

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS BOARD MEETING
January 20, 1965, 12:45 p.m.
Home of Elise Hurst

(If unable to attend please call Shirley Fuller, if Resource Chairman,
or Elise Hurst)

Minutes - Meyerson
Treasurer's Report - Mann
Policy on paying expenses to meetings - Redford
Budget Committee Report - Ulbrich or Mann
Nominating Committee Report - Ritter
By-law changes (bring your copy of by-laws) Increase dues to \$7.50
(Recommended by State)
State Program Suggestions - Fuller
Wording of items worked out by committee
Do we favor a one list program?
Voters Service - Protzman
Candidates Meeting for City Council - Before primary if there is
one March 9? or before election April 20? What about including
candidates for Park Board and Township election April 6?
Leaflet of voters service information - officials, election dates, etc.
Plans for Action
Council Manager - Fuller
Schools - Westenhaver
Child Welfare - Becker
Program - Fuller
Coming meetings
Units, January 26 and 27, Township - Unger
Luncheon, February 10, Schools - Westenhaver
Units, February 23 and 24, Library - Crow
Other Resource Committees
Urban Renewal
Foreign Economic Policy - Bachrach
Human Resources - Dilley
State meeting, Chicago - February 10
Water Resources - Shell
State meeting, Chicago - January 22
Publications - Ruth Smith
Subscription Service - Freshening E-W Trade Winds? How to promote
Social Studies Kit, Child Welfare Publications, Prospects for Educa-
tion and Employment, Let's Talk League? Illinois Constitutional
Dilemma and A Constitutional Convention for Illinois?
Membership - Cordes
Units - Ritter
Public Relations - Ruedi
Bulletin - Redford
Interviews with State Legislators John W. Alsup and Marvin S. Lieberman
before February 15
Annual Reports - Return to Dee Meyerson no later than February 24 so
she can send them to state and national offices by March 1.

LWV BOARD MEETING
Decatur, Illinois
January 20, 1965

The meeting was held at the home of Elise Hurst at 12:45 p.m. with Mrs. Hurst presiding.

Present: Mrs. Mann, Fuller, Ruedi, Cordes, Dilley, Redford, Bachrach, Ritter, Protzman, Becker, Westenhaver, Doubleday, Hurst.

Absent: Meyerson, Unger, Shell, Ruth Smith.

Minutes: The minutes of the December 9 meeting were approved with the following correction: Page 2, paragraph 1, line 3, after "having" insert "a city of".

Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy: Mrs. Redford read the suggested policy which she and Mrs. Hurst had worked out from suggestions by former presidents and the Board. Mrs. Bachrach moved the policy be approved. The motion was seconded and passed. (Attached)

Budget Committee Report: Mrs. Mann, Treasurer, a member of the committee, reported for the chairman, Mrs. Earl Ulbrich, who could not be present. The committee recommended that dues be increased to \$7.50 because postage for the bulletin has gone up as have all other costs since dues were set at \$5.00 in the early 1950s; it does not even cover per member pledge for state and national services; the national and state boards recommend dues be at least \$7.50; and other Leagues have found that an increase in dues does not decrease membership. The Board did not feel dues should be increased at this time since there are sufficient funds on hand and our Finance Drives have been successful, and an increase might preclude some women from joining. The budget had been figured on the basis of 140 members at \$7.50 or \$1,050. With dues remaining at \$5.00 and expecting 150 members as during the previous three years, only \$750 would come from dues, making Budgeted Income \$300 short. It was decided to increase the goal of the finance drive from \$1,250 to \$1,550 since in the last drive \$1,420 was raised.

The Committee also recommended setting up an Unallocated Reserve Fund (savings account) separate from the Publications Reserve Fund (for revision of "This is Macon County") in which the uncommitted balance at the end of each fiscal year would be deposited. Previous balances have accumulated over a period of time so that at the end of this year there will be an estimated \$875. Under this set-up the cash on hand would be the amount budgeted that had not been spent. Money for unexpected expenses or special projects not budgeted could be taken from this Unallocated Reserve Fund. A motion was made, that this recommendation be carried out, seconded and carried. It was thought that we need not wait until after March 31 to establish such a fund and the Treasurer was instructed to do so immediately with a deposit of at least \$500.

Main changes from the past budget are President's travel expenses being put under Delegates to Other Meetings, Public Relations being charged for publications not of the Voters Service type given to contributors and others, Finance Committee charged for postage and printing for the Finance Drive, publications for resource committees being charged to the committees, with State and National Publications being a self-liquidating fund for publications bought and sold, pledge for state and

national services figured from Finance Formula from State office, no income taken from capitol or unallocated reserve.

Nominating Committee Report: Mrs. Ritter, chairman, presented the report which was accepted for sending to the membership in the February bulletin and voting on March 9; Mrs. Thomas Hurst, President, for one year; Mrs. Morton Becker, 1st Vice President, for 2 years; Mrs. Paul Turner, Jr., Secretary, for 2 years; Mrs. Harold Tenney, Mrs. Eugene Blanchard and Mrs. George Limerick, Directors, for 2 years. The Nominating Committee for 1965-66: Mrs. James Manuell, Chairman, Mrs. Dwight Nelson, Mrs. L. L. Colvis.

By-Law Changes: Mrs. Hurst presented for consideration the following changes in the by-laws:

Article IV, Sec. 1. In the last sentence, delete "At the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting" and add "the first day of April."

Article V, Sec. 4. In the first sentence, delete "all meetings" and substitute "the annual meeting and other business meetings of the League and all meetings." Delete second sentence.

Article VI, Sec. 4. Delete "one month" and substitute "at least one week."

Article VIII, Sec. 2. Delete "month" and substitute "at least one week."

Article IX, Sec. 3, b. Delete "one month" and substitute "at least one week."

Article X, Sec. 3. After Council, add "under the provisions of the by-laws of the League of Women Voters of Illinois."

Article XII, Sec. 1. Delete "month" and substitute "week."

These were approved for presentation to the membership.

State Program Suggestions: Shirley Fuller presented the state program we are recommending. We would recommend only one item as follows: School Redistricting and State Financial Support (1) Evaluation of the need for school redistricting and the means to accomplish it, (2) Evaluation of the need for increasing state financial aid to the public schools. She summarized a letter our League sent to other Leagues, urging their support for this item.

Our report would indicate that if welfare were to be continued as an active item, we favored including a study of the services of private agencies to children, and family planning.

We voted to urge keeping the CR's as at present with these changes: Under 2, having to do with the Revenue Article, we would change "support of broadening of the base of ROT" to "maintaining a broad base", etc.;

13

under 4, election laws, we would delete "d) reduce residence requirements for voting for President and Vice President". We would note that there was a minority who would move the part of 5 b) "protection of minority groups against discrimination" to an active status. We would also indicate that our League does not wish to endorse the "single list" program; we think it will mean much too much time given to study groups, and inevitably more superficial understanding of the various items and "hasty consensus". It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be approved for sending to the State Board.

Voters Service: Mrs. Protzman led the discussion of a possible Candidates Meeting. It was at once decided that such a meeting would not be held before the city primary (since only one of the seven who have filed for City Council will be eliminated in the Primary, February 23, and not be on the April 20 ballot). We considered the various officials that were to be elected April 6: the township clerk, assessor, 3 auditors, 9 assistant supervisors, and 2 members of the Park Board. To have a single meeting and invite all of these candidates, it was agreed, would be a much too cumbersome meeting. Mrs. Dilley suggested we send the candidates a list of questions, and print their answers. If the paper will do that, we could have these in the paper; otherwise we could get them printed ourselves and distribute them. This we decided to try to do for the Township candidates. However, there was a good deal of feeling that we were committed to making more of a fuss over the City Council; it was further felt that there is increasing interest in the Park Board. After a good deal of discussion, it was decided we might try a more informal Candidates Meeting, simply inviting the candidates for City Council and Park Board, and suggesting they have five minutes to discuss any aspect of the office in which they were particularly interested. Such a meeting could be held at the Y.M.C.A.

Plans for Action: Mrs. Fuller then mentioned the campaign against the City Council, and wondered what we should do. Mrs. Bachrach said the supporters of Council-Manager government were well financed, so that we need not feel we had to spend great sums of money. Earlier someone had suggested an advertisement in the paper. Mrs. Hurst would try to get a chairman who would direct the League's activities. An article was sent to news media after the January 13 meeting explaining our position on Schools, Council-Manager City Government, and other local continuing responsibilities. Only the part about the schools was printed.

Mrs. Westenhaver told about plans for the all-member meeting, luncheon at the Decatur Club, Wednesday, February 10, when Dr. Ben Hubbard, Research Director of the Illinois School Problems Commission is to speak on school redistricting and legislation relating to schools. School officials and PTA officers and members from all Macon County schools have been invited. About 200 invitations (120 of these to contributors) have been sent out.

Membership: Mrs. Cordes said she wanted to set up some orientation meetings soon, and she was empowered to make such arrangements as seemed appropriate.

Program: Mrs. Fuller reviewed the plans of the resource committees. Because of possible reapportionment of townships, the township committee will not try to reach consensus on formation of a city of Decatur Township but will present a program on the structure of township government to the January units. Their fact sheet will outline the structure, indicate financing and services, include a tax sheet and map. They will be mailed to those not at unit meetings along with the February bulletin.

The Library committee has been meeting each week and is compiling questions for consensus to be reached at the February unit meetings. These will cover four areas: the adequacy of services offered; of existing funds; of personnel; and of the physical plant. Mrs. Bachrach said that she understood the City Council would take no action until their special sub-committee on the Library had conferred with the Planning Department and had come up with its recommendations. There was some consideration being given to a new Civic Center Complex in which a new library might be located. However, we felt we should go ahead with our own conclusions, on the basis of our study. The Library fact sheets will be sent to the membership in a separate mailing a week before the unit meetings, since we have to reach consensus. After the unit meetings, the Board will meet and consider what statement should be given to the news media.

Legislative School: Mrs. Hurst announced the Legislative School in Springfield for the last four Tuesdays in March. Since we would be having meetings on the first and third Tuesdays, we shall try to push March 16 as our day.

Interviews with Legislators: Mrs. Hurst said that we were supposed to interview the two state legislators living in Decatur, John Alsup and Marvin Lieberman, before February 15. All felt that a meeting where all the members could attend rather than several members interviewing them alone would be best, if a suitable date can be found.

We agreed that Janet Westenhaver should direct any necessary action on schools; and Myra Becker and Ann Limerick would plan any action in connection with Child Welfare.

It was decided Ruth Smith should be urged to push the publications (perhaps having the resource chairmen explain and describe new publications), and that "Freshening East-West Trade Winds" would go out on our local subscription service. She was authorized to order 5 copies each of "Illinois' Constitutional Dilemma" and "A Constitutional Convention for Illinois", since there are none in the publications suitcase.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Doubleday
Secretary pro tem