

Minutes

Brown County League of Women Voters

February 13, 2017

Present: Pam Raider, Julie Winn, Mary Perez, Judy East, Jeanne Lager, Shari Frank, Tim Clark, Heather Nicholson, Marge Cook, Jan Swigert and Janet Kramer.

Minutes of January meeting approved with slight correction on dues and PMP amounts.

Treasurer report – Treasurer Jeanne Lager reports receiving one dues making treasury \$4,521.93.

Correspondence: Annual President's Day is February 18th 10:30 to 3:30 – Pam and Julie going - today last day to sign up.

Current Business:

Fiscal and Development Study: New annual figures were released will add those and recirculate to membership for comment before full membership meeting (no date set) to reach consensus and adopt position before doing community conversation. Since committee last met a Ball State study has been released showing performance indicators – this needs to be added to study – soon new county statistics available too. No school or town finances were covered.

State Education Study – sent in timely to State league.

Potential Community Conversations: Commissioners have again spoken with Julie about doing an update on the courthouse – yes the League will assist but also need some direction or from Commissioners and review what was done before including Jim Glass study. Still on docket to be held: Fiscal Study, Court House (commissioner request), Emergency Services (needs updating), furthering Wellness and Economic Development with both Redevelopment committees attending.

Meet Your Legislators: Will be held March 11 from 10-noon both Eric Koch and Chris May coming. Janet to make sure Farm Bureau does cookies and coffee.

Discussion on Development for Brown County: Tim and Julie serve on committee concerned with county development. Tim is on Redevelopment committee and reports on challenges facing county in moving forward with economic development including cultural attitudes. Redevelopment will be applying for grant to develop comprehensive plan for county.

Updates:

Volksmarch for health sponsored by our League – event to be held on Sunday April 23 – 8 am to 4 pm. Will be two routes 5K and 10K.

Emergency Services and Water/Air Sheds: no progress to report.

New Business:

Discussion on raising dues – Our fiscal year will go from June 1st to May 31 – dues can be prorated if not paid at annual meeting. Decide not to have people just pay for newsletter as might not be member then.

Annual Meeting: Will be in May either 18th or 25th keep meal at \$15 and dues the same –ask Kevin Ault to cater again and hold at Nashville Hotel. Group to be thinking of who would be speaker.

Newsletter and Website – Get out around 24th to alert membership of Legislators visit.

2017 Who's Who: no discussion.

Committees:

Health: New septic ordinance is available on line or hard copy from Health dept. Will be having working meeting with health department and commissioners open to public and then public comment period. Tim speaks to the many problems with the new ordinance many of whom are the same problems with last go round –stricter than state, too much power in hands one person county sanitarian. Judy East reports on local health group that both schools and county government are looking at their health policies and will hear presentation from Activate which could save money by combining needs.

Observers Corp – Heather reports websites are not kept current with meeting dates etc. - likes newspaper reporting of public meetings and clarifies sending in report to newsletter. She also reports on CVB and Arts and Entertainment boards- non-governmental but important to the county development. CVB rejected for loan will be using some of advertising budget to help them move.

Partnership: Not met

State League: Annual State League Council will be April 29/30 in South Bend – members encouraged to go Julie will be out of town – Pam to attend.

Meeting adjourned 12:00 pm.

Next Board meeting is March 13, 2017, 10 am BC Library.

Pam Raider

Secretary

League of Women Voters of Brown County