

LWV Mid-Hudson Region  
**Minutes of Board Meeting**  
**March 6, 2012**

Present: Dare Thompson (President), Irene McInnis (Vice-President), Dorothy Winrow (Treasurer), Jean McGarry (Secretary), Lee Ridgway, Anne Needham, Cindy Bell, Margaret Sellers, Jim Mahoney, Cindy Lanzetta, Esther Stickley, Lee Cane (non-board)

Absent: Betty Chin  
Call to order: 7:19

**Annual Meeting (May 24, Town of Esopus Library)**

Lee Cane, chairperson of the **Nominating Committee**, presented the board with the 2012- 2013 nominating slate. (No action required by the board.)

Margaret Sellers, chairperson of Resource Development, presented the 2012-2013 **budget**. (Margaret S., Lee R.) Accepted unanimously. There was discussion on possible ways to raise more money. This will continue at the committee's meeting on March 8.

Lee Ridgway presented the **by-laws** changes. There was some concern that the by-laws needed to be more reflective of the LWVUS trend of having less restrictive by-laws. It was felt that with a few minor changes, the board would accept the current format and if necessary, make any needed changes next year.

**Local Program-** Lee Cane asked for an extension of the Ulster Shared Services study (see below for rationale) and the Dutchess Shared Services Committee will also ask to continue their work. Cindy Lanzetta asked for the continuation of the Solid Waste study. We will continue to follow the Ulster Co. charter revision process. Cindy Bell will ask on May 24 if there's enough interest in hydrofracking (already a LWVNYS action item) to have a local action committee.

The Nominating Committee's report, the board-approved budget, the board-approved by-laws changes, and the board-approved local program will be included in the next Commentator and will be voted upon by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

It was proposed that in addition to having Students Inside Albany participants speak at the Annual Meeting, an update be given on Charter Revision.

**Announcements**

**The next board meeting will be Tuesday, April 3** at the home of Shirley Kobran's, 53 Schuler Lane, Lake Katrine.

**Commentator due date: March 23.** Wanted: more articles like Anne Needham's, featured in this month's Commentator.

The BOCES tour and breakfast was canceled due to inclement weather. It will be rescheduled, TBA.

LWVUS Convention is June 9-12 in Washington, D.C. Call Dare for details.

Dare met with Ulster County Legislative Chairperson, Terry Bernardo. (See follow-up article in March Commentator)

The minutes of the February meeting were approved and are on the Website. (See “Board Activities” on the menu.)

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Checking/Savings	\$4462.80
3 Month CD	\$16,425.22
Ed Fund	\$769.08
Total Assets	\$21,657.10

### **Voters Service**

A draft of Guidelines for Moderating and Sponsorship to be posted on the web was presented to the board. Board members should review these guidelines and return suggestions/comments to Jean M. by March 13. A final draft will be distributed by e-mail for board approval.

Jean and Dare reviewed the LWVNYS power point presentation and program and felt it could be useful at a general meeting. Dare will pilot the program in the Town of Marlborough.

### **Program Visibility**

Dare reminded the board to promote upcoming events listed in the Commentator. Cindy Lanzetta reported that a tentative April 12 meeting on recycling is in the works. This will be the next “hot topic” event to be held in the Highland area. The recycling coordinators from both Dutchess and Ulster will be invited to speak. Dare will contact the Saugerties League to ask them to join us in setting up informational meetings with Ulster County Legislators in Saugerties. Possible future programs could be LWVUS consensus on education and privatization

**Advocacy-** Redistricting, Golden Hill, and voter access continue to be hot topics.

If the State Legislator does not come up with a plan for redistricting Congressional districts by March 15, a redistricting proposal by U.S. Magistrate Roanne Mann will go into effect. Viewing the proposed map, the board thought this was a more “rational” division of Congressional districts.

The Times Union reported that the new county executive in Albany is looking into possible privatization of its county-owned health related facility. As a county legislator, this same person opposed privatization.

Proposals for the need for photo and voter IDs are opposed by the National League and our board agreed that this would cause an undue burden on some individuals resulting in keeping them away from the polls.

**Other on-going work**

Cindy L. reported that the Solid Waste Committee meets regularly. It has generated nine new league members.

Lee Cane, Chairperson of the Ulster Shared Services Study Committee, requested an extension in order to have the time to try to complete the justice court section and to handle planning and economic development. During the past year the study committee has experienced certain problems that have prevented it from completing the work on the justice courts. The committee's initial efforts with the justice courts involving a survey did not produce the desired results. As a consequence, the committee decided to interview the town supervisors, justices and justice clerks from a selected group of the towns. While the town supervisors and the justice clerks were generally receptive, the justices asked were not generally receptive to being interviewed. Additionally, Lee reported that the loss of some committee members and health problems have delayed its work, thus the request for the extension.

Dare said that the Shared Services Committee in Dutchess is continuing its work.

Margaret S. will be scheduling the next Observer Corps meeting.

**Resource Development**

Membership has increased. Last year there were 88 members. This year there are 94. Esther S. and Dorothy W. (Membership and Leadership Development) gave Annual Meeting suggestions such as presenting awards to community people. It was also pointed out that our coach, Maggie Moehringer, was interested in how we generate ideas for the programs we present. The annual appeal to non-members still needs to be sent out. Membership renewals will be sent May 1 and will also include an appeal for donations.

Adjourned by 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean McGarry