

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

BOARD MEETING

DATE & TIME: December 4, 1969 12:45 P.M.

PLACE : Home of Mrs. L. L. Colvis, 559 S. Taylor

AGENDA

- MINUTES.....Coberly
- TREASURERS REPORT.....Johnson
- ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Schade
- DECATUM VOTER.....Bowers
- PROGRAM.....Beck
  - National Program Proposals.....Beck
  - Schools.....Ohlsen
  - Foreign Policy.....Westenhaver
  - LoGo.....Dakin
  - Con Con.....Crow
- ORGANIZATION.....Heilman
  - Membership.....Dumas
- PUBLIC RELATIONS.....Meyerson
  - Finance.....Hughes
  - Publications.....Weinman

158  
 150  
 360  
 25 57  
 3 20  
 3 50  
 2 170

\*\*PLEASE BRING MATERIAL FOR JANUARY VOTER TODAY!!!

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Decatur, Illinois

The November Board meeting was held on November 20 at the home of Mrs. Frank Verbanac, 12 Dakota Drive with President, Mrs. Robert Schade presiding.

PRESENT: Mesdames Schade, Beck, Meyerson, Coberly, Johnson, Colvis, Bowers, Ohlsen, Verbanac, Dumas, Crow, and Day.

ABSENT: Mesdames Heilman, Weinman, Dakin, Westenhaver, and Hughes.

MINUTES: An addition was made to the minutes of October 24, that being an announcement that Florence Cox has agreed to be our delegate to the Council on Community Services. Minutes were approved with this addition.

TREASURERS REPORT:	Cash on hand	10-1-69	\$503.32
	Receipts		546.22
	Expenditures		536.98
	Cash on hand	10-31-69	<u>\$512.56</u>
	Cash on hand	11-1-69	\$512.56
	Receipts		59.10
Expenditures		169.81	
Cash on hand	11-20-69	<u>\$401.85</u>	
	A.H.S. Acct. Bal.		\$620.89

The treasurer's report was approved and filed for audit.  
Mrs. Johnson will bill RTA's for Con Con Information sheets.

NEW BUSINESS: Two board members were appointed to serve on the nominating committee whose chairman is Mrs. Robert Dutler. They are Mrs. Robert Dumas and Mrs. John Weinman.

No voter will be mailed before the December 3 dessert. Postcards will be used instead to inform the membership. The next voter will be in the hands of the membership by January 5.

Mrs. Daniel Moore's resignation as a board member was accepted and approved by the board.

Discussion was held concerning the reimbursement policy for trips made for League business. The new maximum amount per trip approved by the board is \$40.00. This amount was arrived at to be temporary until a committee can be set up to review the entire reimbursement policy and make suggestions for change to the board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: 1) We have added Campaign for Springfield Leagues to our mailing list to receive the Decatur Voter. They send us theirs and it's quite interesting to see ideas and consensus of others. 2) Mrs. Schade received a letter from the N.A.A.C.P. urging some of us to join and participate in their activities.

It suggested we contact Harold Johnson who is the local N.A.A.C.P. president. A short history of N.A.A.C.P. was included and passed around for those interested to look at. 3) A request was received from the Public Affairs Committee of the Cooperative Extension Service to cooperate with them in giving a meeting on Feb. 24. They will have an agriculturally oriented speaker and a dinner. Due



to our full schedule, it was decided not to participate. 4) A letter was received from SOY asking for donations for their Longview Christmas Party. We may participate as individuals but will not as an organization. 5) A form was received from State concerning Day Care Centers in Decatur. It was filled out and returned by State Welfare Chairman, Florence Cox. 6) The "Report from the Hill" was passed around for chairman to read the latest news of Congress. 7) Several booklets on citizens information service in the Chicago area were received by Mrs. Schade. They were probably meant to go with the 50th Anniversary Campaign but she doesn't know what to do with them. 7) A form was received on local agenda items. The purpose is to find out which leagues are studying what. 8) Mrs. Schade will attend President's Council on December 3. She asked for suggestions of topics she might bring up for discussion. The board discussed what the policy should continue to be toward board members participating and campaigning for specific non political candidates. This is a problem now in Decatur and Mrs. Schade will get opinions at Pres. Council.

PROGRAM: The dessert will be December 3 at 7:30 P.M., 1st Lutheran Church. It will be largely devoted to socializing but a short report will be heard from each national chairman. Suggestions for changes in present and adoption of new national items and proposed bylaw changes will be received at this time. These will be forwarded to National. A dittoed sheet which names the program item and its 1970 scope will be passed out. It is hoped that the planned program will take no more than thirty minutes.

LoGo: It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the LoGo consensus as written.

Human Resources: Sixty copies of Time for Action on the O.L.U. Bill have been distributed to attorneys and others. Sixty more copies have been dittoed and will be distributed.

The Human Resources Committee will meet Tuesday, November 25 at 9:30 A.M. for their first meeting this year. New members are welcome.

A letter was received from the Dept. of Health, Ed., and Welfare Social Security Office offering to provide a speaker for a program. Mrs. Verbanc will reply that we appreciate the interest but we will not need one this year.

Schools: The school committee is studying program and curriculum. The committee wants to reach consensus in March. It is hoped that at the December 4 meeting the Board will write consensus questions so the committee will know the scope of its study. The committee will make suggestions for consensus questions.

There will be letters mailed asking questions of other school districts and this letter should be ready for board approval by the next meeting.

Con Con: Mrs. Crow wrote a letter to Mrs. Ihrig, State Con Con Chairman, concerning lack of time for consensus at the units. It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the recommendation that consensus on Con Con be taken at open committee meetings rather than extra units unless State Board forbids it, and the letter was approved for mailing to Mrs. Ihrig. Text of letter follows:



Dear Board Members:

Please read this communication with the realization that our Decatur League has been keeping well in mind the instructions we have had from you suggesting that we not "panic" about Con Con Consensus, that we cover material only that we have studied, and that you are aware of the length and complexity of the Con Con Consensus questions.

We are writing to ask you for advice and for help. Yesterday (November 19) our local league held two unit meetings for Consensus in the areas of Legislative Article, Amending Process and Cumulative Voting. At each of the meetings, even though constantly conscious of time limitations and actually hurrying through the presentations, we were unable to even start on the third area, Cumulative Voting. This means that along with the two big subjects, Executive Article and Apportionment, we will still have consensus on Cumulative Voting to schedule for our January units. Consensus on Suffrage is scheduled for February. This brings up several concerns: 1) Even though two background meetings were held prior to yesterday's consensus meetings (A Con Con speaker at a general meeting in September and Review at a general meeting in October) the committee found that there was not enough time to cover the consensus questions adequately at the unit meetings. Even though the committee itself was well versed in these areas of Con Con, the effort to get consensus from the membership could not be considered successful. We had the feeling that in the urgency to get through as many of the questions as possible, our audience could not really consider well its answers even though, theoretically, almost all the members have good background in the general area of Con Con. None of us had time to enjoy the process or the sociability desirable at such a meeting either. 2) At these two unit meetings nine of our committee members were present at one of the meetings and eight at the other, although most of them did not appear on the program. Discussion leaders and recorders appointed by the League and hostesses were present. Other than these women whose presences were "required", our audience consisted of five women at one meeting and six at the other. To prepare for this presentation our committee had been meeting weekly for almost two months! We feel that the major reasons for poor attendance at this set of units are that our league members find consensus meetings difficult, too long, and too numerous -- we have already had consensus meetings this fall in the Decatur League on Pesticides, Electoral College, and Local Gov't. Our members see nothing behind them but Consensus and ahead of them more and still more consensus! 3) Comments by almost every participant in yesterday's meetings were that the areas of concern on Con Con were overly detailed, much too long and involved and did not reflect the League's philosophy on consensus. Writing a good, fair consensus report by our Con Con Committee will be almost an impossibility.

We realize the importance and uniqueness of Con Con in the League's program and have worked hard here in Decatur in all areas of Con Con. Our League and our Con Con Committee has a number of dedicated women many of whom have studied and worked on Con Con since the forties.

I am wondering if one solution to the problem of Con Con Consensus might be for us to have open, well publicized, committee meetings to work on Consensus. We could have more success in getting through the questions and present you with what would probably be the same end result of consensus obtained from unit

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meetings involving a handful of additional League members.

I do not feel that our Decatur League can hold the three additional sets of unit meetings on Con Con that our future seems to hold. If you agree with the above suggestion or if you have other suggestions that will help us, please let me know. This letter has been approved at a Local Board Meeting on November 20.

ORGANIZATION: Membership - Mrs. Dumas received a form from State to be completed with information about members and the community. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the filling out of this form be left to the discretion of Mrs. Dumas.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Voters Service - Mrs. Day asked if anyone saw Vote Con Con on Marquees around town. They were up on some of such.

Finance: We should start thinking about the finance drive for next year. The question was raised whether we must share funds with the 50th Anniversary Campaign since the National campaign will continue next year.

Are we going to have a candidates meeting for April primary elections. It was decided that such a meeting is not feasible for the primary but should be saved for the general election in November. We probably will publish information sheets on candidates, however.

Publications: Fifty copies of the Macon County booklet have been sent to Our Lady of Lourdes School. It was decided to sell them to them at 50¢ <sup>as they</sup> as they normally sell at 75¢ each. They would like to pay less than the 50¢ as requested by us.

If anyone goes into Allied Printing for copy service, please be sure to give your name and purpose of publication so that Mrs. Johnson will know what the bills are for.

Next meeting will be December 4, 12:45 P.M.

Meeting adjourned 3:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Margaret Coberly*

Margaret Coberly, Secretary