**League of Women Voters of New Mexico**

**2016 Council**

**New Mexico Consortium, Los Alamos**

**May 21, 2016 Minutes**

**Attendees:** Meredith Machen, Dick Mason, Diane Goldfarb, Barbara Calef, Tarin Nix, Akkana Peck, Judy Williams, Linda Moscarella, Karen Douglas, Andrea Targhetta, Gail Owens, Gwen Hanson, Yvonne Flores, Bonnie Votaw, Cheryl Haaker, Rosmarie Frederickson, Becky Shankland, Karyl Ann Armbruster, Mark Jones, Lynn Jones, Kathy Taylor, George Taylor, Natalie Agraz, Suzanne Schmidt

**Call to order 12:45**

Meredith Machen acknowledged Barbara Calef for her long service to the Los Alamos League, the Los Alamos League for hosting and organizing the meeting and lunch, and Cheryl Haaker for her service as treasurer of the state League.

Meredith asked for two readers of the Council minutes. Becky Shankland and Barbara Calef volunteered.

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

**Speaker**

Yvonne Flores was the event speaker. Her talk was about the difficulties faced by non-U.S. citizens and even citizens near the Mexican border. She said that immigration law hasn’t changed in decades, but the interpretation and enforcement of the laws has changed. Instead of simply ordering people who have entered the country illegally to depart, law enforcement takes them into custody and prosecutors label them as having “potential for removal.” This sends them into the judicial system, and courts issue an order of deportation. If the individual re-enters illegally, they can be charged with a felony. People are often held for too long and are deprived of their civil rights. The number of prosecutions has risen dramatically over the last several years, flooding the courts.

**President’s report**

The New Mexico League has been studying issues, educating the public, working on ethics and elections issues. Membership in some Leagues has grown. Meredith remarked that the Santa Fe League is publishing a first pre-primary Voter Guide; it will appear in the Sunday New Mexican.

**Membership/Leadership Development**

Lynn Jones reported that as of January there were 474 New Mexico League members: Los Alamos 58, CNM 201, SFC 121, GLC 91, and MAL 3.

Linda Moscarella reported on the MLD project; she is coaching Central New Mexico and Greater Las Cruces. She mentioned that Santa Fe and Los Alamos don’t wish to participate. She said the MLD contributes to communication across Leagues, and that it is useful to have a network. The general guidance recommends cross-generation teams and 5 steps to develop new leaders.

**Presentation and discussion of budget for FY 2016-17.**

Cheryl Haaker reported on the past year’s budget, expenditures and funds remaining. She said there is a good sum of money in the bank, and the League is currently in the black. Her report is attached to these minutes.

On behalf of the Budget Committee, Rosmarie Frederickson presented the 2016-17 Budget to Council delegates for their information. Meredith thanked her and the Committee for their work and said it would be helpful in planning and tracking our expenditures.  Judy asked about the deficit for the coming year and was told that it would be made up the following year. Dick reminded delegates that LWVNM is on a two-year budget cycle and that there was no need for a budget report at Council unless the board requests a change.\*

The LWVUS Convention budget was discussed, and members recommended an additional member attend the convention along with Meredith. Dick commented that it was a matter for board discussion. Meredith thanked the budget committee for its work on the two-year budget. The committee consisted of Adair Waldenberg, Rosmarie Fredrickson and Cheryl Haaker. The budget for the next year was accepted.

**Program report – Studies**

The charter school regulation study is the sole state study at this time. Meredith Machen reported that there is an active committee and they are reviewing the regulations. In addition, the Public Education Commission is working on charter school performance standards. The Legislative Education Study Committee is studying “virtual schools” and an equitable funding structure. There is increasing scrutiny of charter schools.

**Other reports**

Committee Reports were given for Natural Resources and Action.Verbal reports were also given by local Leagues.

Finally, Meredith Machen asked attendees to complete and return the forms containing directions to the board.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

\*In accordance with the LWVNM bylaws, in Council years the Treasurer brings the proposed budget to the March Board meeting for review, noting any substantial changes. The Board then decides whether the changes are substantial enough to revise the budget for the second year of the two-year cycle. If so, the Treasurer presents the recommended changes to the budget to Council for approval.

**Treasurer’s Report *LWVNM Council*** *16 May 2016*

**Operating Fund**

Balance Sheet: 4/30/2015 (last year) $18,600.92

5/15/2016 (now) $21,411.54

difference gain of $2,810.62

The Budget v Actual report was run out from May 1, 2015 – May 15, 2016 in order to pick up a few 2015-6 FY expenses that didn’t come in until after May 1. There are probably others outstanding: I haven’t gotten LWV US Convention registration information from anyone but Meredith so far.

Further, the Budget v Actual report eliminates any “all zero” rows and anything for which there was no budget, so it looks pretty concise. There’s no contributions, no fundraising, no special events, no new grants on the income side, and no Board admin, no Voter Services, etc on the expense side.

The year closed with a profit of $2,810, more than had been budgeted for.

**Education Fund**

Balance Sheet:

4/30/2015 (last year) $1,137.71

5/15/2016 (now) $1,257.71

difference   gain of $120.00

The Ed Fund took in $120 and spent nothing. There is a $15 contribution included on a membership check deposited in the Operating Fund which will need to be transmitted to the LWVUS-administered LWVNM Ed Fund, along with any others that might come in.

**PAVP Grant**

Balance Sheet:

4/30/2015 (last year) $1,054.08

5/15/2016 (now)   $ 339.87

 difference decrease of $714.21

The seemingly-immortal PAVP Grant, which we first got from LWV US in 2012 is down to $340, although it probably won’t be all spent until George RR Martin completes all 7 (8? 9?) volumes of “A Song of Ice & Fire.” A possible moral: don’t apply for grants unless you have a plan to actually spend the money. My humble opinion.

*former treasurer Cheryl Haaker*

*Minutes read by Becky Shankland in 2016, reviewed again 6.14.2019*