

Minutes

Brown County League of Women Voters

December 8, 2014

Present: Julie Winn, Janet Kramer, Pam Raider, Marge Cook, Shari Frank, Ruth Reichmann, Sue Cannavo, Cathy Rountree, Robyn Rosenberg Bowman, Jenni Voris, Judy East, Ben Kibbe (reporter from Democrat), and Kim Dehler (friend of Cathy Rountree).

Minutes of November 10, 2014 meeting approved.

Treasurer reports \$7459.85 in Treasury.

Correspondence. Letter from Brown County Community Foundation states grant from Indiana Commission of Higher Education will match gifts to Dorothy Stewart scholarship fund. Group votes to give \$500 from our League funds. Individuals encouraged to give as well.

Current Business:

Fiscal Viability Study: Have not met recently. Next step to collate questions. Recent meetings with Auditor's office leaves questions as to whether they have all the figures from every department. Members from the committee will meet with them again before the 20th.

Update on Fire District: No word yet on pending appeal case. Revisit Emergency Services – Shari Frank typed up past position. Medical Services needs new study. Ambulance services seems bogged down. Kurt Young suggests three ambulances – perhaps too many. Emergency preparedness also needs study and follow-up. Health Dept. and EMA need to be part of conversation.

Reality Store: Junior High Reality store went well, Judy did great job organizing – all were satisfied with results

Vision 2020 Update: Nothing new to report. Julie will contact Betsy Leese when she returns.

2015 State Convention (Date April 17-19 2015): Very productive meeting – scheduled to meet again this Friday December 12th to nail down more details.

New Business:

Jenni Voris: replacement for Diana Biddle's position on County Council is Dave Redding a Cummins director with background in business.

New Highway superintendent – Michael Magner will have to resign position as Washington Township trustee – cannot hold two governmental positions.

Meet Your Legislators – Janet will contact for February dates – this is long session – maybe have them come twice.

Committees:

Health care: Nothing new to report. Discussion on insurance changes Cathy Rountree reminds us that Brown County residents can join health consortium in Bloomington for \$35 a month.

Membership: Pam reports last conference call was focused on importance of being a good listener. The next call scheduled for Wednesday December 17th.

Observer Corps: Pam makes brief report on highlights of commissioner's meetings attended. Commissioners want to see new police cars on road before end of the year. County Clean Community five goals passed. Freedom Park withdraws petition. Accept services of ESPY to look into overpayments on government services. Voted to table zip line approval pending more study by Commissioners (full report in newsletter).

Newsletter: Next letter to come out end of month after Legislators date set.

Partnership: Not meeting in November or December – concern group has dwindled and not reporting back to respective groups.

Schools: Robyn reports Sprunica Elementary received blue ribbon and 4 star award. School Board passed new bond for \$1 million in upgrades.

Town: Blue Elk project for waterpark and hotel back on agenda as is widening sidewalks and cutting trees as part of streetscape plan.

Peaceful Valley: have gotten e-book of our assets on line Jim Glass and Mark Dollase helping to get more buildings certified as historical also they will be working with Historical Society. Community conversation planned for March or April.

Next Board meeting is January 12, 2015, 10 am BC Library.

Pam Raider

Secretary

League of Women Voters of Brown County