

League of Women Voters of Decatur  
Minutes for meeting of August 3, 1978

The regular meeting of the board of directors was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Kathy Sorensen in the absence of Karen Jensen, President. Present were the MSes Sorensen, Marshall, Staley, Cantoni, Erickson, Minick, Brown, Oldweiler, Jacobsen, and Carol Campbell,

The minutes were approved as mailed by Betty Jacobsen.

Treasurer Sue Marshall reported as follows:

Balance July 1		1075.78
Income	0	
Expenses	502.14	
Balance Aug.3		573.64

Reports

1. Barbara Brown reported that she had sent about 30 invitations to the Lakeside Summer Get-Together to be held at Lois Raber's home on Aug.9. Arrangements are all made to display program materials.

2. Voter Newsletter. Marianne Erickson, editor, had several suggestions for discussion. After a very concise presentation and some questioning, Dee Meyerson moved that we go to offset printing (from mimeo) and get a bulk mailing permit. Seconded, passed. Beth Oldweiler moved that we empower the committee to solicit ads to finance this. Seconded, passed. Marianne will work out advertising - sponsor agreement forms and apply for a bulk mail rate permit.

3. League Calendar. Kathy Sorensen presented the LWV calendar for 78-79 as follows:

September	13	Regionals at Jacksonville
	27	General meeting - panel on Decatur Urban Problems
October	11-15	League of Women Voters Week
	20	(Friday) Cocktail Party for Candidates
	25	Tax Assessment units
November	8	Environmental Quality
December	13	Brunch- International Relations speaker
January	10	School Units
	24	
	31	Downstate triads Urban Crisis

February 14 Corrections General meeting  
March 14 Units on Urban Crisis  
21-22 Legislative Seminar  
28 Concensus on Urban Crisis  
  
April 11 Election Laws units  
25  
27-29 (Fri-Sun) State Convention  
  
May 9 Annual meeting

The board discussed many supportive ideas. Barbara Brown moved acceptance; seconded, passed.

4. The board reviewed the local non-partisanship policy. Dee Meyerson moved acceptance as printed; seconded, passed.

5. Results of Felony Court project: Barbara Minick gave a brief report. Bob Basten and Karen Jensen met and talked with Judge Scott, State's Attorney Walsh, Bar Association President Record. It went well. This will come out as a press release August 5. There was no report on Small Claims Court watching for next year.

Miscellaneous:

Marianne Erickson will speak to YWCA audience on "Facts of ERA" on Aug.22.

Sue Marshall was supported by the board in her decision not to order stickpins from state LWV because of high shipping charges.

Board members portfolios are not complete. Will send members a list before the next meeting so they can check before attending the next meeting.

Karen Jensen did LWV Energy Concesus on "Spectrum" July 26 on WSOY. Next Spectrum is August 9, 2:35 p.m.

The next board meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. on September 21. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Jacobsen, secretary

used for 1976-77  
and  
77-78  
philosophy

NON-PARTISAN POLICY FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DECATUR, ILLINOIS LWV

Since the League's Board of Directors is responsible for carrying out the non-partisan policy in this community and for seeing that there is member understanding and public awareness of the League's stance; we are formulating specific guidelines regarding the political activities of board members.

1. The LWV is a nonpartisan organization and it shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.
2. The Decatur LWV Board of Directors shall abide by a nonpartisan policy that allows the board members, except the President, Vice Presidents, and Voters' Service Chairman, and other publicly sensitive positions; to support candidates.
3. A board member may serve on local appointed boards where service would not be detrimental to LWV programs.
4. The political activities of a spouse or relative of a board member will be considered separate and distinct from the activities of the board member.
5. Public notices released by the LWV announcing the resignation of a board member to run for a political office is to be carefully worded in order to avoid the appearance of endorsing the resigning board member's candidacy.
6. The LWV's non-partisan reputation is sufficiently strong to ensure that personal contributions from office holders and candidates, as well as other community contributions, can be accepted without being misconstrued as endorsements of those donors.
7. The public views of board members who are asked to be members of appointed public commissions and committees either as individuals or representatives of the League, must be consistent with stated League positions.

Board members may have party affiliations and should certainly carry out the responsibilities of every voter in exercising the franchise, including the responsibility to become informed about candidates and to attend precinct meetings and caucuses. While the board develops guidelines on what board members may do, a general policy can never cover every situation and the board will need to deal with specific cases as these arise on an individual basis.