

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF COLLIER COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – GENERAL FUND
COLLIER ATHLETIC CLUB
March 1, 2010**

Present: Rose DiBiasi, Joyce Fletcher, Lydia Galton, Marjorie Joder, Anne Lewallen, Sandy Parker, Bernice Schmelz, Kathleen Slebodnik,

Absent: Pat Snyder, Chris Straton

Guests: None

Previous to the regularly scheduled Board meeting, members electronically approved an additional expenditure of \$200 for the Anniversary Party.

The meeting was called to order by President Sandy Parker at 9:05 a.m. A quorum was deemed present for conducting business.

The Board Agenda was approved as amended, and the following **Consent Agenda** items were moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

1. Acceptance of the Financial Statements ending February 27, 2010.
2. Acceptance of the President's and Committee Reports for filing.
3. Approval of Proposed Bylaw Changes

Unfinished Business

1. It was the consensus of the Board that the nay votes from February's Board Meeting re Luncheon No-Shows need not be recorded by name, and the Minutes of February 1, 2010 were approved as distributed.
2. **Redistricting Hot Topics Program** – Senator Bob Graham was invited as our speaker on April 26 and the Collier Athletic Club was reserved. Due to a schedule conflict, he is not able to attend. We have contacted his office with alternative dates and discussed possible speakers if he cannot attend.
3. **Conflict of Interest Policy** – Motion to adopt as revised at the February Board Meeting was made by L. Galton, seconded by M. Joder. Motion passed unanimously. The Policy is attached to these minutes and will be posted with the minutes on the website.

New Business

1. **Nominations Committee Report** – L. Galton reported in the absence of Chair Jen Walker that the committee has completed its work. The slate of officers, directors and nominating committee will be presented for election at the Annual Meeting in April. Proposed officers and directors will be introduced to members at the March 8 business meeting.
2. **General Fund Budget for 2010-11** – S. Parker presented the proposed budget for coming fiscal year. Following a discussion of format, B. Schmelz moved and M. Joder seconded the budget to be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting in April. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **2010-11 LWVCC Program** – Portfolio Chairs discussed their committee programs which will be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting. Housing, International Relations and Natural Resources will not be included for approval since they do not currently have chairs. Following discussion, L. Galton moved and J. Fletcher seconded to accept for presentation the following Programs: Education, Government, Justice, and Social Policy as revised. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Board Evaluations** – Board members were asked to complete a Board Evaluation. S. Parker compiled the results and based on these findings the following recommendations will be made to next year's Board:
 - Cut off financials two weeks prior to the Board meeting to ease end-of-the-month pressure on the Treasurer.
 - Set goals for the coming year at the October Board Meeting.
 - Develop a process for long-term strategic planning.
 - Request that General Meeting attendees who do not eat lunch sign in so we know how many people come to our programs as well as attend the luncheons.
 - Give the Treasurer time at Board Orientation to explain the difference between the Education Fund and the General Fund and review procedures for collecting monies on behalf of the League and requesting reimbursements.
 - Initiate a way of recognizing people who have been a special help to the president or the League in general. A suggestion was made that we recognize one member per month at our General Meetings.

- Have the Finance Committee recommend a use for a surplus in the General Fund account. Include in this recommendation a suggested amount to be kept as a minimum balance.

The meeting was recessed at 11:45 a.m.

Following the adjournment of the Education Fund Board Meeting, the General Fund Board Meeting was called back to order. A quorum was present for conducting business.

5. **Anniversary Party** – J. Fletcher reported that Proclamations recognizing the 90th Anniversary of LWVUS and the 35th Anniversary of LWVCC will be read at the Naples City Council on March 17 at 8:30 a.m. and at the Board of County Commissioners on March 23 at 9 a.m. Members are encouraged to attend these meetings.
6. **Sale of Sponsorships in the VOTER** – Crystal Kinzel, Finance Director for the Clerk of Courts and member of the LWVCC Finance Committee, offered to raise \$50 per issue in return for a sponsorship statement in our VOTER. To avoid the appearance of endorsement of a candidate, the office, not the name of the individual, would be used. It was decided to get more information from other local Leagues to see if this is a common practice.
7. **April Board Meeting** – All future Board members, to be elected and appointed, will be invited to attend the April 5 Board Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Slebodnik
Secretary

League of Women Voters of Collier County and
League of Women Voters of Collier County Education Fund
Conflict of Interest Policy

Background

According to the League of Women Voters of the United States, “The League’s overall image and credibility in the community may be affected if conflict of interest issues arise. Therefore, Leagues should adopt a conflict of interest policy related to board members’ paid employment, service on other boards (including League boards at other levels), personal lobbying, etc. Generally, a board member, as a private individual, may serve on the board of a non-League organization or corporation—but should notify the League board of the appointment; League titles should be listed for identification purposes only.”

Policy

This policy only addresses financial conflicts of interest and extends to Board members only. The following policies shall be reviewed and adopted at the first Board of Directors meeting of the newly elected Board.

- Board members must disclose in writing all organizations with which they serve on the board or as paid staff.
- Board members must disclose in writing paid employment and compensated lobbying.
- Whenever there is a potential conflict of interest, the party involved is responsible for raising the possibility to the President and asking for Board guidance.
- At any meeting where there is a potential conflict of interest agenda item, this conflict of interest policy should be reiterated by the President.
- The Board will determine whether the party involved may participate in discussion.
- If it is determined that there is a conflict of interest, the party involved will not count towards a quorum on this item, and must leave the room when a vote is taken.

Adopted by the Board of the League of Women Voters of Collier County and the Board of the League of Women Voters of Collier County Education Fund, March 1, 2010.