under way people are asking where are the other organizations that were at the fair. This was step one. It will need to be done again and again. Yvette is meeting with people in other UAW facilities to help them develop a plan.

Telephone Tree

Ann will compose a script for the telephone tree callers.

Fall Issues

Nina Sabrack reported that the LWVOH discussions about positions on state issues was inspiring. We have an active citizens education committee. The votes were to support Jobs for Ohio, Early Voting, Campaign Finance and Redistricting. There were all difficult decisions to make. The vote was to oppose the Election Administration issue. The difficulty is with the definition of the board, especially with the definition of politically active.

We should have information on these issues, with the pros and cons, at our forums and at our general meetings.

Phonathon

The Ohio league did get the amount of money expected. Fund raising on the state level is difficult. A phonathon has been schedule or dates around March 9. The committee is sending out promotion and information. Bonnie Bishop and Peg Hull Smith will co-chair the local efforts.

Members were reminded to keep aware of Action Alerts as they are emailed to us. The Capital Hill Switchboard number is 202 224 3121.

Voter

The next issue will welcome new members, review the LWVOH positions on the issues, have an article from Sue Nichols and the President's Message written by Peg. Hull Smith. A *Voter* will be sent to the Community Shares Board members.

Yvette/booklet

Yvette passed out a quickly draw idea for a brochure that could be printed for distribution and posting at libraries, Block watcher meetings, sent to schools, etc.

Terry Mills has done a pamphlet similar to Yvette's idea and she has the basic set up.

Terry and Yvette will work together, Bonnie will proofread..

Peg Hull Smith noted that every month an agency in Community Shares gives a presentation. Most have handouts to share. Peg's turn will be in the spring. Something like this pamphlet would be good to share.

Scholarship Committee

The proposed pamphlet was presented on Terry Mills' computer. It was suggested that perhaps we could plug in some present day women and represent some diversity for the images. Work will continue after elections are over.

Voters' Guide

It was decided that a Voters' Guide on the issued should be developed. Ann Payne and Sue Nichols will work on this.

Clean Campaign

There was a long discussion about the request from the *Toledo Blade* to form a new clean campaign committee. Although it was logical that Gary Blaine be contacted since he was the designated spokesperson for the original committee, there was deep concern that the two league members most active had not been invited to again serve. Mary Karazim, who was invited by Gary, outlined her contact experience. There was further concern about the *Toledo Blade* article's identification of organizations the new committee members belonged to. The new committee has not yet met. Mary will go and report back to Sue, Bonnie and Peg and other board members she can reach by email.

Yvette Thompson reported that she attended a retiree meeting of UAW Local 1435 and recruited some volunteers for the mock elections.

Yvette also reported that Scott [LWVOH] will work with her to get some ideas on the major event. Either February or August are months special to league history.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Karazim, Secretary