

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of the MID-HUDSON REGION

BOARD Meeting Minutes

November 28, 6:00 pm

Home of Jacki Moriarty

167 Apple Hill Road, Hurley, NY 12443

6:00pm Call to Order

Present: Dare Thompson (NY State President), Jolanda Jansen (President), Doug Thompson (Treasurer), Soyal Smalls (Secretary), Jean McGarry, Daisy Tyler, Jennifer Clark, Nora Scherer, Jacki Moriarty, Kathy Oconnor, Dorothy Winrow, Margaret Sellers,
Absent: Cindy Bell (Vice President)

100th Anniversary of the Women's Right to Vote Event.

Margaret Sellers, Vic Melville, Jennifer Clark, and Jacki Moriarty attended

The New York State Education Department and the Office of Cultural Education had an opening on November 4th, 2017 of a large exhibited entitled, "Votes for Women: Celebrating New York's Suffrage Centennial", at the New York State Museum. For more information visit

<http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/exhibitions/votes-for-women>

People who were working the event were very welcoming

NY State League President, Dare Thompson was a speaker at the event

Political Parties Platform (November 18th)

22 attendants

Those who attended the event enjoyed the speakers

The sound system worked great! Beneficial investment purchased by the LWVMHR last year!!!

Civil Discussion among the speakers of different parties

**Condolence Letter from the League to the Hinchey's (Maurice Hinchey passed away).

**Check in with Irene McInnis.

**Dorothy will help the Executive Committee by passing on institutional knowledge about long term members. When a letter, card, gift, etc. would be appropriate to send to these members.

Next Board meeting: Tuesday January 9th at 6 PM in the home of Jackie Moriarty

Campaign Finance (Margaret Sellers)

The Program Committee has planned a League event on

January 13, Campaign Finance Discussion, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Discussion. City Hall is now charging \$250 for outside groups to have an event in their community room. No food. Kingston Library is free. Blair Horner Executive Director of NYPIRG will be a speaker. County Executive Mike Hein will be speaking. Brennan Center for Justice has not gotten back to Jennifer Clark about someone coming to speak from their organization. Draft press release will be created by Jennifer Clark and Kathy Oconnor will submit to newspapers on January 3rd.

Treasurer's Report (Doug Thompson)

Financial Report covering the last 6 months will be sent to the Board on January 1, 2018.

Gill V. Whitford (Jennifer Clark)

This is the first time the Supreme Court will hear a challenge about partisan gerrymandering. Probably won't hear the final decision until June. There are 6 states with the same issue. The lower court determined that Wisconsin's Republican-controlled legislature in 2011 was an unconstitutional partisan political gerrymandered voting districts on a partisan basis, in violation of that violated both the Equal Protection Clause and the plaintiff's First Amendment rights freedom of invalidated a redistricting plan for partisan bias.

Discussion: Possible program about redistricting and maybe connect with the county? The rules for setting up the commission for redistricting in Ulster County after the next census are currently being discussed. Dare Thompson is on the Redistricting Committee for Ulster. There is no Redistricting Committee for Dutchess.

Program Committee Report (Jacki Moriarty, Jennifer Clark, Nora Scherer)

Sunday, December 3 – Holiday Party from 2pm-4pm– 167 Apple Hill Road

Around 30 people attending at the moment

Finger Food only

Jacki has a list of who is bringing what food.

Death with Dignity Position Concurrence Meeting

Discussion: The board decided not to hold a concurrence meeting on the minor change to the Charter School position. The board did decide to hold a concurrence meeting on the Death with Dignity issue.

Death with Dignity Position Concurrence Meeting scheduled for Saturday, February 3rd, 2018 at Deising's 10am-12pm.

Margaret will make a reservation.

Due by February 15, 2018 -Two requests for opinion:

Modify State League 2017 position on Charter Schools

LWVNYS Statewide Concurrence on Death with Dignity Position

**Jolanda Jansen will send out information about this position to the board.

**The Program Committee will read over the material and decide when they will meet to prepare for this meeting.

Publicity

Informative Article in a PR Blast will be created. It will provide background information to League Members on the Death with Dignity position adopted by another League and the two bill currently in the NY State Legislature.

Action Committee Report (Jean McGarry)

Faso Friday at Noon 721 Broadway, Kingston

Networking event

Anyone can attend. If you don't have a sign there are ones available for use

League members have been identifying themselves with pins and sashes.

Regular League member attendants have included Jean McGarry, Jacki Moriarty, Daisy Tyler, Kathy Oconnor, and Nora Scherer.

Discussion: LWV signs are issue based not against Fasso or any party. Fasso is part of the Bipartisan Climate Solution Caucus and that he voted against the House Tax Bill.

Social Justice

Discussion regarding social justice issues in Kingston and Poughkeepsie.

On November 20th there was a Kingston Police Forum
Public, at the New Progressive Baptist Church in Kingston, NY
Hosted by Citizen Action of the Hudson Valley

Soyal Smalls indicated that she was aware of social justice issues surrounding Police/Citizen interactions, the criminal justice system, and the consolidation of bus services through social media.

Dutchess County has implemented bus consolidation as recommended by the League of Women Voters Shared Services Committee, although no credit was given by Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro to the League.

Poughkeepsie Common Council has moved forward with their decision on keeping the buses which are not being used in the consolidated bus system and not handing them over to the county. This decision will incur over a million dollars in federal fines.

Natural Resources Advocates Report (Kathy Oconnor)

Membership has dwindled. Hayley Dillon will help Kathy with developing a website. The website will contain a calendar. It will list events organizes by other environmental groups so that people know what is going on. NRA committee would like to participate with other groups.

The committee is considering what will be their next primary focus, and hopefully draw more members? Possibly have a program about environmental issues for the LWVMHR in April around the time of Earth Day. This event will be organized by NRA Committee and the Program Committee.

Kathy Oconnor has arranged for Jolanda Jansen to participate in a Bard College presentation by Women and Politics Club on December 5th.

On December 7th the League will have a table with League materials at the FDR Library in Hyde Park, during their Human Rights Day event.

The Book Club is currently reading *Drawdown* by Paul Hawken, which is a great environmental book. The Book Club's next meeting January 9th, 2018 from 1:45 pm to 3:30pm at Enzo's in Kingston.

Students Inside Albany

Nora Scherer has reserved a place for one student. There is a drawing for a second student and Nora signed up the Mid Hudson Region Chapter to be in the drawing. Both students will come from the Kingston School District.

Announcement

Kathy Oconnor mentioned that for those who were not able to attend the Being Fearless Conference at the Omega institute, there will be a shorter version at the Morton Library in Rhinebeck on December 6th at 6pm.

Adjourned at 8:09pm

Calendar

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| December | 3 | Holiday Gathering, 167 Apple Hill Road, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm |
| | 5 | Natural Resources Advocates Meeting, 5:30 pm–7:00 pm
Main Course Restaurant, New Paltz |
| | 5 | Women and Politics Club 7:00 pm Bard College |
| | 6 | Being Fearless Conference by Omega Institute 6:30pm Morton
Memorial Library, 82 Kelly Street Rhinebeck NY |

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| | 7 | FDR Library Human Rights Day, LWVMHR table, setup 8 am–9am | Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center, Hyde Park |
| | 8 | Naturalization Ceremony, 11:30 am | Ulster County Courthouse
285 Wall Street, Kingston |
| January | 9 | Book club meeting, 1:45 pm-3:30 pm “Drawdown” by Paul Hawken, | Enzo's Ristorante & Pizza, 207 Boices Lane, Kingston |
| | 9 | Monthly Board Meeting 6:00 pm-8:00 pm | 167 Apple Hill Road, Hurley, NY 12443 |
| | 13 | Campaign Finance Discussion, 10:00 am-12:00 pm | Community Room, Kingston Library |
| February | 3 | Death with Dignity Position Concurrence Meeting | Deising’s 10am-12pm |

Approved by the Board on December 14, 2017

Soyal Smalls

Soyal Smalls
Secretary, LWVMHR