

Minutes

Brown County League of Women Voters

May 14, 2018

Present: Pam Raider, Julie Winn, JoAnne Himebaugh, Janet Kramer, Jeanne Lager, Tim Clark, Jan Swigert, Ruth Reichmann, Greg Bowes, Cathy Rountree, Laurie Teal, Susanne Gaudin, Robyn Bowman, Mary Perez and Lurna Reichman.

Minutes of April 2018 minutes approved with spelling corrections and name change of Hollingsworth aide from Carson to Rachel. Also calls for corrections or additions to annual minutes – there were some minor spelling corrections; however since they are lengthy and recently posted approval will take place next board meeting.

Treasurer report – Treasurer Jeanne Lager reports \$990 in dues from annual meeting and \$432 for meals. Meals actually cost \$457.38. Total in Treasury is \$4344.78.

Correspondence: Brown County Community Foundation announced the winner of the Dorothy Stewart award is Haley Miller. The League has received a fund raising letter from Amy Oliver (teacher at BC schools) reporting six students will go to Washington DC History Days June 10-14 and will need some funding. Since we have given \$500 in past to We The People students and this year there were none, motion is made to gift \$500 to these students with Ruth adding an additional \$100. Individual members may also give to the Treasury to support effort – check will be made to BC Schools. Pam makes motion JoAnne seconds - group approves.

Current Business:

Primary Candidates' Forums recap: Went very well good attendance

Annual Meeting tasks and guidance: Board needs to approve appointment directors from the slate presented at annual meeting. Ruth makes motion Jan seconds. New appointed Directors are: Mary Perez, Ruth Reichmann, Abbie Oliver, and Laurie Teal. Janet Kramer is appointed to Nominating Committee by the board. Directions to the Board 1) Redesign and redo Membership Handbook and review by laws. 2) Look into voting irregularities – establish election observers – Gregg Bowes offers to find out what is allowed. 3) Broaden language on watershed position to include forest issue or do new study - both State and National have positions on some environmental issues. 4) Archiving of important documents of League history and 5) Finish up with Fire and Emergency Services. Janet has lots of archived material in her basement Laurie Teal offers to help as she is professional organizer.

Election recap: Susanne Gaudin who serves on the Election Commission fills us in on some issues with the machines during recent primary election. She informs us that the Van Buren fire Department is now in hands of commissioners. The goal for general election will be to move elections out of Van Buren School into Fire Dept. and to move out of Sprunica School into Hamblen Fire department. They are looking into establishing vote centers for 2020 elections. Provisional ballots will be counted on May 18 at 2 pm – public can attend.

Membership Handbook: All agree 1974 Membership Handbook needs to be updated and given to all new members. The last one contained 1) How League functions 2) Calendar of upcoming events 3) Membership list and list of officers. 4) Local, State and National Positions 5) How to write legislators complete with addresses 6) Nonpartisan statement and By Laws. Membership Handbook Committee formed: Jan, Janet, Pam, Laurie and Susanne. Will report on at June meeting. Also contact Muncie and Crawfordsville Leagues who have handbooks.

New Business:

Fair Planning: Treasurer has sent in form and proof of insurance to reserve spot at 4H fair which will be July 30 thru August 4th. Booth space to focus on voting and registrations – JoAnne offers her hand made posters from school registration and can make more.

Brown County Community Foundation Volunteer Fair: Previously the Volunteer Fair has been tied to their Annual meeting in June. This year they are trying something new and will have one day 10am to 2pm family carnival fair on August 18 geared toward youth participation. Discussion on reusing our Citizenship quiz. JoAnn will ask school teachers what kinds of questions are appropriate for what age groups.

Newsletter/website: June newsletter to come out soon with dates of both fairs and National Convention to be held in June in Chicago and reminding those who have not paid their dues.

Committees:

Health Dept. –Septic Ordinance was returned to Health Board to be revised. Jeff Cambridge is heading new Drug Task Force made up of many community agencies such as schools, health dept, probation, and welfare – there will be public forum this Friday and Saturday led by Chuck Yeager. Next Public Health board meeting will be May 15 at 5:30.

Ruth reports on Peaceful Valley and related heritage issues: Application has been submitted to INDOT for Scenic By Way connecting US 40 south to US 50 and is on their agenda. Next step is for counties involved to work together to fin logo. Ruth brings up that Bruce Gould has bought the old Calvin House and applied for a demolition permit. This will mean the disappearance of another old historic home – Review Commission will hear the case at its 5/15 6 pm meeting. Also a historic plaque will be placed at Old Country Store in honor of Hohenberger and his photos.

Tim reports Phase 2 of financial study done by SPEA will be presented this Friday 5/18 6 pm in the Salmon Room.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

Next Board meeting is June 11, 2018, 10 am BC Library.

Pam Raider

Secretary

League of Women Voters of Brown County