

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER TUCSON
Minutes of the Annual Meeting, April 17, 2015
Mountain Oyster Club
6500 E. El Dorado Circle, Tucson, Arizona

CALL To Order: The Annual Meeting was called to order by President Judy Moll at 10:31 a.m. The President introduced the new members that were present.

Appointments: Moll announced the following appointments: Parliamentarian , Joan Kaltsas; Timekeeper , Chris Angle; Minutes Committee, Wendy Gamble and Maureen Salz.

Credentials Report: Nancy Pfafflin reported there were 45 members and 3 guests present and there was a quorum. (60 persons total in attendance as some were late arrivals).

Minutes: The minutes of the April 25, 2014 Annual Meeting had been read by the Minutes Committee, adopted by the Board and filed.

Additions: Moll added the following to the agenda: Gini McGirr, Bylaws Amendment; Wendy Gamble, Observer Report.

Adoption of Meeting Rules: Moved by Phylis Carnahan/Shirley Sandelands, **that the Meeting Rules as printed in the Call be Adopted. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Patsy Franea gave the Financial Overview through April 15, 2015 for FY 2014 – 2015 as follows: Regular Checking Account \$ 30,675; Money Market Account \$ 5028; PayPal Account \$ 530; LWVGT Ed Fund \$ 6795; LWVGT Endowment Fund, \$150,860 (as of 3/31/15).

Budget: Franea **moved the adoption of the Operating Budget on page 6 of the Call. (No second required) Motion carried.**
Comment: Budget effective July 1, 2015.

Education Fund Worksheet: Franea explained the Education Fund Worksheet on page 7 of the Call. No discussion.

Endowment Fund Report: Franea reported on the Endowment Fund Report. No discussion.

Adoption of Recommended Program: Nancy Pfafflin, 2nd VP, Program, advised that there were three studies coming out of LWVUS: Amendment to the Constitution, Money in Politics and Redistricting. She advised that the LWVAZ convention will be in May and there is no proposed new study this year.

Pfafflin **moved the adoption of the Recommended/Non/Recommended Program as printed on page 8 of the Call.**

The Board recommended the following positions to be dropped: Local Studies: Inside Metropolitan Tucson; Local Positions: Government: B. Council Elections and C. Council-Manager Government
The Board recommended that all other positions be retained.

New Study: An Update of the Education Finance Position.

Focus: Determine if financing of education is equitable between traditional and charter public schools, private schools enrolling Students with Empowerment Scholarship Accounts, schools enrolling students with Charitable Tax Donation scholarships, and schools receiving Charitable Tax Donations directly.

Survey both public and private schools in a few urban and rural school districts surrounding TUSD. (TUSD would be excluded because it was surveyed for the charter school study.) Inform other Leagues in the state and encourage them to do similar surveys, enhancing the possibility that any position the local League reaches might be concurred with at the state level. The Eastside Unit to take the lead on the study.

Considerable discussion centered on the extensive nature of the topic of education finance, such as manpower costs, excluding TUSD, whether LWVGT can collaborate with other groups, would it be state wide or local study.

Grace Evans/Judy Bowser **moved the study be adopted with collaboration with AAUW.**

Betty Geehan **moved that the first sentence in the second paragraph be deleted.**

Friendly Amendment by Paula Wilks **to allow discretion about including TUSD. Motion carried.**

Betty Bengtson/Shirley Munez **moved to delete the entire paragraph 2. Motion carried.**

Evans accepted an amendment to her previous motion **for the adopted study to be taken to the 2015 LWVAZ Convention and be recommended as a state study with collaboration with other organizations. Motion carried.**

The Board also recommended that a new White Paper on Alternative Energy be written. This would address problems with large-scale renewable energy and the inadequacy of the grid system to accommodate energy from solar, wind, and thermal sources. Winifred Williams, Northwest Unit Chair, is willing to be the author.

Motion to be voted on: Adopt the entire 2015-2016 Recommended/Non Recommended Program with amendments to the Update Education Finance Position and adopting the White Paper. Motion carried with __1__ Nay.

Nominating Committee Report: Carol West, Nominating chair, **moved the adoption of the slate of proposed Officers and Directors on page 11 of the Call:** 1st VP (Membership), Freda Johnson/ Pat Wiedhopf ; 3rd VP (Voter Service), Marilyn Smoler; Treasurer, David Horr; Directors: Chris Angle, Jen Darland, Janice Murphy; Nominating Committee Chair (Off-Board) , Betsy Bolding. West thanked the Nominating Committee members for their hard work in developing the slate: Marion Pickens, Paula Wilk, Dorothy Riley, and Janice Murphy.

Moll asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Moll asked for a motion to close nominations. **Moved by Betty Bengtson/Betty Geehan, to close nominations and cast a unanimous vote. Motion carried.** Moll then directed the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot.

Introduction of New Board Members: New Board members were asked to stand and be recognized. Moll then introduced the remaining Board members and those who are retiring from the Board and thanked them for their service. Those retiring from the Board are: Thais Rutledge Young, Sue DeArmond, Patsy Frannea, Maxine Goodman, Gini McGirr and Freda Johnson. Moll also introduced the Unit Chairs: East Side, Phylis Carnahan; Green Valley, Sue Girardeau; Midtown, Freda Johnson/ Sue DeArmond; Northwest, Janis Lee/Winifred Williams; SaddleBrooke, Laura Benson/ Bev Kloehn.

Adoption of Bylaws Amendment: McGirr advised that the first three articles of every state and local League Bylaws must conform to the LWVUS Bylaws which were recently amended so this amendment is needed at this time. McGirr **moved that the Bylaw Amendment on page 5 of the Call be adopted.** (No second needed) **Motion carried.** The new Article reads as follows:

Article 111- Membership.

Section 2. Type of Membership.

- a. Voting Members. Citizens at least 18 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local Leagues, state Leagues, and of the LWVUS.
 1. Individuals who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League.

Project Reports:

Running & Winning: Shirley Sandelands provided a verbal and written summary of this program, including its purpose and goals. This was the 13th year of the program. Plans are under way for the Fall 2015 program at Flowing Wells High School.

Voter Service: Sue DeArmond reported on the many activities completed this very busy election year: a forum for the Republican primary ; 5 forums for state offices ; voter registrations ;printed and delivered 5000 copies of the 2015 Citizen's Directory to Elected Officials; ran elections for a Tucson HOA and for the Police Department on behalf of the city of Tucson: collaborated with the Communications Committee in the video production of the " Is Democracy for Sale?" panel presentation for our Jan. 17th General Meeting. Committee members and volunteers were thanked for their many successful efforts.

Human Trafficking: Joan Kaltsas spoke about the LWVGT and UUAW advocacy efforts which helped to pass an initial law which vacates convictions for former prostitutes in AZ. Also AZ is now designated as a Zero Tolerance Zone for Human Trafficking. Joan represented the LWVGT at the AZ Legislature, along with AAUW, on April 1, 2015 to receive special recognition of their support. Human Trafficking (HT) Committee members were thanked for their hard work. The HT legislation was sponsored by State Representative Victoria Steele, LD-9.

Communications: In the absence of Roxanne Housley, Bob Richardson summarized the committee's achievements this year. Of special note is that beginning Fall 2015, the Voter will be sent electronically. For those still wanting a written copy, please notify the office. The joint effort of Communications and Voter Service Committees was noted relative to the video production of the "Is Democracy For Sale? " panel presentation. It is now on our web site and a DVD version is available for sale. Committee members were thanked for all their hard work and contributions.

Development: Carol West announced that about \$11,500 has been raised this year. West explained why fund raising is so important for the LWVGT to continue its community service .Committee members were thanked for their efforts.

President's Report: Moll gave a year-end review of the LWVGT achievements. Volunteer Week was mentioned and all the League members-volunteers were thanked for their support and hard work making this year so successful. A request has been received from Habitat For Humanity Tucson for volunteers for their All Woman Build on May 9th as walls are raised on another new home.

Lunch: Speakers were: Carolyn Cox, Former Pima County Republican Party Chair and Donald Jorgensen, Former Pima County Democratic Party Chair whose topic was" Is Democracy for Sale? Where Do the Political Parties Stand?"

Leaguer of the year: Sue DeArmond, 2014 Award recipient, presented the award to Roxanne Housley. Sue listed Roxanne's many contributions to the LWVGT as Communications Chair.

Recognition of Office Volunteers: Moll called office volunteers forward to receive recognition for their commitment to managing the office. Trish O'Flaherty, Dottie Davis; Judy Bowser, Carol West, Grace Evans, Bob Richardson, Dorothy Riley, Janice Murphy, Marty Cortez. Moll presented each with a gift of appreciation. Sue Girardeau was thanked for her many years providing refreshments at our General Meetings and for arranging our Annual Meeting location and menu. Ken and Joanne Bierman and the mail crew who fold and label the Voter each month were recognized.

50 Year League Members: A Certificate of Appreciation signed by the president of the LWVUS was presented to Gini McGirr on celebration of her 50 years as a League member. Others in the 50 Year League Club are: Betty Geehan (previously recognized), Janet Margison, Helen Schaefer and Jane "Pete" Williams.

Directions To The New Board: Request made to consider having the General Meetings at other times than a Saturday morning to accommodate those still working and/or have small children.

Directions To Delegates to LWVAZ Convention: The State Convention is May 16 -17, 2015 in Clarkdale, AZ. LWVGT delegates attending are: Judy Moll, Nancy Pfaffin, Joan Kaltras, Winifred Williams, Chris Angle, Jen Darland, Freda Johnson, Janice Murphy, Carol Johnson, Marilyn Smoler.

One suggestion: What can we all do together to get more people to vote?

Adjournment: The 2014 Annual meeting adjourned at 1:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorothy E. Riley, Secretary

The Minutes were read and corrected by Wendy Gamble and Maureen Salz and then approved by the Board of Directors.

Wendy Gamble

Date

Maureen Salz

Date