

PART I - January 27, 1976 17 people present

1. The LWV supports legislation and administration of programs and facilities which will enable Illinois to fulfill its responsibility to meet basic child welfare needs. We concur.
2. Family counseling, homemaker, day care and diagnostic and treatment services in particular, should be made available to serve the child who lives at home. We concur. It was suggested that we seek the cooperation of industries to help workers with problems.
3. More small residential facilities should be available to serve specific needs, including foster care, of the child who has to live away from home. Answer: While we generally agreed that the small residential facility is an excellent facility concept, they have not worked out well when they have tried to operate in most residential neighborhoods. How small is small? How about the economics involved and the 24 hour supervision required, especially with older children? There was some question about supporting a "Kaleidscope" if it came to Decatur. Still, most felt that some sort of small facility should be available.
4. Day care should be available for all children whose families wish to use it, with priority given to those in greatest economic need. Answer- yes. All children, yes, if enough centers are available. Income is a factor. Transportation and location of the center is important. There seems to be a waiting list for day care of the low income child which seems to indicate that their needs are not being met. There was some discussion about opening the public schools for care of three year olds. The Area Vocational Center Program was thought to be excellent way of training high schools students for work in day care facilities.

PART II - February 25, 1976

5. The LWV supports child welfare legislation and programs for the effective rehabilitation and care of young people who come before the court. Answer - we concur. Some care should be taken that a juvenile has his legal right to an attorney during proceedings. Concur with the first point of the consensus.
6. The LWV supports the thrust of the Illinois Juvenile Court Act to provide the opportunities for effective rehabilitation and care of young people and to protect the legal rights of the child and his parents. Answer- we concur. But believe a complete diagnostic workup is necessary to determine what kinds of facility is necessary for each individual.
7. Smaller correctional and treatment facilities and programs should be developed to serve the varied needs of the child who has been removed from his home. Answer- we concur.
8. Effective treatment services within the community should be provided for the child returned by the court to his own home. Answer - we concur.
9. Probation services for juveniles should be of high quality, responsive to the special needs of juveniles, and uniform throughout the state. Answer - we concur.

10. Education, such as an opportunity for a young person to complete his high school requirements or to receive realistic vocational training, should be available to youngsters who have come before the court.

Answer: we concur. Some kind of central recording keeping or feedback between service agencies to get adequate figures in order to evaluate services.

11. State agencies should constantly evaluate on-going programs, upgrade staff, and search for new methods to improve the treatment of children.

Answer: we concur. Some special provisions are necessary to work with kids with problems. Preventive measures for parental understanding and acceptance are necessary.

PART III - April 28, 1976 - 15 members and 4 guests.

12. The state should stimulate the provisions of increased services for the emotionally disturbed child.

Answer- we concur. The state should stimulate the provisions of increased services for the emotionally disturbed child.

13. Effective delinquency prevention services should be available, and local communities should take the initiative in developing these, cooperating wherever possible with the local school system in developing a overall plan.

Answer- we concur. The consensus of the group was that the state should, indeed, stimulate such services. We concur that effective delinquency prevention services should be available. We feel that is is the local community's responsibility to coordinate effective delinquency prevention services.

14. The Juvenile Court, as a judicial institution whose primary function is the protection, treatment and rehabilitation of children in trouble, depends upon judicial leadership and court staff of appropriate qualification; effective utilization of supportin services including social case work, psychological and psychiatric services, and detention control based on national standards; adequate public financing, and community support.

Answer; we concur.

15. The Juvenile Court should have original and exclusive jurisdiction over the juveniles whose cases call for a judicial determination of legal rights and issues, with clearly defined safeguards established by law for the protection of the rights of children and parents; and that responsibility for dependency and truancy cases and the related administrative and supporting services should be transferred to a public administrative agency.

Answer; we concur.

16. That there should be provided for children temporarily detained for whatever reason a variety of separate facilities to provide them with the different types of services and environment suited to their respective needs. That there should be provided for dependent and neglected children both protective services and shelter care separate from detention, in different types of facilities suitable to their needs, including small temporary care facilities and foster homes.

Answer: we concur.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

MINUTES

The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters met for a regular meeting on January 21, 1976 at 9:30 a.m. with President Barb Brown calling the meeting to order at the Decatur Community Church - 903 West Decatur St., Decatur, Illinois 62522.

Present: Mesdames: Brown, Staley, Cantoni, Jensen, Protzman, Smith, Oldweiler, Lantz, Campbell, Langer

Absent: Mesdames: Lauterjung, Weinman

Minutes: The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Barb Brown reported the treasurer's report for Maggie Lauterjung. Balance - \$655.71.

Annual Dues: Maggie Lauterjung had suggested the annual dues be raised to \$15.00 in order to meet our state and national dues obligations. The motion was recommended by Margaret Campbell and seconded by Karen Jensen. Beth Oldweiler will consult with Elyse Hurst as to procedure to be followed in presenting this motion at the annual meeting.

Finance Letter: Chris Langer has written a rough draft of the finance letter to be used this year. We are going to ask Mayor Rupp to proclaim "League of Women Voters Week" to coincide with our fund drive. Various other publicity methods were discussed. Also, various board members contributed names to be added to prospective contributors list. It was felt the letter should be addressed to the home address instead of to the office of the various professional groups..

Publications: Dee Meverson is to receive "Report from the Hill". Margaret Campbell, Publications Chairman, reported a balance of \$63.02 in the publications budget. Also to be ordered is the booklet from the International Women's Conference held in Mexico City: "A Blueprint for Equality".

Membership: Lee Staley and Ellen Cantoni will distribute new member packets in person.

Decatur Voter: ^{Explanation} Exclamation of ERA reprinted from Good Housekeeping will be sent with the Decatur Voter.

MEETINGS: January 27, 1976 - Tuesday - at 9:30 - Grace United Methodist Church. Unit on Day Care
February 11, 1976 - Wednesday - at 7:30 at Lee Staley's Review Decatur LWV positions
February 18, 1976 - Wednesday - at 9:30 - Decatur Community Church - Board Meeting
February 25, 1976 - Wednesday - Westminster Pres. Church 9:30 - Unit on Day Care

Meetings - Continued

March 10, 1976 Wednesday - 9:30 & 7:30 - Westminster
Presbyterian Church - Registration by Mail
March 24, 1976 - Wednesday - Westminster Pres. Church
9:30a.m. - Unit on Child Welfare

Program:

Logo - Barb Olsen went to the Macon County Board of Supervisors - Internal Group. Home rule was discussed. The LWV will not circulate petitions to have the home rule on the ballot this year as there is not enough time to have an education program for the voters.

Financing the League Questions: The results of the answers of the questions asked to the Decatur LWV were reviewed.

Energy: President, Barb Brown, discussed the concern many Americans are expressing about energy and energy related problems. A national energy task force has been established and it is felt a local Decatur energy task force should be discussed if leadership could be found to head our local energy task force.

Agriculture Meeting: the 9th Annual Agricultural Policy Conference Meeting will be held on Tuesday - February 24, 1976 starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Decatur Masonic Temple. A luncheon will be served at 12:30 for a price of \$3.75.

Secretary

Beth Oldweiler