

MINUTES

League of Women Voters of Collier County, General Fund
October 6, 2011
U S Trust, 765 Seagate Drive
9:15 AM Coffee Social with Meeting Immediately Following

Board members Present: Lydia Galton, Tom McCann, Joyce Fletcher, Mollie Ottina, Linda Penniman, Bernice Schmelz, Paul Kardon, Vi Steffan
Board Members Excused: Donna Suddeth, John Levy

The meeting was called to order by President Lydia Galton with a quorum of 8 Board members present at 9:29 AM. Lydia welcomed everyone back from their summer break.

The Consent agenda was approved, with technical corrections to the minutes. Those changes will be provided to the Secretary for inclusion in those minutes. The Treasurers report was distributed and filed for audit. Vi Steffan noted that the negative balance is temporary as dues will start coming in and funds have to be transferred from the Ed Fund. The current 5/3 Checking account balance is \$8,795.48.

Participation in the LWVUS Education Study was discussed. It was decided that this League will not participate due to lack of personnel to fully support the effort as well as not having time to complete the undertaking by November 30. The Lee County League is participating. With that in mind, it was suggested that the study be mentioned at the upcoming general meeting, and those who have a strong interest in participating could be referred to Lee County as possible participants in their study.

Linda Penniman attended the News-Press Education Summit at the Hyatt Regency in Bonita Springs on October 6, 2011. She provided the following report. In addition to business leaders, attendees included Southwest Florida superintendents from Collier, Lee, Hendry, Glades and Charlotte counties, all of whom participated in a panel with the presidents of Florida Gulf Coast University, Hodges University and Edison State College. The conclusion reached, Linda indicated, was: Southwest Florida students are not college- and career ready. Panelists said to prepare students for the globally-competitive workforce, education must focus more on science, technology, engineering, mathematics and less on standardized tests. The issue is hard decisions and hard choices need to be made now: do we want to educate a percentage of the population or have equanimity. Linda recommended that the League forget pre-conceived notions of the past and concentrate on starting the education improvement process from where we are right now, as is proposed in the recent publication *Teaching in 2030*. Lydia suggested doing a luncheon meeting with Becky Newell,

representative of Children's Movement of Florida to discuss a League education event.

President Galton advised and encouraged members to attend the Education Foundation meeting on November 9 at Naples Beach & Hotel.

Do we need a Bylaws Committee? The following motion (proposed by Mollie Ottina and seconded by Bernice Schmelz) was passed: The LWVCC will establish a bylaws committee for 2011-12 to review the bylaws and make recommendations accordingly. Paul Kardon agreed to participate as the board representative on that committee. Bernice will contact other potential members, such as Nina Ribinski, Wendy Riedel and Chris Straton.

Review of Coalitions:

Our representative on the CC Juvenile Justice Council is Kris Bruer, who recommends continuing relationship.

Bernice Schmelz reported there is no longer a CC Juvenile Assessment Center Advisory Committee. It is replaced with the Youth Resource Center Advisory Committee and Bernice is the LWVCC representative

CC Coalition Against Human Trafficking is not very active. The recommendation is not to continue a formal relationship.

Operation Medicine Cabinet (project of Drug Free Collier): Recommendation was to continue the relationship. Anne Campbell is the LWVCC representative.

Project Innovation, a part of EDC, has been disbanded. Portions of it are still carrying on as an informal group, but there is no home for the leadership. It was agreed the League will continue to have Joyce Fletcher act as a representative in that group until it is determined what, if anything, will replace EDC. She is to bring information concerning its development to the Board as required.

Holiday Cocktail Party will be held on December 12, 2011, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the home of Mollie Ottina. Mollie will select the food and purchase the wine. Vi Steffan will underwrite the cost of the two parking valets. The cost will be \$20/person. Spouse and guests may be included.

The following were selected as candidates for future Spotlight on Members: Kathy Ryan, Rose DiBiasi, Bernice Schmelz, Linda Penniman, Sandy Parker.

Positions to be filled:

Membership: Vi Steffan agreed to assume the Membership position if Sandy Parker will act as Assistant Treasurer.

Website: Sandy Parker

Audit Committee Members: John Levy and Laurie Cowan Phillips

Publicity Committee: Jen Walker will be asked.

Development Chair: None at this time.

Observation Corp Manager: Joyce Fletcher will try to get Government Committee more involved.

Linda Penniman will attend School Board meetings and encourage League membership to apply for committee positions within the school district and other areas as appropriate.

Record Retention Requirements: Tom McCann and Vi Steffan will review material provided by Mary Ellen Barrett concerning new IRS ruling that 501(c)(3) Non Profits must now meet and report on Federal Record Retention Provisions. Governance Committee (i.e. Board of Directors) is ultimately responsible for preparing the report and the Treasurer files it.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Vi Steffan
Acting Secretary