

Minutes

Brown County League of Women Voters

December 11, 2017

Present: Pam Raider, Julie Winn, JoAnne Himebaugh, Cathy Rountree, Shari Frank, Janet Kramer, Jeanne Lager, Clint Studabaker, Heather Nicholson, Tim Clark, Mary Perez, Robyn Rosenberg Bowman, and Jan Swigert.

Minutes of November 2017 approved.

Treasurer report – Treasurer Jeanne Lager reports Treasury is \$2,887.16 plus \$100 donation in hand – we have gained 4 new members and 2 new friends.

Correspondence: So far there have been no donations to Foundation for Dorothy Stewart Scholarship. Foundation currently has match going on will give 50 cents for every \$1 given. Julie also explains status difference between local league (501c4) and Ed fund which is tax deductible (501c3). Our Ed fund is currently depleted due to publication of Government book and Who's Where. Those wanting to give to Ed fund should make checks out to LWVIEF and send to our local PO box 74.

Current Business:

Fiscal and Development Study: We held full membership meeting on December 6th Julie has sent around minutes of what transpired and requests those there to weigh in before sending by email to all members. Suggestions were that it is still too lengthy and moderate language replacing should with milder words. Could have position be more of summary and then more details on line. Discussion about having government be more accountable (position 2) with quarterly progress reports.

Maple Leaf Community Conversation – will not be held since members of that committee declined to be part of the panel. Robyn states she was asked to serve on building board along with Bill Austin and Mike Laros. She suggests that they declined since the whole project is still in process and they lack answers to many questions however after first of the year they may be more amenable.

Reality Store: Event was held November 30th Questions asked in our voting booth changed slightly from last year – cyber bullying down and more homes had high speed.

Funds Appeal status: We have gained 4 new members and 2 new friends – members can still talk to friends and neighbors and invite to join.

Meet Your Legislators: Scheduled for February 3 10 am back up snow date is February 10.

Update on Forest Preservation resolution: Revised resolution presented last month by Leslie Bishop is passed around. There will be bill presented this year setting aside 30% of forest lands. Eric Koch is co-signer. Send signed resolution to Eric Koch, Governor's Office and why not copy to local paper.

New Business:

New information on Gerrymandering: Pam and Cathy attended event with Julia Vaughn of Common Cause which has been working on this issue for years. They learned there is current HB to be presented and there will be bill presented in state senate that outlines more how an independent commission would be formed. It looks hopeful as many Republican leaders favor this as well.

Question was posed as to whether local league would be willing to sign on to approve broad band access – discussion no since there are more than one carrier involved we will not weigh in on supporting only one.

Newsletter and Website: JoAnn is complimented on last newsletter came out last week. Website is also up-to-date thanks to Robyn.

Committees:

Health Dept. – Cathy reports Health Dept. board has accepted septic ordinance with lawyer's revision and a few changes. Next step will go to government bodies and then ready for public comment.

Observers Corps: Heather reports on Area Planning meeting she attended. Issue developing up at Sweetwater Lake where bed and breakfast and restaurant/store has been operating without permit. No recommendations taken as yet. She also reports that Humane Society requested approval for addition to shelter which is in flood plain this was passed by Commissioners on last Wednesday.

HCI – Hometown Initiative project – JoAnn reports will be sending around survey on county needs for members to weigh in and send to friends.

Meeting finally adjourned at 11:25 am.

Next Board meeting is January 08, 2018, 10 am BC Library.

Pam Raider

Secretary

League of Women Voters of Brown County