LWV-Jo Daviess County Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2017 at 3:00 PM

241 Council Fire Circle, Galena, IL. 61036

The League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County held their executive board meeting at the home of Sue Cording at 3:00 PM on Thursday, February16, 2017. Esther Lieberman, Carole Sullivan, Sue Cording, Kathy Pearson, and Jeanie Norman were in attendance.

November board minutes were approved with Kathy moving to accept and Esther seconding. Kathy gave information on the Treasurer’s report on our education fund. The balance is\_\_\_\_\_\_,with $8,368.93 earmarked for water projects. Jake has collected dues with only two out and when he is back in the area will get us the actual dollar amounts. He at the time was having computer issues.

**Old Business:**

Under old business we discussed the Annual meeting maybe changing the date to possibly the third Saturday in January. We then went on to review the areas of the Annual meeting, Venue, Meal and Conversation, Yearbook and Program. Everyone agreed that each part was done well. Something to also look into is collecting the dues at an earlier date. Other suggestions were finding a way to encourage participation in the General Membership. Sue then passed out the proposed calendar for 2017.

**New Business:**

New Member Brunch---Esther has it under control, she has spoken with Rudy the manager of the Café at Midwest Medical Center, with everything set up and ready for a 10:00 am Brunch. Kathy suggested a U shape for the table set up and Esther will call to see if that is possible. Carole will greet everyone attending and give directions to the venue. It was also suggested that everyone has a nametag and Sue would introduce the Officers to everyone. After that all in attendance introduce themselves and give a brief statement on what brought them to the LWV. Sue then will present Yearbooks and go through the 2017 calendar.

Women’s March Reports---there was a very nice write up in the Galena Gazette. LVW endorsed early on, stating that feedback from those who marched was very positive and everyone attending was respectful of property surrounding the March. Bonnie and Alice were asked to send a description of their experiences. Sue and Larry joined in the March in Auckland New Zealand, stating it was also very respectful. Carol participated in the Wisconsin March and said the same for her experience.

LWVIL Issues Briefing, Chicago on March 4:---Sue asked Bonnie to send a report and update on this event. Kathy and Ron are attending this and will also report back with information. Kathy stated they are going to the School Budget and Immigration breakout sessions. Kathy also stated that this is a wonderful event to attend meeting people from across the state.

Candidates’ Forum Prior to April 4 Election---Kathy reported she has everything set up on her computer and sent Diane all the info for participants along with the LWV guidelines to follow. Kathy stated each candidate will receive two of the same questions ahead of time so they can prepare and the public will see how well they prepare. Kathy has asked Janet Durham of Dubuque to moderate at the Galena forum. A press release will be sent to the Gazette closer to the forum dates. The Forum in East Dubuque will be March 14, 2017 at 7:00 at East Dubuque High School. The Forum in Galena will be March 16, 2017at 7:00 at Galena Middle School.

Earth Day- April 19, LWV Booth---Sue phoned Carmen Ferguson a local environmentalist. Sue will need to get more information on this.

April—Showing of “Armor of Light” a film looking at the culture of gun violence with a panel discussion to follow---Sue advised that we check with Bonnie and that this topic needs to be discussed because of possible disruptions at such a meeting. A western suburban LWV to our West had experienced such disturbance at a meeting on the same issue. Another idea is to co-sponsor with a church or Riverview on the topic of Domestic Violence and have a conversation. At this time as we gather more information we are going to wait on showing the Armor of Light film.

LWV Garage Sale May 18, 19, & 20---Garage sale needs to come up with the Newsletter. Sue will get together with Alice and pass along the information that needs to be included in the newsletter, including the Member Email Listing, Report, President’s Letter, Garage Sale, Voter Forum, Earth Day, and Calendar of Events.

LWVIL Convention, Des Plaines, June 9 & 10---We will have a discussion at a later date who is supposed to attend.

Program in conjunction with the Illinois Press Association and the Galena Gazette- The role of the Media in the Age of Social Media, tentative date July. How citizens can get accurate information to inform their vote? Bonnie and Sue will meet with Carter and Hillary about this discussion. Carol said to check with the Galena Center for the Arts for a place to hold this.

Seminar on Illinois Budget/Impacts on Social Services and Education---August 8, 2017. Sue advised Bonnie will report on the information after the Seminar.

Fudge Booth Galena Country Fair---October 7 & 8---Sue will be seeking volunteers for making, baking and selling.

State of the Country Event:---November 7, 2017, “People, Places, and Progress in JDC”, Sue will be working on this.

“Cocktails and Conversations”---2017 Review/Program Planning for 2018. Sue will be putting this together.

**Other Old Business**---Kathy will add new members and update the Time & Talent Survey after the Brunch.

**New Business:**

A request was made to have membership dues split into two payments. Esther had been contacted by a member with a question of making two payments. Initially the concern was if this would require a change to the Bylaws. Kathy checked on this with the LWV. A change to the Bylaws is not necessary; we can simply establish a policy making two payments an option. Carol moved to establish a policy allowing the LWV of JDC dues can be paid in full or split into two payments, Kathy second all were in favor. The first installment is to be paid as usual with the second installment paid before June 30th.

Thank you to be sent to Marcella Arnold---this will be put on the agenda including her on social media, Bonnie will write the letter and send it to Alice.

Honoring other Past Presidents---it was decided that yes we need to honor the Past Presidents. Sue advised speaking to Bonnie about what she has in mind.

Center on Democracy event Discussion---Bonnie & John attended a presentation on Human Trafficking at the Stevenson Center for Democracy. While there he spoke to Anne Ream founder of The Voices and Faces Project. Anne expressed interest in discussing a possible program or project in Galena. Carole’s Niece is also working on the issue of Human Trafficking in the Chicago area. After a discussion on considering a possible LWV involvement with another project it was decided the LWV of JDC have a lot on their plate, but will keep this in mind for the future.

Stranded by the State-Web Site and TV Broadcast---Human Impact of Illinois Crisis Sue advised we will keep this in mind for a future date and Bonnie will inform us later.

**Other New Business:**

Legislative Interview, March 20th thru 24th at the Legislators Office. Kathy will put together a letter for the Newsletter. The State League gives the questions and Sue will bring this up at the Brunch. Sue stated she phoned the office of Tammy Duckworth Chicago Office and actually spoke to a real person.

Announcements on Upcoming Events---Kathy spoke about Time for Action Emails and the Statehood for Washington, DC. Also think about the upcoming LWV Garage Sale….think Spring cleaning.

**Adjournment:**

Eshter congratulated Sue on doing a great job for her first meeting as President. A motion to adjourn was made by Kathy and 2nd by Eshter. Our March meeting will be Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 3:00 PM at Sue’s home, 241 Council Fire Drive.

Submitted by Jeanie Norman, Secretary

**JoDaviess County League of Women Voters Upcoming Events**

March 4---LWVIL Issues Briefing, Chicago

March 14---Candidates’ Forum prior to April 4 Election—

East Dubuque High School, 7:00 PM

March 16---Candidates’ Forum prior to April 4 Election---

Galena Middle School, 7:00 PM