

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

Decatur, Illinois

July 8, 1968

The meeting was held in the home of Mrs. Robert Mae, 279 Victoria Ct., with Mrs. Keith Westenhaver presiding.

PRESENT: Mesdames Westenhaver, Barber, Schade, Crow, Hippler, Johnson, Protzman, Tilley, Weinman, Butler, Miller, Dumas, Beck, Mae and Homan.

ABSENT: Mesdames Heilman and Landholt.

MINUTES: Approved as corrected. Mrs. Mae was present and there were no absentees. On Page 4 under VOTERS SERVICE, Mrs. Protzman moved that Mrs. Homan pick the place (for the Candidates Meeting) she felt most suitable to our needs. Seconded and passed. Under PUBLICITY, Mrs. Weinman distributed the NATIONAL CATALOGUES, instead of Board Reports. *to allow*

7-1-68 150.34

TREASURER'S REPORT: Cash on hand 5-21-68, ~~\$256.88~~. Receipts, \$298.50. Expenditures, \$298.85. Cash on hand 7-8-68 \$149.99. Mrs. Johnson announced that she had ordered letterheads and they are in at Allied Printing. She asked that anyone who needs envelopes and stationery should get them from her.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: 1) A Mrs. Maynor from the Christian Science Church offered us convention supplements to the Christian Science Monitor. They are free and written from a non-partisan standpoint. Mrs. Westenhaver has asked her for 50 copies. (The supplements contain information on candidates, conventions and delegates.) 2) There was a president's mailing on Gun legislation from the new National President, Mrs. Benson. 3) The State Board Member assigned to our League is Mrs. Samuel Rome. She wants all monthly bulletins and other mailings. 4) The policy for Times for Action is as follows: Two or three carbons of letters should be made for local, State and sometimes National Chairmen. Replies go into the appropriate chairman's file. If we do not respond to a Time For Action, we should let the appropriate board, State or National, know why.

PROGRAM: Committee chairmen gave the following reports:

Mrs. Beck of Human Resources presented a proposed letter to Mayor Rupp and the Decatur City Council concerning our stand on the Human Relations Commission. The Board recommended that Mrs. Westenhaver have a list of specific cities having ordinances similar to the one League is proposing in case she is questioned when she presents the letter to the City Council.

Mrs. Beck also presented a letter of protest to the Editor of the Herald and Review in case the Council passes an ordinance containing nothing more than advisory powers. Mrs. Tilley suggested we change the wording of the letter and send it before the Council acts. The feeling of the Board was that we follow Mrs. Tilley's suggestion.

Mrs. Crow, Program and Action Vice-President presented the ~~revised~~ Calendar for 1968-69. It is as follows:

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR
 Calendar for 1968-69
 (See Monthly DECATUR VOTER for Details)

- Mon. Sept. 9
9:30 AM -Meeting of Resource Committee Chairmen. 76 Colorado Dr.
- Wed. Sept. 18,
8:00 PM -All Member Meeting -- Water Resources - *Postgman, chmn.*
- Thurs. Sept. 26 -State ^{Regional} Workshop on Local Agenda & Membership - Springfield
Civil Rights *Western State Univ. in Spfld.*
- Wed. Oct. 9 -State LWV Program Conference, Chicago
- Tues. Oct. 15 -State Meetings on Human Resources and CHUNFLP - Springfield.
- Wed Oct. 16
12:45 PM -All Member Meeting -- Honoring United Nations Day (Oct. 24)
Summary of League UN Activities - ~~Foreign Policy, China.~~
Pot Luck Luncheon *ms. Clifford Smith speaks on League and UN*
- Wed. Oct 23
8:00 PM -Candidates Meeting, hotel Orlando - *ms. donay chmn.*
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- Nov. 5 -Election Day
- Nov. 12-13 -Unit Meetings - Human Resources (Consensus)
- Dec. 11 *12:45* -All Member Christmas Dessert
Review of National Program
Suggestions for State Program (1969-71)
- Jan. 9 -State Meeting on Local Govt.: Schools.
China, Asia Forum Policy
- Jan. 14-15 -Unit Meetings Local Govt. (Schools Consensus)
First Round State Program & By-Law Suggestions
- Feb. 11-12 -Unit Meetings Local Govt. (Schools Consensus)
- Wed. March 12
12:30 PM -Annual Meeting -- Luncheon
Discussion of Local Program and Budget for 1969-70
Election of Officers & Directors
- March -Legislative Schools
- April 15-16 -Unit Meetings, Electoral College
- April 22-24 - State Convention, Peoria
- May 14, Wed.
9:15AM -All Member Meeting. Convention Report
Panel Discussion or Speaker on "Civil Rights, Decatur Schools
and Development of Human Resources."

Mrs. Crow moved we adopt the proposed calendar. Seconded and passed.

A discussion of the revision of Know Your Schools was postponed.

VOTERS SERVICE Mrs. Homan read a letter of thanks from County Clerk Tangney for our demonstrations of the Voting Devices. We received 4 phone calls for information on voting in response to Public Service Announcements on radio and TV.

In a discussion of the Candidates Meeting, it was decided to give the candidates for State Office 5 minutes apiece and the candidates for County office 3 minutes. Mr. Westbrook of WJZ Radio was first choice for moderator. Questions for candidates should be ready for approval at the next Board Meeting.

The Post Office has offered to make space available for non-partisan voter's service from Sept. 7 to Oct. 7. Mr. Tangney would like us to help the last two weekends before the election. Since Mrs. Homan is so busy with the candidates Meeting, it was suggested we find someone else to be in charge of the Post Office Display.

FINANCE The Board discussed whether it should authorize Mrs. Mee to write a letter of Protest to the National Chairman of the Finance Drive (with copies to State) in regard to the request for a drive in Calendar '68 to coincide with the National drive. Mrs. Mee moved we do not have a Finance Drive in calendar '68 - but go ahead with our original plans for an early March '69 drive. Seconded and Passed.

MEMBERSHIP Mrs. Schade, Organization Vice President discussed the Summer Coffee for prospective or new members. It was decided to have the coffee in the Fall due to vacations and other League commitments. It will be held early in September at 1 PM in a public place. A film on Water Resources will be shown. Mrs. Dumas, Membership chairman, asked if anyone had husbands in civic organizations, Rotary, etc. who might have wives interested in joining League.

VOTER Mrs. Butler announced that the VOTER Deadline will be August 22. Following is her final report on the "THIS IS MACON COUNTY" book:

REPORT TO THE DECATUR LSV BOARD OF DIRECTORS JULY 8, 1968

THOUGHTS AND SUGGESTIONS BY K. BUTLER ON THE FUTURE DISTRIBUTION OF "THIS IS MACON CO."

(1) When the editorial staff is appointed for a new or revised Macon Co. book - a chairman for sales & distribution should also be appointed. The purpose of this book should be clearly defined and worked out by them and their committee. Due to the amount of money involved and the problems incurred this year in getting these books to the public; I feel that the Board members themselves may have to take a more active part in sales.

What people will benefit from the book? Who will buy it? How many do you hope to sell? Who should receive free copies? How many copies will be given free?

(2) Do you intend to make a profit? Do you intend to meet expenses? If printing costs are as high as this year's, are you again prepared to take a loss? The price of the handbook is important. Was the 75 cents this year too high? Maybe a token price (25 cents?) should be set. Maybe they should all be given free? Maybe this should be a community service with the distribution clearly established fairly by the League. All segments of the community and our county were not reached. More emphasis should be placed on reaching outlying communities and minority group organizations.

- (3) ~~the~~ parochial school purchased any books this year. The Decatur public school district bought 600 copies at a discount price totaling \$390.00. The Board (L.V) then decided to waive this charge due to the failure of the referendum. This was made very clear in a letter to the school district and should in no way affect the next book. (dopefully!) --Shouldn't all schools have this book? Again I emphasize - who would benefit from these books? How many can we hope to sell just to individuals? Large orders are very few, can we depend on them?
- (4) Men and Women's service clubs were not interested (except AAUW & Assoc. Of ConL.)
- (5) Major Decatur industry was contacted. Only three responded, only two purchased.
- (6) Books were placed at banks, Tenny's office, real estate offices, drug stores, and beauty salons. The last two made the most sales.
- (7) Haines and Lassicks were very nice, however, I was told that they probably would ask for a commission on each book sold next time. (Historical Society booklet sold for \$1.00, H&L's received 25 cents.)
- (8) In the past our Macon Co. book has been excellent. Many people have worked very hard to produce it. It is something to be proud of, something that cost a great deal of time and money. It includes information that the League wants the public to be aware of. In the future, a distribution plan must be presented to the Board at the same time the editorial staff presents its plans -- this will give the Board a clearer picture of the problems involved and should help in making the decision whether to print a new book.

PUBLIC RELATIONS Mrs. Barber, Public Relations Vice President, read a letter from the Chamber of Commerce written by Steve Bellenger asking what we could do in the Clean-up campaign for poor people. They need trucks and leaders to direct young people involved in the clean-up. They did not need organizational and clerical help. It was decided that League as an organization could not give the kind of service needed. However, individual League members will be encouraged to co-operate.

PUBLICATIONS Mrs. Weinman mentioned the special State Subscription Service to News Media, etc. Mrs. Weinman moved that she ask the Library Board if they would like for us to pay for their subscription. Seconded and passed. She will send letters to the News Media informing them of the availability of this service.

The next meeting will be Thursday, August 22 at 12:45 PM at the home of Mrs. Robert Mee 279 Victoria Court.

Adjournment, 4:00 PM.

respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Hippler