

Whitewater-Area League of Women Voters Annual Meeting

**May 10, 2014; 10:00AM
Fairhaven Fellowship Hall, Whitewater**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Ellen Penwell, President, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:25 am. She also gave a special thanks to Judge Adelman for striking down the new voter ID law in Wisconsin.

Attending the annual meeting were sixteen members including: Ellen Penwell (President), Anita Loch (Vice President), Winona Campbell, Virginia Laurent, Betty Refior, Emma Lou Sederholm (Directors) and Jean Leedham, Lynn Binnie, L. D. Rockwell, Stacey Lunsford, Arlene Newhouse, Gloria Weigandt, Marion Burrows, Betsy Brandt, Tom Drucker, and Gerry Jennings.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and Penwell asked for a motion to approve. Burrows so moved and Lunsford seconded the motion with unanimous approval of the Agenda.

3. Minutes of Annual Meeting - May 25, 2013

Copies of the minutes for last year's Annual Meeting were distributed and Penwell asked for comments or corrections. Jennings moved to approve, Leedham seconded and Minutes were unanimously adopted.

4. Introduction of 2013-2014 Board Members

The President then recognized officers and others performing duties for the League. Each individual gave a brief overview of the past year and were given a special League pin by Penwell to thank them for their service. She also communicated that Loch was nominated to the US Board for the League of Women Voters with election at the June convention. Penwell presented Loch with a beautiful yellow rose as a token of friendship from the Whitewater League.

Drucker then recognized Penwell for her professional leadership as President and presented her with lovely plants for her garden as a thank you from all the members.

10 board positions. 3 vacant this past year (Secretary, 2 Directors)

Anita Loch (Vice President)

Julia Ross (Treasurer/Banner Painter)

Emma Lou Sederholm (Director)

Winona Campbell (Director)

Virginia Laurent (Director)

Betty Refior (Director)

Auxiliary Services

Election Night Reporting (Winona Campbell)

Website Webmistress (Stacey Lunsford)

Membership Chair/MRI/Phone Tree Coordinator (Gerry Jennings)

Publicity Chair (Virginia Laurent)

Newsletter Editor (Anita Loch)

5. Review of 2013-2014 Activities

The President then reviewed a very busy year of activities during 2013 through 2014 indicated below. It was a very successful year for fund raising efforts with our garage sale, parade prize, and election night duties. We also had a record attendance for our holiday dinner with the annual presentation for the Make Democracy Work Award.

July 4th of July Parade, Remember Your Forefathers and Mothers! (2st place \$125)

August Garage Sale Fundraiser, over \$700 raised

September PROGRAM, State of the City, Cameron Clapper, WW City Manager

October PROGRAM, documentary film on immigration, *The Dream is Now*

October Issues Briefing in Madison

November PROGRAM, documentary film on poverty, *The Line*, panel discussion with representatives from Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Bethel House, and Eric Runez WWUSD

December League Holiday Dinner, 2014 *Making Democracy Work* Award presentation to ESL Teachers, record attendance, over 75 dinner reservations

January Start of League's 50th Anniversary Year!! Notecards produced for sale.

January PROGRAM, Whitewater's Natural Resources - Water, Dan Sable speaker

February PROGRAM, canceled due to weather

March CANDIDATE FORUM, Whitewater Municipal Election, Voter's Guide

March PROGRAM, Voucher System, Pros and Cons, Jeff Pertle from State Superintendent's Office, re-scheduled from February

April PROGRAM, documentary film, *Inequality for All*, membership only

May Board adopts a website policy

Penwell also took time to express special thanks to our many partners who help to make our Whitewater Area League successful. Each member in attendance signed a note card expressing our appreciation for all they do for us.

THANK YOU NOTE to Alan Lockett, Whitewater Community Television

THANK YOU NOTE to Jim Stewart, Whitewaterbanner
THANK YOU NOTE to City for room reservations
THANK YOU NOTE to Michael Glish, WFAW Radio
THANK YOU NOTE to Tom Ganser, freelance reporter
THANK YOU NOTE to Chris Welch, Jefferson Daily Union

6. Treasurer's Annual Report and Proposed 2014-2015 Budget

The President then reviewed the Annual Budget for 2013-2014 (attached to minutes). There were no comments and Lunsford moved to approve, Campbell seconded and adopted with unanimous approval.

The Proposed Annual Budget for 2014-2015 was then reviewed with members by the President (attached to minutes). Drucker raised a question on dues received and then subsequently paid out to state and national which he and the Treasurer will discuss after the meeting. With that exception, Rockwell moved to adopt, Burrows seconded and members unanimously approved.

Penwell then passed out an analysis of a proposal to establish PayPal payment method on our website. In polling the membership, it was felt that the group was not large enough to incur the extra expense. Also, there was some concern that not all members would take advantage of such a feature. The new Board will review this summer and make a final decision.

7. Presentation of Slate of Officers and Election. Report from the Nominating Committee (Gerry Jennings and Tom Drucker)

Drucker reviewed the process for nominating a Slate of Officers and the Nominating Committee. Given the difficult task to nominate a new President, with Penwell wishing to take a break, decision was to provide a transition year with Penwell and Drucker. The new slate for 2015-2017 will again include a nomination for President for the Whitewater Area LWV. Also, a non-member of the Board is also needed to join the Nominating Committee for next year. No recommendations from the floor were received and the Board will need to recruit this important vacancy.

Rockwell moved and Brandt seconded to approve the Slate of Nominees as recommended by the Nominating Committee. Unanimous approval from the members. Penwell then thanked the Nominating Committee for a job well done.

BOARD NOMINEES (in italics & red)

<i>President</i>	<i>Ellen Penwell</i>	<i>(5/2014 - 12/2014)</i>
	<i>Tom Drucker</i>	<i>(1/2015 - 5/2015)</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Ellen Penwell</i>	<i>(2015 - 2016)</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Anita Loch</i>	<i>(2014 - 2016)</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Julia Ross</i>	<i>(2013 - 2015)</i>
<i>Director:</i>	<i>Betty Refior</i>	<i>(2013 - 2015)</i>
<i>Director:</i>	<i>Winona Campbell</i>	<i>(2013 - 2015)</i>
<i>Director:</i>	<i>Virginia Laurent</i>	<i>(2014 - 2016)</i>

Director: Emma Lou Sederholm (2014 - 2016)
Director: L.D. Rockwell (2014 - 2016)
Director: Jane Roberts (2014 - 2016)
Director: Gerry Jennings (2014 - 2015)

Nominating Com Anita Loch, Board member (1-year term 2014 - 2015)
Nominating Com _____, League member (1-year term 2014 - 2015)

8. Discussion and Adoption of 2013-2014 Program

Penwell led the discussion on the adoption of a Program for 2013-2014. Drucker and Loch recommended that we emphasize voting and women’s issues for programs tied to our 50th Anniversary. Refior recommended implementation of the 1971 resolution for both the US and UN flag to be flown at City Hall.

No other recommendations were discussed and Penwell led a raised hand vote for each of the programming topics. Each member was allotted two votes for their choice of topic. The votes are indicated below by each topic for consideration by the new Board in developing next year’s Program Schedule.

- **National** – to be determined at LWVUS convention
- **State** – to be determined at LWVWI Annual Meeting
- **Local – programming topics recommended by the board**
- focus on 50th Anniversary of Whitewater League 13
- impact of cuts on city budget 12
- bus transportation issues, Janesville – Whitewater 1
- east side development 0
- bike path development 2
- 1971 resolution to display both US and UN at City Hall (from floor) 1

9. Summer Activities

Penwell led the discussion of the upcoming summer activities and highlighted several. The 4th of July Parade will include celebration of our 50th with founding members recognized and include children reflecting our future. Volunteers are needed to help with the planning and joining the parade.

Our major focus this coming year will be on our 50th Anniversary Celebration with the October 11th Program commemorating the achievement. Penwell passed out the current draft of planning ideas which is attached to the minutes. There will also be a case display in the Library as well. Again, reminded everyone to reach our goal of 50 members for our 50th Anniversary.

- A. LWVWI Annual Meeting, May 30-31st, Appleton. Whitewater League is allotted 3 voting delegates (Ellen, Anita, Gerry), reservation deadline May 20th
- B. 4th of July Parade
- C. 2014 *Making Democracy Work* Award
- D. October 11th, 50th Anniversary Celebration

10. Adjourn Meeting

Penwell thanked everyone for their attendance at our Annual Meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn. Rockwell so moved with second by Leedham and unanimous approval from the members to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Loch