

Minutes

Brown County League of Women Voters

July 11, 2016

Present: Pam Raider, Julie Winn, Janet Kramer, Judy East, Robyn Rosenberg-Bowman, Ruth Reichmann, Jeanne Lager, Marge Cook, Mary Perez, Susanne Gaudin, Shari Frank, Jan Swigert, Evan Werling and guest speaker Judy Swift.

Minutes of June meeting approved with one date correction.

Treasurer report – New Treasurer, Jeanne Lager will be meeting with Marge after meeting. Marge reports \$3987.00 in Treasury – no outstanding bills.

Correspondence: Ben Kibbe local reporter for the Democrat wants to do follow-up story on the courthouse and need for ADA and Security. National League reminds members we are politically neutral.

Presentation of Employee/County wellness presented by Judy Swift of BC Health Dept. April kick off with screenings from health dept. Employees get points for lifestyle changes and choices – drawing for incentive gift. Hill Billy Ninja scheduled for fair – would like helpers. September 14 5K walk could also use help. At earlier meeting we discussed sponsoring health related event. Judy will look into Volksmarch – shoot for next spring – April event

Other Health issues: Judy East tells us about free Dental clinic on July 16 8-1pm at Y – could use some help.

Susanne tells us bill for Aid in Dying will be presented at state level.

Evan Werling discusses problems with Bean Blossom Sewer board – now Brown County district sewer board. Nothing has been done in ten years, but 3 studies – Health Dept. claims they have no records of failed septic systems in the area. Bean Blossom in trouble – no meetings have been held with residents in area. Tuesday August 2nd at 6:30 pm is next sewer board meeting.

Current Business:

BCCF Volunteer Fair recap: need to get more of our members there plus attendance to event was down.

Fiscal Viability Study: Julie almost finish with what will be presented to membership.

Fall Candidate Forum update: rooms secured for Thursday, Sept 22 Congressional races – Tuesday, October 10 – local. Thursday, October 11 State. Sara Clifford reports local paper personnel are for insert section – being talked about with owners. Letters to candidates have been sent out – need to come up with Questions for Candidates. Meeting for Candidates questions is scheduled for August 1st 1 pm at library.

Courthouse Presentation: Julie spoke to Commissioners but at end of long meeting – all were tired. Julie will follow up with meeting with Diana to see if money will be budgeted for ADA and Security.

County Fair: July 31 to August 7th – Julie passes around sign-up sheet and will be circulated on line. Need to up-date tri-fold to reflect watershed issue. There has been discussion on line about the quality (or lack of) in our local water systems. JoAnne H has offered to design a brochure about water issues for fair.

New Business:

Brown County VFD proposal for Fire Territory: Lengthy discussion ensues re: Leagues Emergency Services position and what difference with territory vs district means. Territory is set up by trustees –Proposal was presented and passed by Town Council they would lead territory which has taxing authority – will allow for two paid people 6 am to 6 pm shifts \$40,000 to 45,000 in salary. Ruth brings in past records on past conversation and copies of our position. What has changed no action on fire district - still problems with fire truck access. Discussion identifies several problems with territory proposal – no board oversight, taxing problems – need for 2 full time positions during day? –morale with other fire departments, proper notice and public input, this department would leave district to form territory. They plan to present to commissioners at July 20th meeting. Need to be public meeting on this – perhaps we could look to Jim Shultz, Redevelopment Commission to host with League helping.

Budget hearings in August – good to attend to show we are watching.

County Area Plan Commission will be revising zoning ordinances – meeting is on Tuesday July 19th 6:30 we need to be there.

Gail Pebworth and Tracy De Heaton Martinez request to speak to us at August meeting regarding League status being changed to 501.c.3 and help in organizing Columbus chapter.

Discussion on letters to editor policy and not speaking for league on positions unless President.

Committees:

Partnership will meet July 19th (they're meeting quarterly)

Next Board meeting is August 08, 2016, 10 am BC Library.

Pam Raider

Secretary

League of Women Voters of Brown County