

Minutes

Brown County League of Women Voters

November 13, 2017

Present: Pam Raider, Julie Winn, JoAnne Himebaugh, Cathy Rountree, Shari Frank, Janet Kramer, Jeanne Lager, Ruth Reichmann, Clint Studabaker, Heather Nicholson, Tim Clark, Mary Perez, Abbie Oliver, Robyn Rosenberg Bowman, and Leslie Bishop (new member).

Minutes of October 2017 approved.

Treasurer report – Treasurer Jeanne Lager reports no change from last month. Total in Treasury is \$2,452.16.

Correspondence: Monday November 20th is Vote Smart event in Bloomington details have been sent by email to members.

Current Business:

Fiscal and Development Study: Date for full membership meeting was established on December 6th – several members cannot go – Heather to check on availability of clubhouse for the 14th – details will be sent on line.

Salt Creek Trail Community Conversation: Was held on October 26th with 75-80 people attending. Lively conversation with DNR, INDOT, engineers, Salt Creek committee members, and homeowners. Many facts were brought out and clarified for the public.

Courthouse Project and Peaceful Valley: Courthouse Committee has not met – DLZ consulting will be doing feasibility study. Committee will probably reconvene when study is finished. Dr. Jim Glass presentation on the Courthouse and Historical Old Town Nashville was held on November 8th included panel discussion on Heritage Tourism and the Hoosier Hills Scenic By way. This event focused more on historic value and Scenic Byway that will run down 135 from Hiway 40-50. Members are asked to fill in survey with ideas for points of interest along the route. An important point that came out of discussion was fact that as time as moved along more buildings in town would qualify for National Registry and Mark Dollase suggested that the Town of Nashville could apply to become Historic District – Peaceful Valley will follow up on that idea.

Planning statements by LWVBC President – Julie has addressed government bodies and Area Planning Commission on importance of having comprehensive plan for the county and updating zoning ordinances – they seem reluctant to do so. Tim Clark states that Dave Redding (Redevelopment Commission) will be addressing Planning about the importance of Comprehensive Plan with their own synopsis 6 Pm Salmon Room. After that Redevelopment will be having public meetings for input. Tim stresses we have no economic or housing policies in place. He again stresses importance of having overall Economic Development Strategic Policy. Requests participation to Commissioners meeting 11/15 when plan is presented to be voted on November 20. Is concerned about the contract with inn keepers tax and connection with proposed Maple Leaf venue wants to make sure language in contract includes tax payers not being on the hook. Also concerned that there are no public meetings on issue.

Reality Store: Judy East heading committee planning reality store – looking for volunteers our league has a booth. Event will be November 30th from 8:15 to noon – contact Julie or Judy if interested

New Business:

Friends of the League: Proposal to do end of the year fundraising letter to old members giving option of paying less and receiving newsletter. Give options of tax deductible Ed fund or giving to League.

Leslie Bishop Proposal: New member Leslie Bishop would like the League to support a bill to be introduced again which would set aside 10% of state forests from logging by DNR. This new bill will be co-sponsored by two Republican senators though previous efforts have been bi-partisan and not gotten out of committee. Over 200 scientists have signed letter to the Governor. She presents a resolution that Muncie chapter of LWV has proposed. After discussion our league votes to support but feels the proposed resolution not strong enough – subcommittee is formed to work on wording of our resolution.

Newsletter and Website: JoAnn is complimented on last newsletter. She wants to include some history of the league. Robyn needs dates of events to update the website.

Committees:

Health Dept. – Cathy reports next Health board is November 21 at 5 pm. Will be discussing Septic Ordinance returned from Commissioners with lawyer's comments.

Membership: Ann Heath has been assigned our county as part of Membership and Development state committee. She requests to receive our newsletter.

Observers Corps: Heather reports on public art projects going on with Arts and Entertainment Commission. They will have annual retreat on December 8th. They have set up gamification committee which is developing apps and reward son art trail in Nashville.

HCI – Hometown Initiative project – JoAnn and Tim report. Next meeting is tonight. In January or February group will put out county wide survey asking for citizen input on three fronts place making, economic, leadership. Will host conversation in March.

Legislators Day: Janet and Robyn will work on setting up for late January early February.

Youth member Tanner Bowman will present speech Voice of Democracy for which he won VFW award at our local Veterans Day event

Meeting finally adjourned at 11:52 am.

Next Board meeting is December 11, 2017, 10 am BC Library.

Pam Raider

Secretary

League of Women Voters of Brown County