

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS.  
MARCH 1, 1956

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 P.M. Present were: Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President, presiding - Mrs. Chas. Griffin, Mrs. Clifford Smith, Mrs. James Hurley, Mrs. James Leigh, Mrs. Wm. Gardner, Mrs. Wm. Winn, Mrs. G.R. Cohn, Mrs. John Fairs, and Mrs. Fritz Woyna.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read. The treasurer's report, a copy of which is attached, was accepted and filed. C.O.H. February 29 was \$1389.11.

The problem of what to have for the March units was discussed. Some suggestions were to have an outside speaker on School Bond issue or City Job Analysis, to have Judge Greanias speak on the Youth Commission, or further material on the Freedom Agenda. Mrs. Hurley suggested we have only one meeting in March and see how many members turned out. Mrs. Smith moved and Mrs. Hurley seconded that we contact Judge Greanias and then Mrs. Kessler on Freedom Agenda. Carried.

The request from State for an increase in our pledge from \$515 to \$550 was discussed. The question was raised as to whether amount to State should be higher than dues received. It was felt our pledge is high in comparison to Champaign with over 400 members and \$1200 pledge asked. Mrs. Gibson explained the reason for the request - the State Board reserve is depleted and Chicago was forced to lower its contribution. Mrs. Cohn felt we should agree to the increase since our reserve can stand it and State needs it so badly. Mrs. Winn moved we increase pledge to \$550. Mrs. Smith seconded, carried. Mrs. Gibson noted that it will still have to be decided at the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be in the Pastel Room of the Hotel Orlando at 1:00 P.M. It was thought that to make it more than just a business meeting we would have a Voters Service questionnaire. Mrs. Cohn suggested we try to get more publicity on the social pages of the papers.

There is still no answer from State on By-Laws so that will have to be settled at Annual Meeting.

Mrs. Griffin gave an excellent report on the Local Agenda meeting in Chicago and it was decided she should give it again at the Annual Meeting.

Mrs. Smith reported on the Candidates' Meeting. The program proof is done and the napkins are ready to be placed at all Service Clubs, Blue Mill, Greiders, ~~and the Blue Mill~~. Radio & TV spot announcements have started and Mrs. Smith read draft of Letter to Editor for Sunday paper.

March 27th is the date for the <sup>vote on the</sup> school bond issue and raising the educational rate. It was discussed as to what Voters Service should be done, if any. Mrs. Winn moved and Mrs. Leigh seconded that we do a questionnaire on the 7-man School Board rather than a Candidates' Meeting. Carried. The committee to ~~the~~ compose the questions will be made up of Winn, Hurley, Leigh, Cohn, and Cox. Questions will be mailed to Board for approval. Leigh moved, Griffin seconded, that we not do a Voters Service job on the school bond issue. Carried. Mrs. Hurley asked that the reason for this motion be included in the minutes. The Board feels that there is a lack of adequate information on both sides of the question.

Fluoridation was brought up. Mrs. Winn moved, Griffin seconded, that there be no further discussion. Carried.

The Decatur Women's Council has asked for 2 delegates from the League. Discussion was tabled.

Mrs. Phillips asked for our Voters Service chart for the Handbook. Since it is not applicable to the whole state, Mrs. Winn doubted that it would be used.

Mrs. Gardner reported that pictures relating to the Trade Survey have been taken. They were taken by Hurley, Winn and Cox of a farmer at Harristown. State asked for pictures for orientation and for use with Farm Survey results.

The suggestion of having outside visitors attend Board meetings was discussed. Mrs. Winn moved, Cohn seconded, that we invite 2-3 members to each meeting. Carried. Mrs. Cohn asked we give first consideration to members who show most interest.

Mrs. Gibson brought up an invitation by Station WHOW in Clinton to participate in a series of programs for Community Club awards. Mrs. Cohn moved, Winn Seconded that we not participate. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

*Marian Woyna*  
Mrs. Fritz Woyna, Secy.

FINANCIAL REPORT  
as of 2/29/56

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

Cash on Hand February 1, 1956 \$1,448.56

Receipts

Member Contributions	5.00
Membership Dues	3.00
Publications	<u>2.25</u>

Total Receipts	<u>10.25</u>
	1,458.81

Expenditures

Delegates Expense	8.42
Committee Expense	1.33
Meeting Expense	

	<u>75.18</u>	
	<u>69.00</u>	6.18
Publications		5.60
Bulletin		12.00
Action in Community		<u>36.17</u>

Total Expenditures	<u>69.70</u>
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CASH ON HAND 2/29 1,389.11

MINUTES OF CALLED BOARD MEETING  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, DECATUR, ILLINOIS  
March 22, 1956

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 A.M. by Mrs. H. W. Gibson, President, presiding. Those present were:

Mrs. James Hurley, Mrs. Wm. Winn, Mrs. Wm. Gardner, Mrs. G. R. Cohn,  
Mrs. Clifford Smith, Mrs. Forrest Martin, Mrs. Thos. McCracken,  
Mrs. Fritz Woyna, and Mrs. John Donovan and Mrs. Gerald Cox, visiting.

Mrs. Gibson asked the secretary to have Mrs. Adelman order 14 copies of the Illinois Traders for Board members. She also asked any who felt they cannot continue on the board, to turn in their portfolios and send a letter of resignation to the Secretary.

The main purpose of this meeting was to discuss having a Candidates' Meeting for the new School Board. Mrs. Winn felt that the questionnaire they had prepared was so pared by the papers it had lost some of its value. Also, there have been a number of calls asking about a Candidates Meeting. Some felt that since there are so many running time would be limited and the talks might be repetitious.

Mrs. Cohn moved and Mrs. Smith seconded we proceed with the Candidates' Meeting. Discussion: Who would do the work? Other organizations might be asked to help in doing programs, ushering, publicity, etc. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hurley and others questioned whether we might lose our non-partisan standing if we had other organizations co-sponsoring the meeting. Mrs. Martin moved we accept all obligations of costs and work, Mrs. Hurley seconded the motion, motion carried.

The date of the meeting was set at April 4th. It was decided to ask Robert Shade to be our Moderator again, and then Dr. Gage and James Beaumont in that order.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

*Marian Woyna*

Mrs. Fritz Woyna, Secretary

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, DECATUR, ILLINOIS  
MARCH 28, 1956

The Annual Meeting was held after a luncheon in the Pastel Room of the Hotel Orlando at 1:00 P.M., Mrs. H. W. Gibson, Pres., presiding.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were approved as read. The Treasurer's Report, showing C.O.H. of \$1,341.46 at April 1, 1956, was placed on file.

Mrs. Gibson asked that our guests introduce themselves and then League members gave their names and positions, if any.

Mrs. Gerald Cox gave the report of the Nominating Committee as follows:

Nominations for OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR, for 1956-57 as SUBMITTED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Second Vice President	.....	Mrs. C. F. Gebhardt
Treasurer	.....	Mrs. G. R. Cohn
Directors	.....	Mrs. John H. Fairs Mrs. Donald Dame Mrs. Loring Unger
Nominating Committee for 1956-57	.....	Mrs. Perley Lupton, Chairman Mrs. Nat Kessler Mrs. Ayrle Morris

Mrs. Bennett moved nominations be closed, Mrs. Melrose seconded, the motion, motion carried. Mrs. Cox moved nominations be accepted as proposed. Motion seconded by Mrs. Smith and carried.

The proposed Budget was read by Mrs. Cohn. She suggested that the budget needed to be amended to increase pledge to State & National to \$550. Mrs. Donovan explained why this increase was asked for - State and National have operated on a deficit for last few years and their reserve is now gone. Also, their expenditures have increased to cover needed raises in salaries, rents, etc. Mrs. Smith moved the increased amount of pledge to State and National to \$550 be made. Mrs. Kessler seconded the motion, motion carried. On motion by Mrs. Cohn, seconded by Mrs. Smith, the amended budget was accepted.

Mrs. McCracken reported on the amendment to Local By-Laws (see attached). This amendment pertains to Article IX, Program, to bring it into conformity with State By-laws as concerns Continuing Responsibilities. On motion by Mrs. Donovan, seconded by Mrs. Martin, the amendment to the By-Laws was accepted.

In the absence of Mrs. Lupton, Mrs. Smith reported on Current Agenda, explaining that the Board recommended the first two items. The Current Agenda report follows:

1. A study of local welfare, with action where indicated.
2. Analysis, with action where needed, of governmental units within the county.
3. A study of city transportation problems, with an eye toward city ownership and operation of bus line.

Mrs. Gibson asked if there were any other suggestions from the membership. Mrs. Kessler asked if action on fluoridation could come under Item 1. Mrs. Gibson said yes. Lillian Stivers asked if the township would come under Item 2. The answer was yes.

Mrs. Smith moved that we accept Item 1. Seconded by Mrs. Kessler. In discussion Mrs. Gibson pointed out that we could study only the field directly related to government. Mrs. Riley thought study of area of older age was definitely needed. Motion carried.

Mrs. Kessler moved that we accept Item 2. Mrs. Key seconded the motion. Mrs. Griffin brought out that since the study has just started, it would be a poor time to remove it from Current Agenda. Information is very scarce and the League could do a real service in this field. Mrs. Morris felt that a study of county functions is vital as they affect us every day. Motion carried.

Mrs. Smith moved and Mrs. Bennett seconded the motion that Item 3 be accepted. Mrs. Kessler asked if this would include parking and other problems or just the bus system. Mrs. Gibson said it would cover all city transportation problems. Mrs. Hurley brought out that this is to be studied by the Association of Commerce. Mrs. Cox felt that the item was stated in such a way as to point to the conclusion of the study. On vote, motion rejected.

Mrs. Donovan spoke of the success of the Trade Survey. The League has done an excellent job which State was told would have cost about \$20,000 if done by professionals.

Mrs. Melrose asked Mrs. Gibson to report on results of attending Council Meetings this year. Board's opinion was that information was worthwhile enough to continue. It gives a good basis for evaluation of two things: (1) What has city government done in 2 years and (2) what could a Council Manager have done in same time.

Mrs. Gibson then showed a copy of the Christian Science Monitor's article on LWV. She also mentioned a request from National to be on the alert for Bricker Amendment. LWV is against adoption of the amendment. A letter from Mrs. Lee to the President of the U.S. was read.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M. to a Cracker Barrel Quiz.

Respectfully submitted by

*Marian Woyna*

Mrs. Fritz Woyna, Secretary

Note: Financial Report, Proposed Budget and By-Law Amendment attached.

League of Women Voters of District  
 Financial Report of  
 3/31/56

Cash On Hand as of April 1-1955		134146
Dues	39900	
Contributions - member	21250	
Other	63200	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>124350</u> 258496
Equipment & Supplies	2208	
Postage (not Bulletin)	3400	
Telephone & Telegraph	879	
President's Expense	2500	
Convention Expense	10390	
Delegates to State Conf	6733	
Committee Exp.	2730	
Bank Charges	375	
Meetings	4256	
Publications - State & Natl	11978	
Publications Local	994	
Bulletin	15575	
Action in Community	10223	
Miscellaneous	1236	
State & National Pledge	57500	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<u>128477</u>
Cash On Hand as of 3/31/56		130019

ITEM	'55-'56 Budget	Actual Feb. 1	Proposed '56-'57
<u>Expenditures</u>			
State & National	\$515.00	\$515.00	\$515.00
Supplies	25.00	17.81	25.00
Postage (not bulletin)	15.00	19.00	20.00
Telephone & Telegraph	10.00	7.19	10.00
President's Expense	25.00	25.00	25.00
Convention Expense	200.00	103.90	200.00
State Conferences	150.00	57.16	100.00
Committee Expense	25.00	25.97	30.00
Meetings	55.00	30.38	50.00
Publications	90.00	187.27	90.00
Bulletin	100.00	95.75	125.00
ACTION in Community	150.00	9.76	150.00
Bank Charges	5.00	.09	-----
Miscellaneous	10.00	32.36	15.00
Totals	1,375.00	1,126.64	1,355.00

INCOME

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Dues	405.00	390.00	390.00
Contributions			
Members	220.00	207.50	215.00
Friends	750.00	629.00	750.00
Totals	1,375.00	1,226.50	1,355.00

Anne Kuhns, Chairman

PROPOSED CHANGE IN  
LOCAL BY-LAWS

Article IX

Program

Sec. 1. Authorization. The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of program.

Sec. 2. Local Program. The Program consists of the local governmental measures and policies on which the League of Women Voters of Decatur may take action. The Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities as hereinafter defined constitute the Program.

Sec. 3. Current Agenda. The Current Agenda shall be limited to such local governmental issues as the membership shall choose for action in the following manner:

- a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Current Agenda.
- b) The Proposed Current Agenda shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting.
- c) A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Proposed Current Agenda as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.
- d) Recommendations for Current Agenda submitted by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by the Annual Meeting provided that: (1) the Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a two-thirds vote and (2) the Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.
- e) Changes in the Current Agenda, in the case of altered conditions, may be made provided that: (1) the information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed, and (2) final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Sec. 4. Continuing Responsibilities. Continuing Responsibilities shall be those positions on local governmental issues to which the League of Women Voters of Decatur has given sustained attention, on which it may continue to act, as determined by the Annual Meeting.

- a) The Continuing Responsibilities may be amended by a two-thirds vote of any Annual Meeting provided notice of the proposed changes shall have been sent by the Board of Directors to all members one month before the Annual Meeting.
- b) The Annual Meeting may act upon any change proposed by a member if such change has been sent to the Board of Directors two months prior to the Annual meeting but has not been recommended by the Board of Directors, provided that: (1) the Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a two-thirds vote, and (2) the Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.
- c) Every six years the Board shall review the Continuing Responsibilities and submit to the members its recommendations for keeping the Continuing Responsibilities current, using the regular procedure for amendment outline in (a) and (b) of this section.

Sec. 5. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the proper Board of Directors. Marcia McCracken Chm.