

Minutes

Brown County League of Women Voters

December 14, 2015

Present: Pam Raider, Julie Winn, Janet Kramer, Ruth Reichmann, Cathy Rountree, Shari Frank, JoAnne Himebaugh, Evan Werling, Jan Swigert, Judy East, Marge Cook, Robyn Rosenberg-Bowman, Jeanne Lager, and Mary Perez.

Minutes of November 09, 2015 were approved as corrected.

Treasurer report - Treasurer reports bank balance of \$6,055.47 (doesn't include state PMP).

Correspondence: Our participation in Reality Store event was well received.

Current Business:

Suffragette sponsored film event went well – 82 people in attendance. Playhouse would work with us again.

Speaker event: December 14 – Dr. Jody Madeira – on advocating for and following state legislative bills on line presented in state legislature.

Local Government Boards and Commissions update: Evan Werling speaks again on January 1, 2016 positions open for appointment by County and Town government - full list appeared in last newsletter. He reiterates importance of public getting involved so boards do not reflect individuals with personal agendas. Most important are Planning, Redevelopment, Bean Blossom Sewer and CVB boards. Form to express interest was circulated on line. CVB board seems somewhat secretive – no posting of minutes or financials. Suggestion made to send letter to commissioners encouraging wider participation in their selection process. People who apply must be present at January 6th meeting. Area Planning and BZA might be out of compliance with state law. Redevelopment not made reports in two years.

Next steps Heritage and Tourism: We need to do something as result of the recent Community Conversations. Have tried to get calendar and park designated historical site. Should try to move ahead with organizing trail systems (bike, hiking horse and national and state) as part of economic plan. Who to head the committee – Lynn Logterman was suggested. Next conversation should be on this topic.

Fiscal Viability Study: Julie has sent extensive draft documents on line with important questions in red. Committee will meet again after January 1st.

This Is Your County Government: last month Jeanne Lager passed out various pages to correct. She will send around electronic copy for us to make changes on. Suggestion made to include description of various board and committees openings in book. Would like ready by primary candidates meeting.

New Business:

Nail down Legislators Session – Eric Koch scheduled for February 13 10 – 12 am in the Salmon Room.

Primary Forums (Indiana Primary is May 3, 2016): Do in April – questions planned ahead of time. Plan for week long as last time. Final filing date in February 5, 2016.

Educational Position Concurrence for State Position: answers due by January 10th – Julie to send on line.

Yellowwood Invitation: - Charlie Coles invites league members to tour Dubois timbering site – will go after the holidays.

Courthouse Conversation: needs follow-up to correct ADA and security issues – commissioners need prompting. There is plan afoot to move Prosecutors Office.

Website/Newsletter: next Newsletter will come out in January - website up to date.

Committees:

Partnership: No meetings November and December. Last meeting they wanted suggestions of top priorities. After discussion ours were: 1) More productive relationship between town and county government and citizens and their advocacy groups. 2) Strategic planning. 3) Economic development around Heritage subject and Vision 2020.

Health – Cathy Rountree reports continuing discussions around needle exchange and testing for Hepatitis C. Dental Assistant to visit Spurnica to do exams. Police and local EMT working to have drug overdose anecdote on board.

Schools – Robyn reports We The People will be in State competition 12/15/15. Later learned they won the State Championships again.

Next Board meeting is January 11, 2016, 10 am BC Library.

Pam Raider

Secretary

League of Women Voters of Brown County