

LWV Mid-Hudson Region
Minutes of Board Meeting
February 5, 2013

Present: Dare Thompson (President), Irene McInnis (Vice- President), Dorothy Winrow (Treasurer), Jean McGarry (Secretary), Jolanda Jansen. Lee Ridgway, Margaret Sellers, Shirley Kobran (non-board), Cynthia Lowe (for nominating committee)

Absent: Cindy Lanzetta, Jim Mahoney, Anne Needham, Betty Chin, Esther Stickley
The board accepts with regret Cindy Bell's resignation from the board.

Call to order: 7:27

The minutes of the January meeting were accepted.

The March 23 meeting with Barbara Bartoletti cannot be held at BOCES. Dare will ask Barbara if she is able to do a luncheon meeting and will check with Barnaby's in New Paltz if there is space to hold the luncheon there.

The Annual Meeting luncheon on May 23 has been confirmed with guest speakers Liz and Jerry Benjamin. Ideas for local program are still needed. One suggestion is to study local budgets in both Dutchess and Ulster Counties. **Reminder:** Lee Ridgway will be away so she will not be able to complete the annual report but she will accept all submissions up to April 15. A volunteer is needed to complete the report.

Cynthia Lowe presented the Nominating Committee report. Thank you to Cynthia, Lee Cane, Kathy Germain, Irene McInnis, and Lee Ridgway for serving on this committee..

Four members from LWVMHR (D. Thompson, M. Sellers, N. Fogel, S.Smalls) attended Lobby Day in Albany. This was an opportunity for local leagues to learn about the extensive 2013 legislative agenda advocated by LWVNYS.

Newly elected Congressman Gibson was interviewed by league members D. Thompson, M.Sellers and A. Needham.

Speaking for the League of Women Voters, Dare implored the Dutchess County Legislature to follow the example of Ulster County and put redistricting in the hands of an independent commission. (Not heeded.)

Pattern for Progress will have a kick-off breakfast on Monday, March 4 at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. Following the breakfast will be a panel discussion featuring the county leaders.

The Commentator deadline is February 22. Jean submitted a letter written by Jim McGarry to be sent to all media outlets and libraries asking them if they would agree to receive the Commentator via e-mail to reduce postage costs. This letter will also serve as

a vehicle to get feedback on its readership. The board approved the letter with minor changes. Margaret wants to ensure that the Commentator is sent to the Legislature in a manner that it is listed as correspondence received, using paper, if necessary. She expressed concern over the lack of “visibility” in electronic transmission.

Treasurer’s Report

Checking/Savings	\$7,485.20
3 Month CD	\$16,465.45
Ed Fund	\$557.08
Total Assets	\$25,507.73

Program

Observer Corps- Lee Cane will not be able to observe meetings for two weeks. Filling in for her are Margaret S. (Health), Supervisors (Dare) and Lee R. will observe for Vic Melville (Environment). New member, Soyal Smalls, is exploring the formation of an Observer Corps to serve Dutchess County.

Voter Service- Dare has been asked and has agreed to moderate a mayoral campaign in Greenwood Lake, Orange County on February 22. The Times Herald Record is sponsoring the event.

Campaign Finance Reform in New York State will be presented by LWVNYS Executive Director, Laura Ladd Bierman on February 16, 10:30 am at the Esopus Town Hall.

Solid Waste Management- The next meeting is February 12, 5:30 pm at the Gateway Diner in Highland. The Dutchess plan will be available and member comments are due February 26. The Ulster plan is not yet available to the public. It has been sent to the D.E.C.

Students Inside Albany- Irene M. will contact KHS teacher, Mark Christian for a possible candidate to attend. Dare will contact the Oakwood School in Poughkeepsie.

Resource Development – Next meeting, February 14, 2:00 pm at Margaret Sellers’

Topics to be discussed: feasibility of a Clearwater fundraiser; possible hot topics, gun control and mental health, hydrofracking, education, jails

Dare will send out annual appeal letters to non-members.

Dare and Anne N. are examining ways to do PR (including the website and Commentator) that would insure the league is consistent and using all opportunities.

The next board meeting will be March 5 at 7:15 pm at the home of Shirley Kobran.
Adjourned: 9:15

Respectfully submitted,
Jean McGarry