

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF COLLIER COUNTY, Education Fund  
Board of Directors Meeting**

October 28, 2015

Iberia Bank, 2150 Goodlette Frank Road, Naples, Florida

Attending: Robin Birnhak, Judy Burns, Susan Calkins, Ann Campbell, Joyce Fletcher, Patricia Forkan, Paul Kardon, Robin Larkin, John Levy, Becky Newell, Charlotte Nycklemoe, Arlene Shapiro.

Not present: Crystal Kinzel, Shelley Perry.

Guests: Mary Lou Boll, Sandy Parker

The meeting was called to order by Charlotte Nycklemoe at 10:30 am. A quorum was declared.

Sandy Parker requested adding to the agenda: Update on Constitutional Amendment Consensus Meeting, Budget for Meetings at Hilton Hotel, and League 101 presentations. [These were originally asked to be added to the General Fund Board agenda by mistake and then moved to this Agenda.]

The Consent Agenda was approved.

Joyce Fletcher reported that she, Joan Byerhof, and Kathleen Slebodnik raised \$300.00 for the League by checking in delegates at the Code Enforcement State meeting.

Lunch with Leaders: Will the Government Committee continue with this? Sandy said that her committee will not continue to be the organizers and suggested each of the committee chairs take on 'a month' and organize the lunch. This would include finding a date, a speaker, and meet in the speaker's office, inviting members to bring a 'brown bag' lunch for the meeting.

Action: Sandy Parker, Ann Campbell, Susan Calkins, Joyce Fletcher, Charlotte and Robin Larkin offered to be involved with planning and continuing Lunch with Leaders. Robin Larkin will initiate organization by emailing point people to set potential dates.

Voter Service: Collier Citizens Council (CCC) has asked the LWV to work with them on an Amendment Forum (10/4/16) and a Candidates Forum for 2016. The goal is to bring info to voters before the electorate leaves at the end of the 'season.' The closing deadline to register as a candidate is the end of June 2016. Dates: Jan 15 to qualify and March 15 is election for City Council and Mayor.

The CCC would like the LWV to join them on Jan 18 for a Candidates Forum at the Norris Community Center. The CCC wants this site because they say the 'candidates are more visible' and that they will videotape the forum. The LWV strongly favors the Council Chambers because the forum can be videotaped and live-streamed and posted on our website. Joyce said that transparency would be minimized if we cannot live-stream. Susan Calkins, John Levy, Sandy Parker, Ann Campbell all added comments supporting Joyce's position. The consensus from the board was that we not go to the Norris Center due to the inability to live-stream. We will work with CCC if they move their plan to the Council Chambers. Patty Forkan suggested we contact the Naples Daily News.

Action: Joyce will go back to CCC and let them know the LWV would be happy to work with them on both Forums if the meetings take place in the Council Chambers.

John Levy announced Know Your County Government will meet 3:00 on Oct 29 at the School Board offices.

Joyce said that the Voter Service committee is looking for volunteers to serve on a variety of voter service issues.

#### Added Agenda Items

**Budget for Meetings at the Hilton:** We discussed the high cost of AV equipment rental for our meetings at the Hilton (November's: \$630 for projector, screen, wireless mic, including a 20% service charge) and possible ways to provide for such costs, given our current dues and fundraising levels. We questioned whether the Hilton is competitive/should we look elsewhere and whether people should pay a lower rate if they come to the lunch meeting but do not eat lunch.

Arlene: Jan Eustis is sending out a letter now for membership renewal and believes members need to know that only \$18 of their dues stays with LWVCC. There was a suggestion we consider raising dues.

We discussed raising the Susan B. Anthony (\$100) and the Carrie Chapman Catt (\$200) membership levels. Sandy suggested we look at the State LWV's Harry T. Burn Society which is a 5-year high pledge membership. A lengthy discussion followed. Arlene and Patty Forkan suggested we consider asking people for a pledge and include it when we send out the Holiday party invitation--electronically. Sandy withdrew her proposal to raise the membership levels.

Action: John Levy made a motion that we send a letter to the membership, including it with the Holiday Party invitation, and ask that members consider making a gift to the LWVEF. Wording will be determined by Charlotte and Becky Newell. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Constitutional Amendment Study/Consensus Meeting Update:** Robin Larkin and Sandy provided update. Nov 12 meeting was cancelled due to lack of registrants. Nov 9 meeting has over 35 commitments to attend. An email was sent to these folks that included the LWVUS Study Guide and suggested readings to prepare for consensus discussion. Patty Forkan commented on the one reading she had read and how startling and informative it was for her—it was on the Article V Convention. Sandy reported how interesting all the suggested readings from LWVUS have been and how balanced and informative they are. The meeting is at 9:00am on Nov 9 at the Hilton Hotel.

Sandy reminded the board that the LWVUS National Convention will be in Washington D.C. in 2016 and encourage as many as possible to attend; she said it would be well worth the trip.

Susan Calkins announced we will be receiving an invitation to a small reception at the Beachwalk Clubhouse to host Susan Glickman (our speaker at the Nov 9 General Meeting at the Hilton).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

Submitted by Robin Larkin, Secretary