

League of Women Voters of Waltham
Board Minutes
September 2, 2008

Held at the home of Erica Zissman, 76 Lawrence St.

Called to order at 7:45 p.m.

Erica Zissman presiding

Present: B. Bateman, G. Clancy, S. Drowns, J. Forkin, G. Hallock, C. Murphy, J. Steinberg, K. Walz

1. Secretary's report of 6/3/08 accepted
2. Treasurer's report of July, August 2008 accepted
3. Announcements
 - LWVUS will attempt to arrange for Presidential debates
 - LWVUS has adopted a study of the feasibility of using the National Popular Vote Compact as a method of electing the President. The committee will post the background materials on the LWVUS web site, and will conduct the study by e-mail and conference calls. LWVUS will provide consensus material to local Leagues. Deadline for submitting consensus forms will be May 1, 2009.
 - The LWVMA Day on the Hill is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4, 2009.
 - The Guardian of Democracy Award Ceremony has been moved from May to the night of Thursday, March 12, 2009.
4. Old Business
 - Jean Steinberg and Erica Zissman attended the Fernald Self-Advocacy Group meeting about the Presidential election. Faythe Cate distributed packets about the three major candidates to the clients. Some of the attendees live at Fernald, and others from Waltham and other community settings. Members of the group were reminded about what to pay attention to regarding the election, and were asked what some of their major concerns were about national government. The group asked for a return visit from the League on October 9.
 - Someone is still needed to keep records of LWVWaltham activities. Please try to think of someone who might enjoy keeping track of our activities and updating scrapbooks.
 - The Spelling Bee will be held on Oct. 23. Possible team members would be Christina Camacho, Joan Garniss, Karen Walz. Cathy Murphy will check with Christina Camacho, the gifted speller of the League.
 - According to Joan Garniss, the library would like us to set up a table about voting at the entrance. Gloria Clancy volunteered to recruit Batsy Bateman or Joan Garniss to help.

5. New Business

- Diane Jeffery, LWVMA President, has volunteered to visit local Leagues, to get acquainted. It was decided to invite her to Pot Luck Supper.
- Participants are needed for the Phonathon (in October?). Check with the State web site to sign up. Erica Zissman was not certain as to whether or not we need a group to participate, or if individuals can make a commitment to attend on a convenient evening.
- Calendar:
 - Georgie Hallock will ask Councilor McMenimen to speak to us on the topic of impact fees some time in October.
 - Board Meetings: Oct. 7, S. Drowns; Nov. 11, G. Clancy; Dec. 2, J. Garniss; Jan. 6, J. Forkin; Feb. 3, G. Hallock; March 3, K. Walz; April 7, G. Clancy
- Pot Luck Supper:

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375 Lexington St., 6:15. p.m. Erica will contact Esther Seeley to activate the phone tree, in order to encourage attendance, and to ask what dishes attendees would provide (and also to try to be sure that there would be a good balance of items—not just all salads or desserts!). At the Board meeting, members listed their offerings: K. Walz, couscous; C. Murphy, lasagna; J. Forkin, Caesar salad; G. Clancy, cake; S. Drowns, garlic bread; E. Zissman, coffee/milk; Members will be asked to prepare a dish sufficient for eight persons. G. Clancy will set up, perhaps to be helped by Betsy B. or Joan G. G. Hallock has table ware (table cloths, paper plates, etc.) Erica will encourage attendees to sign up for this year's projects and activities. The speaker, Patti Muldoon, will address the group at 7 p.m.

- At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting this week, the first permits for 1 Moody St. are coming up. Joan Garniss hoped that one of us would be able to attend. Shelley Drowns offered to go.
- Brandeis students are interested in becoming members. There was a lengthy discussion of how that could be done for the half-price student dues. A further discussion on helping new members to participate more readily followed. It was said that some Boards and Commissions would be better for new members to observe, rather than City Council meetings, which can be lengthy and difficult to follow. Shelley Drowns would like a "talking points" handout to give to people who don't know about the League. Perhaps the interested college students could work on compiling a local League history covering some of the highlights of our activities of the last several years. Erica thought we should schedule a separate meeting to work on this direction. Gloria and Shelley will study the state and

national positions on health care as a beginning, in order to bring members up to date on this important election topic. Gloria will encourage the two Brandeis students who have been helping at the Farmers' Market table, Becky Sniderman and Tegan Kehoe, to participate in this health care project.

- Local League Website: Shelley Drowns is working on the site. She reports that we can build a website from the League's templates, but she would like some help about choosing the content of the pages. There would be a public page and a members-only page. The site can be built one page at a time; it doesn't have to be done all at once. There would also be links to other sites. What, she wondered, should be on the opening page? Numerous suggestions were made.

6. Committee Reports: there were no Committee Reports

Adjournment was at approximately 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Steinberg, Secretary