

Members present: Bonnie Pitz, Deb Turner, Mary Ann Nelson, Sue Wilson, Linda Murken

By phone: Terese Grant

Not present: Dianne Bystrom, Mary Rae Bragg, Pat Harper, Polly Horton, Tina Pace

Approval of Minutes of August 15 Board Meeting: Moved by Mary Ann, second by Bonnie, minutes approved.

Co-Presidents' Reports:

Hamilton County – Bonnie – Hamilton Co. sent a check for \$103, deposited to LWVIA account. Motion to disband Hamilton Co. League – Linda, Deb, motion carried. (Unsure what they consider their membership year. But, if general for all local leagues, if people haven't paid by Jan. 31, don't put them on the official account.)

LWVUS Member Database – Deb - Notice from Connie Ferguson, our liaison with National, that Iowa Leagues are on target to go on line first part of November. There will be training. (Threat or promise?)

Treasurers Report:

Current Balance Sheet/Budget Review:

Bonnie sent out the new financial reports on October 6. Total money coming in at Convention was \$4,330. Billing total were \$5,721.57. Over spent by \$1400. Silent auction brought in \$380 for state league, about \$1000 total with balance going to local leagues depending on what they brought. Treasurer's report accepted.

Education Fund – When To Use:

Every time we are going to make an expenditure, first question should be whether we can use ed funds. State League has some ed funds on our level, some at national. Discussion of keeping ed funds local, no reason not to, will have to do a 990 annually saying don't have enough to report. Strongly recommended to keep two separate checking accounts. Developed goal to have training at 2016 Council on ed fund use. Also, we should think about two budgets, one for general fund and one for ed fund.

Local League Funding Request:

We should send a notice to all local leagues reminding them that we are willing to fund worthy projects (we have budgeted \$2000 for this year, have spent \$550 so far).

Legislative Priorities:

Overview of Issues Briefing Meeting: Biggest complaint at meeting was not being able to hear – should we purchase our own portable mic system? Terese will get us some info, report back in November.

Amy's survey: Everyone agreed it looks okay.

Final Review of Wording of Priorities– Specifically Nutrient Reduction Strategy. After discussion, motion by Linda, second by Deb, to eliminate the word "mandatory" in first bulleted item under Water Quality. Motion carried.

Issues Committee Reports:

MLD: Mary Ann: pushing forward with coaches to get MLD really working. Judy McDowell has become a coach.

Criminal And Juvenile Justice: Linda:

Restoration of Felon Voting Rights – Polk Co. decision denied ACLU's suit, passed it on to the Iowa Supreme Court to define infamous crime

Mandatory Sentences – JoAnn and Linda will draft a guest opinion/letter to editor for State and local league use.

Criminal Justice Reform Bill – Grassley's bill.

UMRR – ILO: Sue. If local leagues have joined but not sent their dues yet, please send \$25 to Ellen Rosborough, c/o LWV-WI, 612 West Main St., Suite 200, Madison WI 53703. Make check payable to LWV-UMRR-ILO. Would like three

people from each League to be contacts. Each member League will have one voting delegate to the Convention. Registration \$35 per person to attend Convention. See LWVIA website for additional details.

Online Voter Registration: Bonnie. Dane Schumann (new ACLU-IA Legislative Director) met with SOS staff, is in the process of writing up comments for orgs to sign on to. Draft will be sent out to board members for approval. Muscatine promoting a community read – great visibility.

Local League Activities – Reports

Deb – Metro DSM has started study on Move to Amend. October 14, Law School, Prof. Mark Kende (will send info)
 Sue - Dubuque – several voter registration events
 Myrna – Cedar Rapids is doing 5 candidate forums, talked with radio. Jr. High students, nursing home. CR has signs on busses \$250 for signs for 4 busses.
 Johnson County has a league unit in a retirement home.
 Ames and Story County – Linda - candidate forums, VOTE411, will do Legislative forums next session in two locations in the county

VOTER – working on next week. Deadline October 17.

Social Media Report – Website, Facebook, Are We Using Twitter. Deb asks if Karen can report on how many hits are we getting on the website. CR is using Twitter– not following other Leagues, something else.

Reports Of “In-League” Organizations

ACLU – Linda, Bonnie: Working on joint letter to SOS Pate re: admin rules on voter registration

Justice Not Politics (JNP) Nov. 19th 5 Year Celebration – Deb. Will get more info out.

Baaken Pipeline Coalition Resistance – Linda reported on last steering committee conference call. Decision by Board: In order for LWVIA to continue as part of the coalition, we need to know that the Coalition is committed to not planning for disruptive behavior or uncivil speech, and that it needs to be reflected in notes of steering committee meeting.

Report of Nominating Committee: At Council next year, we need nominees for Treasurer and the two Director seats with 2014-16 terms. Myra will write an article for the VOTER for people to express interest in board positions.. We also need to find two other nominating committee members, one from the Board. The Board requested that Myrna contact Polly about being the board delegate to the nominating committee. The third person should be from central Iowa, either Metro Des Moines or Ames/Story.

Old Business

Iowa Women Lead Change Conference – Dubuque was a good event – 300 attended. No new memberships, but good discussions. Table fee was for all 4 conferences – Linn/Johnson had already paid \$250 so LWVIA has paid the remaining \$250. Deb will have a MetroDSM person make the arrangements for the October 28 conference in Des Moines. Linda will be there and bring someone else to help staff the table. (Let her know the details.)

Engaging Young Members - Myrna: STEM conference, new citizen classes. Ames/Story: listening to young people (voting, campaign advertising, issues)

New Business

Started brainstorming on goals for Local League Engagement With Board. Ideas we came up with:

- Providing training to local leagues on use of education funds
- Continuing to providing grants to local leagues
- Clearly communicating what state league provides to local members
- Providing more-timely and concise info to members to use in advocacy

Next Board Meeting: November 7, Newton

Minutes by Linda Murken