

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

Minutes of Board Meeting 2-19-80

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 P.M. at the home of Karen Jensen. Those present: Barbara Brown, Marianne Erickson, Kathy Sorenson, Diane Basten, Dee Meyerson, Ellen Cantoni, Sue Marshall, Karen Jensen, Cluny John, Barbara Chlsen, Marg Coberly.

Minutes: Approved as written.

Treasurers Report: Balance on hand \$896.40. 4th quarter EIP due end of Feb. \$180.00.

We have a new member Karen Giuliani
R. R. 1 Box 97-1
877-9720 62526

Nancy Roucher rejoined recently.

Publications: Cluny has materials for new members kits and will order new materials as needed.

Communications:

Volunteer Action Force - We discussed and decided to continue membership in V.A.F. for a \$5.00 fee. It's possible we could get some E.R.A. volunteers through them.

D.M.C.C.C. - LSW has been invited to meet with a group of organizations recruited by D.M.C.C.C. who are interested in pooling resources to eliminate overlap of services. A leadership training workshop will be held in March. Staff of organizations will be taught how to get more low income citizen participation. We will try to get 2 or 3 people to attend representing the League.

Political Accountability Report - A news release will be sent to the newspaper with excerpts that apply to our legislators. The report was passed around at the Board meeting for examination.

Hickory Point Mall - A political awareness day will be March 8. We were asked to set up a Voter's Registration Booth. We can't because registration is closed until after the election.

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Politics - Tim Eaton of Millikin U. asked about Voters registration in the fall at M. U. Usually M.U. does this on their own. He is also interested in a debate between a local supporter of Carter and Kennedy. He wants us to be named sponsor of the debate with him paying for it etc. We've decided to suggest a sponsor be found in the political science department at NU or FCC. Eaton is a Kennedy supporter.

Decatur Problems - Barbara Brown had calls from students wanting to know what League considered to be Decatur's problems. She asked who was encouraging this solicitation and a man named Donald Walton called her. He is supporting a bill for a new radio station in Decatur. Part of FCC regulations is finding problems in the community that could be addressed. Barbara stayed noncommittal because she felt, and we agree, she should not specify problems without knowing what the use of the information would be put to.

E.R.A.- Rep. Donavan got \$500 from Schafley in the last campaign it was discovered by Marianne in checking the campaign contributions.

The ERA office in Chicago wants to talk with a representative from the 51st District, but will not speak on the phone. Marianne is not free to go, but Cluny may visit on March 6 if the issue has not been solved by then.

January 1980 polls say 5% of Americans are for E.R.A. Other E.R.A. info. was shared with the Board.

Convention: Travel expenses discussion was held. So far no one is going from Decatur.

The 1981 State Convention will be held in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin due to failure of Ill. to pass E.R.A.

Reports: Finance Drive is not organized yet, but will get to it soon.

Membership - a few new people indicated interest at the Family Violence consensus meeting.

Public Relations - The Unitarian Church gave a good plug to League after the Family Violence Meeting.

Organization - The March meeting will be held at Westminster Church with Rob McIntyre discussing the Eastern Political situation and the role religion plays in it.

A subject is being considered for April.

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There is a need to have a new public relations push for the Oil Recycling Project in the Spring.

Violence in The Family - The meeting and consensus was discussed. Action to implement the consensus was decided upon. A letter of support to the YWCA group that has done some ground work toward a women's refuge will be drafted asking for their ideas on action as well as where they see the effort at this point. Volunteers will be solicited for transporting to Champaign and Springfield.

Voters Service - Realtors of Decatur are considering a Local Government Reference Guide that could be distributed to newcomers to Decatur. They have asked if we would be interested in a joint effort. Mutual Home and Savings will pay for printing again if we put their Logo on it. It was decided to talk with some Leaguers who are selling real estate and have helped with the voter's reference before.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

Next meeting will be 3-18-80 at Cluny John's, 1329 W. Macon.

Respectfully submitted,

Marg Coberly
Secretary