

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS, MARCH 7, 1955.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 1:30 P.M. in the Chamber of Commerce meeting room.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as corrected.

The Treasurer's Report was read, showing a balance on hand as of March 1, 1955, of \$1493.24.

Mrs. Winn discussed the Candidates' Meeting and reported that the expenses for it amounted to \$104.24.

The President announced that each league in the state had been given a 3% across the board raise in league pledges to state, which would raise our pledge to state from \$500.00 to \$515.00. In discussing this raise with the Treasurer, it was thought that we could probably make it up in dues. The budget was so corrected, and accepted, on motion by Elizabeth Lupton, seconded by Virginia Gibson; carried.

Mrs. Nicholson discussed the Freedom Agenda discussions to take place at the next unit meetings; plans are being made to arrange the program so that during a question and answer period those attending not League members will have an opportunity to learn about the Freedom Agenda Project and just what it is. Mrs. Schudel said that she would have literature available at these meetings for distribution free, if possible. Mrs. Donovan noted that we had spent \$58.54 on publications and have budgeted \$65.00 for next year. It was moved by Mrs. Martin that we buy 10 sets of the Freedom Agenda literature; seconded by Mrs. Morris; carried.

Mrs. Donovan brought up the Trade Survey item, and said that she had talked with Bob Shade about discussing it on his Monday night program, also the Freedom Agenda. He was quite interested and might be able to give us some time. Mrs. Gibson suggested that we wait until Mrs. Nicholson hears from her letters on the Freedom Agenda Project, and Mrs. Nicholson said that if we waited on this that the Initiating Committee might get underway in the meantime. Mrs. Donovan said that there was a good group for the Trade Survey meeting on March 2nd, and that those working on the survey will probably be asked to do two firms. It was pointed out that the survey will be a series of objective questions, and that we will not be trying to form an opinion, but merely to find out opinions.

Mrs. Donovan brought up the matter of the Annual Meeting and announced that it would be on March 31st in the Decatur Club. She thanked the members of the Board for their work during the past year. Mrs. Smith suggested that before we leave the subject of the Annual Meeting that we discuss the question of fluoridation; that it was not turned in by anyone, but that it might possibly come up at the Annual Meeting. Mrs. Gibson said that fluoridation could be handled through the Welfare Item if it became apparent that the league should consider it, and that if the matter came up, Mrs. Morris, when presenting the Welfare Item could say that the league may take

up the question in this way. It was so moved by Mrs. Gibson; seconded by Mrs. Smith; carried.

The President read the Board Evaluation questions and the Board answered them.

She announced that the Legislative School for Decatur is scheduled for March 22nd and 23rd in Springfield.

Mrs. Gibson brought up the subject of county permanent registration. It was discussed and agreed that the League should know something about the Election Laws.

Mrs. Nicholson discussed the Broyles Bills, and it was decided to stress in the bulletin that the oath mentioned is a negative type of oath. It was suggested that this be brought up at the unit meetings.

The April program for the unit meetings was brought up, inasmuch as the Welfare program cannot be given in April as planned originally. It was felt that possibly something in connection with the Freedom Agenda Project might be used.

Mrs. Martin brought up the question of material to go on the membership cards. She was instructed to have them ready for distribution by the Annual Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the President.

Respectfully submitted,


Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, Secretary.

1955

MINUTES OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF BOARD.

At the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, the new President, Mrs. H. W. Gibson, announced that a special meeting of the new Board of Directors would be held immediately following the Annual Meeting for the purpose of indicating to the Board members the various appointments in addition to regular duties of office. The meeting was so held and the President made the following announcement:

- Mrs. J. W. Hurley, 1st Vice President and Bulletin Editor,
- Mrs. Fred Schudel, 2nd Vice President and Public Relations
(Chairman,
- Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, Secretary and Action Chairman,
- Mrs. G. R. Cohn, Treasurer,
- Mrs. James Leigh, Elected Director and Finance Chairman,
- Mrs. Thomas McCracken, Elected Director and Constitutional
(Revision Chairman,
- Mrs. Charles Griffin, Elected Director and Chairman Local
(Item on Government Construction,
- Mrs. F. A. MacKay, Elected Director and Chairman Trade Survey,
- Mrs. Forrest Martin, Elected Director and Membership and
(Unit Chairman,
- Mrs. Arthur Adelman, Elected Director and Chairman in
(Charge of Publications,
- Mrs. Clifford Smith, Appointed Director and Freedom Agenda
(Chairman,
- Mrs. Ayrle Morris, Appointed Director and Welfare Item
(Chairman,
- Mrs. William Winn, Appointed Director and Voters' Service
(Chairman.

The meeting was adjourned by the President.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) *C. F. Gebhardt*
Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, Secretary.

Dated March 31, 1955.

(OVER)

Also call Florence Coy as Ch. Nominating Com.,

OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

<u>NAME.</u>	<u>ADDRESS.</u>	<u>TELEPHONE NUMBER.</u>
Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President,	160 Keller Lane,	3-4344
Mrs. J. W. Hurley, 1st V.P., Bulletin Ed.,	1531 W. Main,	2-2747
Mrs. Fred Schudel, 2nd V.P., Public Relations Ch.,	1014 E. Cantrell,	2-7637
Mrs. C. F. Gebardt, Secretary, Action Ch.,	1390 W. Mason,	2-3229
Mrs. G. R. John, Treasurer,	777 S. Monroe,	2-3265
Mrs. James Leigh, Finance Ch.,	S.S. Country Club,	4306
Mrs. Thomas McCracken, Constitutional Revision Ch.,	1424 E. Lawrence 1311 California	8-4055
Mrs. Charles Griffin, Ch. Local Government,	1129 N. Hill,	3-7151
Mrs. F. A. McKay, Ch. Trade Survey,	3301 E. William St. Rd.,	4176 2-3538
Mrs. Forrest Martin, Membership & Unit Ch.	235 Park Place,	7745 9236
Mrs. Arthur Adelman, Publications Ch.,	2275 W. Forest,	2-0327
Mrs. Clifford Smith, Freedom Agenda Ch.,	1634 W. Riverview,	2-1764
Mrs. Ayrle Morris, Welfare Item Ch.,	253 N. Oakdale,	8-2626
Mrs. William Winn, Voters' Service Ch.,	2090 W. Riverview,	7757

Call Katherine Donovan, as State Board member, to attend local Board meetings, whenever she can + report on anything at state level that she attends.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS, HELD IN THE DECATUR CLUB, MARCH
31, 1955.

The Annual Meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. John Donovan, following luncheon at 1:00 P.M.

The President welcomed everyone and explained the membership cards which were at each place.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read by the Secretary and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was read, showing cash on hand as of April 1, 1955, of \$1,433.46, and placed on file for audit.

Mrs. MacKay reported on the Trade Survey item, and said that letters had gone out to firms and that interviews would start soon.

Mrs. Nicholson reported on the Freedom Agenda Project and explained the purpose of it.

The President asked that all who would please write a letter to the Governor against the Broyles Bills.

Mrs. Morris read an invitation from the Champaign League to hear Otto Bettag, who will be their guest speaker on the Welfare Item.

The proposed Budget was read by the Secretary, and on motion of Mrs. Lanpka, seconded by Mrs. Lupton, it was accepted and adopted.

Mrs. Lupton reported on the proposed agenda for the next year and submitted the report of her committee, suggesting the following items:

Item 1: A study of local welfare, with action where indicated.

Item 2: Analysis, with action where needed, of governmental units within the County.

Mrs. Winn moved that we adopt Item 1, seconded by Mrs. Riley, carried.

Mrs. Morris spoke for the Welfare Item; she pointed out that we had studied it at both the state and local level.

The President asked for general discussion, saying that the program is made by the League membership.

Mrs. Gibson moved that the Welfare Item be adopted, seconded by Mrs. Winn; carried. Mrs. Griffin also spoke in

favor of Item 2. Discussion followed. Mrs. Gibson pointed out that actually a workshop on this item would determine which particular field of local government we would work on, with the committee's findings submitted to the Board before action would be taken in any way. Mrs. Winn also spoke for the item, saying that in any event, we had to study anything for a year before taking action of any kind.

Mrs. Lupton discussed continuing responsibilities, and it was decided to continue in our support of school financial problems and organization.

Mrs. Smith read suggested Platform changes as follows: That we remove from the Current Agenda of 1954-1955:-
"Item II - To continue consideration and action where approved by the membership on school financial problems and organization." -
- to the Continuing Responsibilities - re-placing Item I on Continuing Responsibilities. Present Continuing Responsibilities reads: "I - That we oppose the Community Unit District for School District #61." This Continuing Responsibility is now to be considered: "I - Continued support of School Financial and Organizational needs where such support is deemed in the best interests of the community." On motion by Mrs. Leigh, seconded by Mrs. Morris, suggested changes as above set forth were voted upon by the membership present and motion carried.

Mrs. Donovan thanked the members of the Board who had served during the past year. She spoke of our one defeat: Council Manager. Mrs. Lupton thanked Mrs. Donovan as retiring president, on behalf of the Board.

Mrs. Donovan spoke about the new By-laws, saying that this would be the first time they would be in effect, as part of this Board had been elected for 1 year and part for 2. Mrs. Pettee was asked to give the report of the Nominating Committee, which was as follows:

Nominations for Officers and Directors of the League of Women Voters of Decatur, Illinois, for 1955-56, as submitted by the Nominating Committee:

President, -----	Mrs. H. W. Gibson,
1st Vice-President, -----	Mrs. James W. Hurley,
2nd Vice-President, -----	Mrs. Frederick S. Schudel,
Secretary, -----	Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt,
Treasurer, -----	Mrs. G. R. Cohn,
Directors, -----	Mrs. James Leigh, 2 years,
	Mrs. Forrest Martin, 2 years,
	Mrs. Thomas McCracken, 2 years,
	Mrs. Charles Griffin, 1 year,
	Mrs. F. A. MacKay, 1 year,
	Mrs. Arthur Adelman, 1 year,

Nominating Committee for 1955-56:

Chairman, -----	Mrs. Gerald Cox,
Members, -----	Mrs. Neal Doubleday,
	Mrs. C. M. Nicholson.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating
Committee: Elizabeth Lupton, Betty Simmons,
Lola Smith, Florence Wood, Ann Pettee, Chairman.

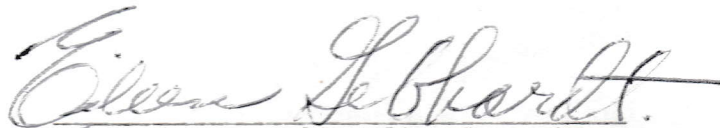
The President then called for nominations from the floor, and there being none, Mrs. Ann Kuhns moved that the nominations be closed and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous vote for the slate as presented; seconded by Mrs. Kessler; carried.

Mrs. Gibson, the new President, was asked to come to the speaker's table. She spoke about items that would come up outside of the workshops, and asked for any suggestions anyone might have at any time, and said that we needed to find out why our unit meetings were so poorly attended and why we are not making progress there. She also said that our second big job will be Council Manager; that the issue came to a head at a time when we knew there was a time limit before the vote; that we could not put our finger on what was wrong; that we did our work very well; that she felt one thing was that we did not know enough about our commission form of government. She stated that she felt visits to the Council meetings were advisable on Monday and Thursday mornings at 10 in order that we may evaluate that form of government, so that if it comes up again in four years we will know more about our present type of government; so that we will know whether or not we will be justified in supporting any kind of campaign. This is a decision the Board must face, she felt. Voters' Service is the third item, she said; that we need to make the citizens of the city more registration conscious; get campaign issues before the people and stir up interest in voting and in informed voting. She asked that the newly elected officers and directors meet with her for five minutes at the close of the Annual Meeting.

Mrs. Smith discussed the Freedom Agenda Project, and said that TV programs over WCIA will begin April 17th. She also discussed various programs to be given by other leagues.

On motion by Mrs. Lupton, seconded by Mrs. Donovan, the meeting was adjourned by the President.

Respectfully submitted,


Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt, Secretary.

Financial Report and Budget attached hereto.

	1954-1955 Budget	Actual 2-1-55	1955-1956 Proposed Budget
EXPENDITURES			
<u>General Administration</u>			
President's Account	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Committee (Finance, Membership)	50.00	30.04	25.00
Delegates (State & National)	200.00	128.29	200.00
(Regional Conf.)	150.00	33.90*	150.00
<u>Operating Costs</u>			
Supplies	35.00	51.88**	25.00
Postage	15.00	26.80**	15.00
Tel & Tel	10.00	9.97	10.00
Bank Charges	5.00	.32	5.00
<u>Publications</u>			
State & National	75.00	57.84****	65.00
Local		***	25.00
Monthly Bulletin	125.00	49.30****	100.00
<u>Activities</u>			
Meetings	40.00	42.84****	55.00
Action in Community	150.00	45.83****	150.00
<u>State & Nat'l Services</u>	450.00	500.00	500.00 - 515.00
<u>Miscellaneous</u>		8.16	10.00*****
	<u>1330.00</u>		<u>1360.00</u>
			<u>\$1375.00</u>
INCOME			
<u>Dues</u>	420.00	348.00	390.00 + 15.00 above
<u>Contributions</u>			405.00
members	200.00	213.00	225.00
non-members	700.00	711.00 ^{924.00}	750.00
<u>Publications</u>	10.00		
	<u>1330.00</u>		<u>1360.00</u>
			<u>1375.00</u>
<u>Additional Expenditures & Explanations</u>			

*Regional Conference Meetings on National Items I and II

** Over-budget amounts for stationary available for next year - thereby lowering '55-'56 budget amount.

*** Previously absorbed by other areas in budget

**** Expenditures still forthcoming in these areas

***** A minimum amount for those unanticipated expenses not covered in items listed.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF

April 1, 1955

Cash on Hand 3/31/55 \$1,341.46

Receipts

Dues 35 @ \$3.00 105.00

14 New
21 Old

Decatur Club Meeting 57.00

162.00

Total Receipts

1,503.46

Expenditures

Publications *26 2,* 15.00

Decatur Club Meeting 55.00

70.00

Cash On Hand 4/1/55

1,433.46