

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

A G E N D A

November 15, 1983
7:00-9:00
45 Allen Bend Drive

7:10 Call To Order

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Organization: Appointment of 2 board members to complete
Nominating Committee

Reports

Program: Holiday Brunch - Milli Protzman

National Program Planning

January meeting - Marital Rights

Membership: Slide show at Holiday Brunch

Update - Barb Emery

Voters Service: Letters to newspaper - Laura Verbanac

Action: Family Violence - Margaret Campbell

Finance: Book Sale - Barb Brown

Voter: Deadline, Friday, November 18

Old business - Minute for evaluation

New business - LWV/US Long range planning - see enclosed materials.
Long range planning committee wants direct input.
Please be prepared to talk over at board meeting the
enclosed materials.

Announcements: Next board meeting, Tuesday, January 17 at _____
Agenda Planning, Friday, January 6.

Adjourn promptly at 9 p.m.

SECTION II

In its work to date, the Committee has studied an extensive amount of information and statistical data about the League, its members, and broad societal or demographic trends. Conclusions from this rigorous analysis have been summarized as "Planning Assumptions." These Planning Assumptions, then, present conclusions which the Committee has drawn from its research and provide a rationale for the development of the draft LWVUS Mission Statement and General Objectives (which you evaluated in Section I).

AGREE			DISAGREE			NO OPINION
STRONGLY	MODER- ATELY	SOME- WHAT	SOME- WHAT	MODER- ATELY	STRONGLY	

PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

1. Major socio-demographic and life-style changes among women in American society (e.g., more women in paid employment and/or as heads of households, etc.) decrease drastically the prospects of recruiting large numbers of "traditional League members." NOTE: The "traditional" League member has been: female; "upscale" in educational achievement and household income; married with children; not employed outside the home; 35 to 54 years old; and interested in government and politics.
2. The general "involvement" or "participation" level of the overall League membership has decreased somewhat in recent years since most members have less time to devote to League activities (e.g., because of paid employment and competition for their volunteer time).
3. Members are capable of greater financial support to the League if such payments were viewed as necessary to ensure that the League achieves its objectives.
4. At present, however, many members of the League seem unwilling to pay more for their membership.
5. Aggressive marketing programs designed to attract potential members from relatively untapped target groups (e.g., minorities) and population growth areas (e.g., the Southwest) can increase this overall size of League membership.
6. The League's basic structures and the relationships among its three levels -- national, state, and local -- are satisfactory as currently designed and are operating effectively.
7. In the future all organizational levels in the League will increasingly need to rely on paid staff if the League's objectives are to be achieved.
8. The League needs to improve the overall effectiveness of its internal communications (e.g., lessening the reliance on channeling materials through the local League presidents).
9. In order to increase efficiency, the national office should perform many administrative functions (e.g., list maintenance and membership renewals) for local and state Leagues at an appropriate service charge.
10. The League should remain a multi-issue organization. Leagues should be encouraged to select program issues that are most important and relevant to the members.
11. Flexible methods of determining member agreement should be widely applied throughout the League.
12. The effectiveness of local and state Leagues and their ability to achieve program goals varies greatly, depending on the number of members, the quality of leadership, the financial base, etc.
13. In most local Leagues a relatively few leaders have to assume a disproportionately large share of responsibilities.
14. Filling League leadership positions is constrained by time demands placed on the volunteer, weekday meetings, etc.
15. Building a strong grass roots membership base is as important as strengthening the financial base of the League.
16. The present PHP system does not provide an incentive for planning and implementing membership growth programs in most local Leagues.

SECTION III

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. LWVUS should shift toward more direct communication with individual members so that LL presidents are less burdened with this task.
2. The standards for forming and maintaining Leagues should be revised and flexible administrative models developed.
3. State Leagues should offer substantive support to existing local Leagues and should increase their activity in forming strong local Leagues.
4. LWVUS and state Leagues should consider pilot programs for regional cooperation (e.g., forming new Leagues).
5. The primary opportunity and responsibility for recruitment of members is at the local level.
6. Members should be more directly involved in advocacy.
7. The program making and member agreement process must be streamlined.
8. To serve individual members and relieve LL administrative burdens, LWVUS must make, in the near-term, a choice between three major publication strategies:
 - a. Substantive consolidation publication complemented by a newsletter, newsletter containing organization news and report from the Hill/Advocacy Agenda info.
 - b. Utilize a single major publication to provide coverage of all LWV activities, issues, and studies. NOTE: Either a. or b. strategy could include LWV study material and could generate revenue.
 - c. Periodic newsletter (organizational news and Report from Hill/Advocacy Agenda info) supplemented by mailing study material directly to members.
9. In the near-term the LWVUS should develop a pilot video-cassette presentation for a national (or state) study item. This presentation could provide a model and test for streamlined unit presentation.
10. LWVUS should pursue strategies at all League levels to achieve a net membership growth of 10% per year over the next five years.
11. Members should be able to join any local League they choose or to become a state or national MAL.
12. Individual donors to LWVUS or LWVEF should have the opportunity to become members.
13. The use of radio and cable-TV should be increased in LWVUS communication activities.
14. LWVUS should examine the cost benefits of expanding incoming telephone communication (e.g., WATS line) beyond national board usage.
15. Organizations like LWVUS can base their membership dues on four types of structures. Which one of these approaches can best provide all levels of the League with the financial resources needed to achieve its objectives? Please read all alternatives and, then, record your answer in the appropriate box.

Best 2nd Best 3rd Best 4th Best
Approach Approach Approach Approach

A. League dues should be shared across Local League, State League, and LWVUS levels on an appropriate allocation formula basis.

B. LWVUS should establish an appropriate national dues level for all of its members and, then, each State and Local League can "add-on" additional dues requirements to finance their activities.

C. LWVUS should establish a "minimum flat fee" which is paid by all Local Leagues and, then, collect a small, variable assessment based on the Local League's membership size.

D. The present PMP system continues to be the best membership dues system for LWVUS, Local Leagues, and State Leagues.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR
BOARD MEETING
October 19, 1983

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Andrea Bowen at the home of Dee Meyerson.

Present: Milli Protzman, Laura Verbanac, Barbara Brown, Dee Meyerson.
Absent: Lucille Crow, Barbara Emery, Kathleen Spomer, Janet Beck.

MINUTES: It was MSC (Protzman, Brown) that the minutes of the September 20th meeting be accepted with the following corrections: Under Treasurer's Report the third sentence should read that \$149.88 had been deposited for our second per-member payment. It was also noted that our December Brunch is traditionally called our Holiday Brunch, and that our contact with the Public Library for the Candidates Meeting spells his name Seidl.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barbara Brown reported that she had asked to have the check mentioned above returned to her from the LWV/IL Education Fund and that she will write another check to LWV/IL for our per-member payment.

We have cash on hand of \$1,463.86. Expenses were \$94.33, and we have received \$78.85 from the Book Sale, and \$390 from the Finance Drive to date. Thirty-two members have paid their dues. Funds in the Millikin Bank account will now be transferred to a Mutual Savings interest-bearing checking account.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted to file for audit.

Andrea asked for approval of payment of transportation costs of \$20 for Paul Wells, our speaker from the University of Illinois, for the October 11 meeting. It was MSC (Meyerson, Verbanac) THAT PAYMENT OF \$20 TO PAUL WELLS BE APPROVED.

ORGANIZATION: It was MSC (Brown, Protzman) THAT WE ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF SARAH SCHWEHN FROM THE BOARD.

Dee Meyerson reported that Margaret Coberly has agreed to serve as Nominating Committee Chair. Sarah Schwehn and Karen Jensen will serve as the other two off-board members. We must now appoint two board members to serve on the committee.

REPORTS:

Program. The National Security consensus from the September 27th meeting was reviewed by the board. Members attending the meeting had been given copies of the questions. They had checked their answers on the forms and the forms were turned in at the end of the meeting. The answers were tabulated by Committee Chair, Janet Beck. Laura Verbanac presented the tabulation for each part of each question. The consensus report was then approved by the board. It was suggested that we write again to the National committee to let them know that we had found the consensus difficult to evaluate also.

Milli Protzman said that the National Security Consensus Meeting, Part II, will be on November 9 at First United Methodist. The Holiday Brunch will be held at the Millikin Homestead on December 13 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cost will be \$2.50 per person.

Voters Service. Laura Verbanac said the sample ballots will be available from the County Clerk's office for the Candidates Meeting at the Public Library on October 29th. The board discussed last-minutes of the meeting.

Dee Meyerson, Secretary

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR
BOARD MEETING
November 15, 1983

The meeting was called to order at the home of Milli Protzman at 7:00 p.m. with Andrea Bowen presiding.

PRESENT: Barbara Emery, Barbara Brown, Milli Protzman, Laura Verbanac, Margaret Campbell, Dee Meyerson.
Absent: Lucille Crow, Janet Beck, Kathleen Owen (Spomer).

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Andrea said that Margaret Campbell was present to discuss possible action under our local Family Violence position. Several articles have appeared in the Herald and Review concerning the way in which the Police Department will handle domestic violence cases in the future. Previously, the men had been locked up overnight. In the future they will be given a "notice to appear" because the Police Department is worried about charges of false arrest. There have been some problems, with the State's Attorney's office delaying or not bringing charges against the men. Pat Morey of the Dove Domestic Violence Committee called Margaret to discuss the situation. (Dove refers to Disciples of Volunteer Enlistment, a local church-sponsored social service agency.) Pat would like to set up a task force to do research on domestic violence cases, monitoring the handling of such cases from the police station through the State's Attorney's office and the courts. Margaret recommended, and the board agreed, that one league member serve on the task force.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barbara Brown reported income of \$351.79, expenses of \$90.45. Per-member payments of \$273 to LWV/US and \$147.87 to LWV/IL are due in November. We have a new member: Linda C. Hughes, 2125 Claremont, 62526, telephone 429-9871. The treasurer's report was filed for audit. Barbara asked about preparing an article for the Voter about contributions to the LWV/IL Education Fund for our member's information. The suggestion was approved. We have reached our budgeted amount for workshops.

ORGANIZATION: Board members Barbara Brown and Barbara Emery agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee for 1983-84 along with Marg Coberly, Sarah Schwehn and Karen Jensen from the membership.

REPORTS:

PROGRAM. Final plans were made for the Holiday Brunch on December 13 at the Millikin Homestead. The program will include the Membership tape from LWV/IL and a discussion of national program. LWV/IL has indicated that they will support a new study of tax policies. The December Voter will carry an article asking members to read the national Voter article on national program, and return a questionnaire to Milli if they cannot attend the meeting.

The January 10 meeting will be devoted to a presentation for the Marital Rights study. ^{Co-chr.} Committee members Kathleen Owen and Milli Protzman have arranged for two speakers from Springfield. They will discuss credit and marital property. Other organizations (AAUW, etc.) will be invited to attend. The consensus for this study will take place at our March meeting. Milli said that the consensus questions have been received. They will be carried in the March Voter.

MEMBERSHIP. Barbara Emery reported that we have 35 paid members. Eleven members have not yet paid their dues. We have two new members: Laurie Thornton and Linda Hughes.

VOTERS SERVICE. Laura Verbanac reported on the November Candidates Meeting held at the Public Library. "Thank You" letters have been received and sent, and the board agreed that it had been a good meeting. Mr. Seidl of the library staff said that any of our educational meetings may be held at the library.

BOOK SALE. Barbara Brown reported that some books remain unsold after our book sales of the last few years. It was MSC (Brown, Protzman) THAT WE DISPOSE OF ALL LEFTOVER BOOKS NOW.

LONG RANGE PLANNING. Milli Protzman presented for discussion a Long Range Planning survey received from national LWV. The questions were discussed by the board and the answers, recorded by Milli, will be sent to LWV/US.

VOTER. The deadline is Friday, November 18, for the December Voter.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. ? ~~more like 10: or 10:30!~~

Dee Meyerson, Secretary

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Nominating Committee Barb Brown, Barb Emery

Reports

Program: Holiday Brunch - Milli Protzman

National Program Planning

January meeting - Marital Rights Speakers (maybe Spriggle)
credit/marital properties

Membership: Slide show at Holiday Brunch new member "Voter"

Update - Barb Emery 33 memb. 2 = 35 pd.
11 unpaid

Voters Service: Letters to newspaper - Laura Verbanac

30 people at Card. Mtg.

Lynn Patton - articles in Dec H&R.

Action: Family Violence - Margaret Campbell

need a person to serve on Task force.

Finance: Book Sale - Barb Brown

1/2 Dispose of present books

Voter: Deadline, Friday, November 18

Old business - Minute for evaluation

New business - LWV/US Long range planning - see enclosed materials.
Long range planning committee wants direct input.
Please be prepared to talk over at board meeting the
enclosed materials.

Announcements: Next board meeting, Tuesday, January 17 at Laura Verbanac
Agenda Planning, Friday, January 6.

Adjourn promptly at 9 p.m.

Call Pat Morey on who will serve on

Weird Eggs Milli 10:30
Wine Barb B.
Fruit Andrea, Dee, Kathleen.
Coffee cake Barb Emory
 Laura V.
 Lucille
 Janet

~~Coffee~~ Tea/Paper. — Andrea
Products
* heavy plates } Chinest
foam cups }

Bring serving pieces
wine container