

**Westwood/Walpole LWW
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 29, 2009
Greg Agnew's 34 Magaletta Drive, Westwood**

**Next meeting Monday, July 27, 2009
193 Winter Street, Jane Nash's, Westwood
Please arrive at 7:15 p.m.
Meeting will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m.
Please call 781-769-1185 if you cannot come!!**

Present: Greg Agnew, Judy Barrington, Nancy Farris, Virginia Fettig, Steven Greffenius, Marcia Hirshberg, Phoebe Joseph, Jane Nash, Michelle Perry, Kathy Zola

Absent with notice: Ann Marie Bielenin, Pat Krusko, Doug Obey,

Guest: Karen Coffey

The Board Meeting began at 7:37 p.m.

Minutes accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report accepted as written.

Phoebe Joseph questioned the payment of \$168.62 for pins. Marcia explained they were part of the items for sale at Annual Meeting and those not sold could be returned to LWWMA.

Moved, and Voted to return pins and money to be returned to local funds.

It was agreed that Phoebe Joseph and others who had spent money during an event should submit their invoices for re-imbusement to Treasurer Virginia Fettig.

Board Members were also reminded that no Board member or program chair is to spend \$100 or more without President or Board approval.

Welcome to new Board and review of new meeting and leadership structure

Greg welcomed the new Board especially new members Steven Greffenius and Pat Krusko, who was ill and could not attend. Greg introduced himself as the newly elected president. This was a historic moment for the Westwood/Walpole League as Greg is our first male president and his election resulted in a return to a President and Board organization of our League as opposed to the Steering Committee method used ever since the Westwood and Walpole Leagues merged. (amended from 15 years). He announced that Michelle Perry has agreed to be the Vice President. He then asked those board members present to introduce themselves. Board responsibilities will be discussed in-depth at the July Board meeting.

It was decided to have all Board meetings on the last Monday of the month to facilitate the updating of the Web and distribution of the Bulletin.

Local League Material Review and Re-distribution

Greg had requested that Board members bring all League materials like stationery to the meeting in an effort to consolidate these items and reduce unnecessary re-orders. He will re-organize and re-distribute the items at the next board meeting in July.

Proposed Calendar

Guest Karen Coffey and Board member Jane Nash suggested that the subject of Kick Off be the construction of a new library in Westwood. Marcia Hirshberg suggested that Kick Off be changed to a smaller membership meeting as in past. The Kick Off meeting would focus on program and introduction of and member recruitment for 2009-2010 working committees. Suggested speaker would be one from LWVMA on the proposed home rule re-study. Discussion followed which included a suggestion from Kathy Zola to change meeting dates from week nights to a Sunday as this change improved attendance at the Candidate Events in Westwood **It was decided that Kick Off would be a pot luck held on Sunday, September 13, 2009 at 2pm in a private home location TBD and the focus would be on program and recruitment. Greg will call Dottie Powers to see if she will host this meeting.**

It was further decided that the Board would sponsor a community meeting on the construction of a new library in Westwood to be held at First Parish Hall in Westwood on Sunday, October 4, 2009 beginning at 2 pm.

***Proposed Calendar 2009-2010**

September

13th Kick Off

4th October

Informational meeting on Construction of New Library Building

November

Informational meeting on Toxins in Our Everyday Lives

December

Don't just stand there Run

January

Winter Social

Fund Drive Begins

February

Program Planning

****March**

Open

****April**

Candidate Event -- Westwood

May
Candidate's Night -- Walpole

June
Annual Meeting

*Dates for meeting will be confirmed during July Meeting. *There are two LWVMA studies whose dates for meetings have not been announced. It is assumed they will take place during the spring of 2010. LWVUS studies TBD

Membership:

There was a lengthy discussion on whether to keep or drop the introductory fee of \$25. Phoebe Joseph proposed it be dropped as she was not convinced it helped to bring in new members or that enough people were converted to full membership to make it economically feasible. She pointed out that our current fee of \$55 (recently raised from \$50) barely covers our "per member payments" (PMP) to LWVMA of \$23.00 and LWVUS PMP recently raised from \$28.00 to \$29.20.

Jane Nash noted that no other MA League had an introductory fee of \$25 on their websites as Westwood does. She stated she was not opposed to the \$25 fee but did not think dropping it would necessarily preclude getting new members.

Membership chair, Marcia Hirshberg, stated that over the years we have gotten 60 new members who were then converted to members at regular dues and are currently on the rolls. Further she reported that recently we got 21 new members at \$25 with 16 of those becoming full dues paying members. Two board members who came in at the \$25 dollar rate said they probably would not have joined the League at the full rate.

**Phoebe Joseph moved that the introductory fee of \$25 be dropped.
Motion lost 8 to 2**

Moved, Seconded, Voted 8 to 2 to retain the introductory fee of \$25

Another motion by Kathy Zola to raise the \$25 fee from 25 to 35 dollars also lost 8 to 2.

It was agreed that we could add a line to our membership form to encourage people with restricted incomes to join. It could read as one league has it:

"I would like to join but I can only afford _____"

Marcia noted that we have 47 paid members and requested that reminder notices be included in Greg's President mailing to the membership noting this would save \$44 in stamps.

Greg agreed.

Marcia will alert Jane Nash when to send out an e-mail reminder notice to those members who have still not paid. Jane noted that the Summer Bulletin, soon to be released, will also have a reminder notice regarding dues payment. There will also be reminders on our local web site.

New Business:

New Board Photo will be taken at the next Board meeting Monday July 27, 2009

Old Business: In a discussion before the entire board arrived, Kathy Zola suggested that we join with other environmental groups if we have another Green Energy Fair or similar event to improve participation and avoid the redundant events of this year. It was later reported by Phoebe Joseph member of the Westwood “Greening Your Lifestyle Energy Fair” that Peter Kane and Mary Joyce from the Westwood Environmental Action Committee (WEAC) had requested that we join them for future events.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Nash, Secretary