

League of Women Voters of Iowa
Board Meeting Minutes March 16, 2019
Health & Human Services Building
317 7th Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Present: Mary Rae Bragg, Terese Grant, Nancy Halvorson, Polly Horton, Doris Kelley, Linda Meloy, Mary Ann Nelson, Sue Wilson, Gaylen Wobeter

Absent: Bonnie Pitz, Nancy Porter, and Bev VerSteegh

Meeting called to order: 10:34 am

Minutes of the January 26, 2019 meeting approved. G Wobeter moved, T Grant seconded, unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer L. Meloy presented the LWVIA Budget spreadsheet with the 2018-2019 and Proposed 2019-2020 Income and Expenses. Total Income is \$15,933.79 and Expenses \$11,824.03. D Kelley made motion to take \$2500 from Heartland account and T. Grant seconded. Motion passed on unanimous vote.

10:53 a.m. LWVIA General Board meeting was adjourned and the LWVIA EF Board meeting was called to order.

LWVIA Ed. Fund

LWV Muscatine has deposited \$1500 in an Ed. Fund with LWVIA and is applying for grants from the Humanities Board and the Muscatine Community Foundation for \$1000 more to fund two Centennial Commemoration activities for a cost of \$2500. The proposed activities would only occur if sufficient funding is obtained from their grant writing. G. Wobeter moved and D. Kelley seconded, and the motion passed unanimous vote.

The LWVIA is still not listed on the IRS page as a 501c3. This is needed to receive the \$750 donation (J. Hoffman estate) from the Gates Foundation.

Book

The original editor of the centennial book L. Meloy is authoring has changed. There may be a cost for the new editor. She has asked LWVJC for \$1500 to assist in the costs of the publishing and distribution of the book, 10% of the amount contributed to the project already by three LWVJC members and is requesting \$1500 from LWVIA in summer 2019. D. Kelley moved and T. Grant seconded that we take \$1500 from Education Fund in July. Passed on unanimous vote.

11:09 a.m. LWVIA EF meeting was adjourned.

President's Report

M.R. Bragg shared a heart-warming occurrence from the Sioux City League. MRB received a letter from the parents of a daughter in Sioux City who has become active with the League's events, and wondered if LWVIA had grants available to help pay her college tuition? So, we need to reach out!

MRB asked for details on activities local Leagues are planning for the Centennial and general, to showcase at Convention (June 7-8, 2019 in Ames) and feature in the VOTER.

MRB feels that compared to other states, Iowa keeps expanding our outreach, citing the Celebration of 2020 and the involvement of young people.

OLD BUSINESS

New Leagues Report

Bloomfield, Iowa (from Myrna Loehrlein 3.18.19) " The person who began the league in Bloomfield has moved to CA. The person who took over the leadership works full time and has children in sports programs, so she is very busy. I have considerable difficulty getting in touch with her. I am afraid the progress of this effort has stalled. Abbie Smith, another Linn County member and I visited a Bloomfield meeting on February 25. There were 5 attendees besides us. We expected a small number, and one of them was a prospective member, but while there is some attendance, there is limited if any activity between meetings There has been no progress in the basics of establishing a budget, etc. I am continuing to try to talk with her, but I am not encouraged."

Davenport, Iowa

R. Hollenhurst reported to G.Wobeter that she is having difficulty-getting people to participate in League activities. She has created an interview video to focus on the Restoration of Felon Voting Rights. The Board discussed and agreed that ***all public communication requires approval by the LWVIA Board or local League Board.*** (This is different media, but requires same process as a written Op-Ed) The Board is impressed by R. Hollenhurst's creation but reminds membership that we must follow policy.

Study Proposals

No Study proposals were received.

See Yourself Here is now the responsibility of the LWVIA. T. Grant reminded the Board that local Leagues are responsible to recruit and promote the event.

MLD/Grow Me

M.A. Nelson reported that she would take control of the Iowa MLD/ Grow Me and be independent of LWVUS. A local League will be co-host to the monthly phone call, which means taking notes and write up for VOTER.

A question concerning forums came up: "how do we address the feeling that (Forums) it's partisan?"

Centennial Commemoration Update

D. Kelley presented the HARD WON NOT DONE K-statement booklet describing "A campaign to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of ratification of the 19th Amendment from an Iowa perspective. \$30,335 is for marketing and website. Three areas of focus are Civic & Community, Cultural History, and Education Endeavors. The website is 19th_amendment_centennial.org.

Criminal & Juvenile Justice Committee

All League members are asked to write emails to Representatives asking them NOT to add amendments to the Restoration of Felon Voting Rights bill.

NEW BUSINESS

Convention 2019

N. Halvorson reported that May 1, 2019 is deadline for items in the Convention program. Local Leagues are asked to bring items and themed baskets for a silent auction. Photos of items are requested for a catalog to publish early for those members unable to attend June 7-8, but who would be interested in purchasing auction items.

Nomination Committee

T. Grant proposed that the 2019 Slate be amended to have D. Kelley and R. Hollenhurst be appointed to the Board of Directors for terms 2019-2021, and B. Pitz continue in her term 2018-2020.

Calendar

T. Grant proposed replacing the Leadership Training event with a Celebration of the LWVIA. August 10, 2019 was set as date in Grinnell, Iowa to Celebrate the League of Women Voters of Iowa (10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.). This will be a time to share activities and troubleshoot problems. Plan is to have members serving in same positions (Treasurer, Secretary, etc.) sit at same table for lunch and brainstorm.

Meeting adjourned 2:12 pm

Next meeting is May 18, 2019 in Coralville Public Library, Meeting Room B

Polly S Horton, Acting Secretary