

The League of Women Voters of Volusia County, Florida



# THE **VOTER**

May 2011

Visit our Web site at [www.LWVVC.org](http://www.LWVVC.org)



## **MAY SOCIAL EVENT**

### **First Annual Wine-Tasting Party & Silent Auction Fundraiser**

- Enjoy five wine-tastings & hors d'oeuvres
- Participate in our **special** Silent Auction
- Engage in a fun-filled league social event



**Peter's Wine Shop & Tasting Room**  
**1665 Dunlawton Ave.**  
**Port Orange**

**May 21, 2011**  
**4-6 PM**

**\$15 per person**

Contact Jean Snyder for tickets: [snyder.jean7@gmail.com](mailto:snyder.jean7@gmail.com)  
Tickets will also be available at the door



Dear Leaguers,

We have recovered from our Annual Meeting in April. We had a wonderful presentation by Dr. Sorensen of the Volusia County Public Health Department. We also had a productive business meeting. Of course, I forgot to bring copies of the 2010 Annual Meeting minutes to our Annual Meeting, and therefore you will find it in this VOTER.



L→R: Pat Gadbaw, Dr. Bonnie Sorensen, Sandy Horikami and Maritza Patterson

Pat Gadbaw (president-elect) and Maritza Patterson were our delegates to the 2011 LWVF Legislative Seminar and Convention in March. Read their reports in this edition of the VOTER.

I hope you will be able to join us for our Wine-Tasting and Silent Auction fundraiser on the 21<sup>st</sup> of this month. We need your support to continue our mission. After this Legislative session, it looks like we have our work cut out for us regarding tax-reform, voting rights, education, our environment and health reform! Your membership represents your support to the league, so renew your membership as you receive your renewal letters this month.

**In League,**  
*Sandy Horikami*  
**LWVVC President**

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## FLORIDA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS STATE CONVENTION

Tallahassee, FL March 25-26, 2011

The Convention opened with several Workshops.

- *Transportation and Nuclear Energy.* Presented the status of the transportation study and a non recommended program on Nuclear energy
- *Gay adoption Caucus* was a well thought out presentation aimed at a possible adoption by the league. It was suggested that this issue be submitted as a call for action.
- *Streamlining League presented with Barbara Eriv* suggested that the Board be broken into the following Team Leadership roles to involve more member ; Leadership, Vision and Strategic Planning, Fundraising, Finance, Membership Education/Advocacy Teams
- *Presenting Florida Government.* Lydia Galton's presented a power point developed by her League (Collier County) that explains Florida government. It is really an outstanding presentation that can be purchased for \$100 and tailored specifically for the county government requested.

The last 3 workshops occurred in the same time frame and were

- *Running an Effective Meeting with Pat Drago* , We'll get her to present to our League
- *Public Speaking 101 (Pat attended) with Kevin Gilds*, was basically a Toastmasters presentation.
- *Perfecting Member and Media Communication (Maritza attended).*
  - stay in constant contact with the newspaper through letters to the editor, guest editorials but vary people and stay on message

- Cultivate relationships- Invite the newspaper editor to be a speaker at a meeting remember all of us want  
TRANSPARENCY- FAIRNESS -ACCESS TO RECORDS

- Explained at length – CONSTANT CONTACT social media system that allows you to shape email, see who has opened it, where it is being forwarded. There is a fee for this service. On the first afternoon we dispensed with business and presented the recommended and non-recommended programs for 2011-2012. 98 % of the local leagues were represented in the plenary sessions.

Ben Wilcox, LWVF Governmental consultant gave a Legislative Recap and forecast which was not encouraging. The redistricting process will need to be followed as closely and worked on as tirelessly as we did last year. He urged all members to respond to all alerts put out by the League

Elizabeth MacNamara emphasized that the “iron ladies” realized that the passage of Amendment 19 was just the start of their fight.

Pam Goodman charged that our major battle the rest of this year is to continue for fight for fair districts. We need to write individual letters, form a speakers bureaus and hold hearings.

Saturday morning we were informed that:

- LWVUS has discussed charging for VOTE411.org. The group stated that they would not pay until the program is more user friendly. Someone mentioned that California has a good system.
- Raising money was discussed and we were reminded that we can call Elaine, State Resource on Development to improve our prospects. We might wish to consult with her to improve our sponsorship for Politicos on Parade.

The recommended Programs presented on Friday were voted on and passed. The non- recommended program on nuclear energy did not pass, but the local league which brought it to the floor stated that they would study the issue and bring it up in the next State convention for adoption.

The recommended programs are:

#### Florida Constitution

- Actively promote and support the reapportionment process
- Promote the strengthening of the Florida Commission on Ethics including the areas of independence, subpoena power and ability to levy fines and initiate an investigation.
- Support the extension of ethics reform to county and city government.  
Election Law
- Support greater flexibility in the selection of early voting sites

#### Education in Florida

- Promote adequate funding of public education with no use of public funding for the expansion of funding of private education through a voucher program
- Promote the extension of public school, charter schools and any institutions that receive state funding

#### Financing & Delivery of Health Care

- Support implementation of the Federal Health Care Reform Law in Florida, emphasizing access for all and control of costs

#### Libraries

- Support the continued funding of public libraries in the state (amended to include at the level required for federal funding which is \$12million.

#### Sustainability

- Support public transportation projects which yield multi-modal investments in local and state enhanced infrastructure.
- Support governmental actions that result in sustainability by meeting the needs of the present without endangering the future.
- Support adoption the adoption of a renewable portfolio standard. (should put epa.gov/renewable portfolio standards on our web site.)

#### Energy

- Promote the passage of comprehensive energy policy that includes targets for expansion of renewable energy and conservation efforts

Under directions to the board the following recommendations were made:

- open letter to President Obama to lift travel embargo to Cuba
- 2-Gay adoption support at the State level- as a letter to Governor and Cabinet
- 3-Register HS students to vote in Counties where this is not readily done
- 4-Vote by proxy at State Convention

*Pat Gadbaw and Maritza Patterson*

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## Legislative Seminar

Tallahassee 3/23/11

Opening night was a Gala Event celebrating passage of the Fair District Amendments and featuring Ellen Freidin, who spear-headed the successful campaign to reform Congressional and Legislative redistricting in Florida, Deidre Macnab, LWVF President, Elisabeth MacNamara LWVUS President, Corinne Miller and Pamela Goodman who led the League of Women Voter passage efforts. It was a great time to meet and greet.

Thursday: Our morning speakers were:

1. Richey Ford (sic) for Mike Fasano, Senator, spoke on the Ethics bill which would strengthen the current practices. It was too good and doomed to fail.
2. Senator Alan Williams (Leon County) "This is the most conservative senate ever." We need to incentivize green jobs creation, and give tax relief to green energy technology.
3. Ben Wilcox and Marilyn Wills presented the Issues to watch.
  - They are moving to put Medicaid into managed care for the whole state even though the pilot project put in place by Jeb Bush was deemed a failure.
  - They intend to dismantle growth management.
  - We should oppose SB 1504 which rules that citizen petitions for constitutional amendments must be gathered much more swiftly and are only good for 30 months instead of 5 years.,
  - They are moving to have the Secretary of State review the legislative amendments *and correct the language* without the Supreme Court approval.
4. Secretary Billy Buzzett, head of the new Department of Community Affairs (DCA)
  - addressed the issue of streamlining DCA out of the middle between the first and 2<sup>nd</sup> hearings when there is question as to compliance with the Comprehensive plan.
  - referred us to the DCA website, [www.dca.state.fl.us](http://www.dca.state.fl.us), describing where we have been, where we are going, and how get there.
5. Julie Wraithmell, Director of Wildlife for Audubon stated that the new mantra in this Legislative body in growth management is that :
  - Water, wildlife and public land are "hindering" economic growth.
  - We need to get rid of the local government control of wildlife, even though wildlife is a \$3 billion industry for tourists. In the appropriation bill in the senate the Everglades restoration was left out.
6. Professor Michelle Vasilinda professed that we should:
  - repeal the death penalty. The cost of appeals is too great.
  - repeal nuclear cost recovery and change it to renewable energy. Florida "could be the silicon valley of renewable."
  - streamline sales tax.
  - close the tax loopholes.
7. Representative Will Weathersford, chairman of the Redistricting Committee.
  - stated that he intended to keep the process open and transparent.
  - he will allow the citizens to use "my district builder" so they work with different ways of redistricting on line.
8. State Representative Ron Saunder, Minority Leader referred to this legislative body as dealing in "reverse Robin Hood."
9. Representative Mark Pafford, Democratic ranking member of Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee. Stated that we need an angry electorate. "People will die due to the budget cuts, and now is the time to be angry"
10. Representative Lori Berman, Delray Beach District 86. "We have not voted on one bill for job creation."
  - We should follow TABOR closely and clip out newspaper articles and letters to the editors and send to our legislators to show that most newspapers are against.
11. Susan Glickman. Directs Florida Business Network for Clean Energy Economy.

- The utility companies collect the cost of building plants before they are built. This is called early cost recovery, and it is a problem. Users have paid for nuclear energy whether we ever build it or not and the money does not go back to the tax payers. Because nuclear is so very expensive those paying now will probably never recoup their investment.
- The people's rates are going up while the cost of renewable is going down. Floridians pays \$925 million for coal.

12. Senator Paula Dockery. "I have never seen so much bad legislation coming down"

In the afternoon I attended the Finance and Tax Committee meeting which recommended the approval of \$6 million for port improvement. When asked what multi-modal infrastructure would be supporting the ports, the answer was that that isn't the scope of this committee. Their stated purpose is to spend 1.5 billion in the next 5 years to make Miami the most competitive port on the Eastern Seaboard and they bragged that they are not waiting for federal funds to do it. One of the committee members stated "I don't see any indication we can manage roads, why do you think we can manage ports better?"

In the evening we were treated to a truly inspiring speech on the history of the women's movement by Grace Nelson, Senator Nelson's wife.

*Maritza Patterson and Patricia Gadbow*

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## OBSERVER CORPS REPORT

3/2 db

General information: One can watch your City Commission meetings live on DBTV-Channel 199 on Bright House Networks or online. Videos of past commission meetings are [archived](#) for on-demand viewing on many of the city's websites. Minutes are also posted on the website, though there seems to be a delay of several weeks in so doing. One can sign up on line by calling the city manager for automatic delivery of agenda. The Daytona Beach News-Journal often covers the meetings. Articles by staff writer summarizing the major issues and decisions are published in the local paper (which is available on line) shortly after the meetings. At the meetings citizen input can be at the beginning or the end of the meeting, with a simple on-the-spot sign-up procedure.

*Jody Williams*

### **Daytona Beach City Commission 3/2**

Public comment: Main Street vendor suggests City consider Tourist Board to focus on what really makes people come to the City, look at better sports promotion. Plea that senior City workers live in the City. Concern about Post Office closing; mayor stated he was preparing letter to appeal same.

Consent agenda: Two small-lot real estate purchases approved, using money in dedicated redevelopment trust funds: (1) lot on Grandview Av. near Main St. (\$61K), & (2) lot on Peninsula Dr. near ISB (\$116.5K)

**Discussion agenda:** Two lengthy items:

1. First reading of a proposed amendment to the Land Development Code (LDC). Overall intent was to streamline the administrative approval process for site plans; matter came up from the Planning Board with some difference in staff recommendations. Confusing to this Observer, & (it seemed) to the commissioners as well, with motions and amendments offered and withdrawn. Major difference of opinion on whether Midtown planning board should be exempt from the appeals process in place; some differences between recommendations of Planning Board and staff. Comr. Reynolds urged that Midtown be exempt from changes at least until its planning process, and outside studies/evaluations were concluded; others commented that it's not good from legal or public policy reasons that the 3 planning boards not have the same process. It was agreed that Counsel would re-write "carving out" Midtown, for decision at the second reading two weeks hence.
2. First reading of a proposed change, ending the total ban on "electronic message center" signs, and allow some that conform to City-established standards when for "public uses, performing arts facilities, institutions of higher learning, religious facilities." Planning Board had opposed allowing limited use of these signs 5-4. Lots of discussion, detail, clear differences of opinion from "no way, it's opening a Pandora's box of ugliness and First Amendment battles" to "it's controlled, it helps folks know what's happening in their town." Many elements and issues covered: size, colors, locations, graphics, length of flash, experience of other cities, whether they ultimately encourage or discourage tourism, queries about problems making decisions involving content of messages, qualifications of entities allowed to have them, etc. Some such signs are already allowed under "comprehensive sign plans" or variances. Final agreement to clean up proposal based on the Commission's consensus on the various elements, to get public input at next meeting and vote.

**Citizen Comments:** Suggest have citizen input on first reading, easier then for commissioners and staff to incorporate citizen input in preparing final proposal for second reading. What's being done to create jobs? Mayor's reply: national problem; talking about county-wide high-speed fiber-optic system.

Elected Officials' Comments: Commendation to Betty Goodman for excellent new "Black Heritage Trail" brochure. DB has "tasty" water, won contest. Can City do something about huge problem of prescription drug abuse? Proposal under development regarding thorny issue of placement of social services agencies. Consider incentives for City workers to move into City. "Daytona Proud" cleaning up some problem properties.

3/16/11

**Public comment:** A citizen advised he plans to file a lawsuit (though he prefers not to) should City Manager not start to enforce regulation requiring manager and department heads to live in City within 12 months of being hired. Others spoke about: Vitamin D;

cancer awareness; keeping Peabody Auditorium with its huge economic impact in the official planning process; church fashion show invites Mayor to “walk the runway”; Downtown business concerns about presence of homeless who smell bad and beg for money or food.

**Consent agenda:** Historic grant application, surplus vehicle & equipment disposal, payment of workers comp insurance premium, inmate labor contract, all OK'd 7-0. Likewise (public hearing, no comments) rezoning of ~4 Acres of land for “Hospital.”

**Public Hearings:** Two lengthy items involving amendments to the LDC:

- (1) Proposal to revise review process for site plan approval in redevelopment areas. Disagreement on whether Midtown Redevelopment Area should be “carved out” and treated differently in certain particulars of the proposed changes. Speakers included 2 lawyers, one college president, citizens. [Observer comment: hard to follow but clearly long-standing emotional issues involving (a) race relations (Midtown worried about being overpowered, stepped on by the majority, wanting to work through its own process in its own way), and (b) town-gown B-CU-neighborhood relations (new buildings & facilities creating neighborhood unhappiness vs. University’s work to involve locals and offer benefits such as summer youth programs in the new facilities). Lots of back and forth, Q&A, mostly positive in eliciting more facts and perspectives.]

Final vote: Recommended changes adopted 6-1 (Reynolds opposed) with 2 amendments about Midtown, i.e., keeping it in the appeals process with the others, but deferring discussion & decision on contested matters.

- (2) Proposal to allow limited use by certain entities of “electronic message center” signs, for “city and county uses, performing arts facilities, institutions of higher learning, places of assembly with at least 1,000 seats, approved planned developments, and other similar uses.” Planning Board had opposed allowing limited use of these signs 5-4. The proposal represented a compromise from many meetings and discussions. Lots of discussion, detail, clear differences of opinion; ~12 speakers, including lawyers, businesspersons, citizens, on all sides of the issue. Some urged that sign style be determined by the neighborhood’s design and architectural patterns, rather than a citywide ordinance. Dr. Rick Lentz, local plastic surgeon, said that if hospitals could use their signs to advertise their “medical procedure special of the week” it’s unfair to independent physicians who aren’t allowed these signs. The Mayor noted that the intent is not to allow commercial businesses to get signs or for hospitals to be advertising competitively. The Attorney commented that it’s hard, because of First Amendment free speech protections, to regulate content. Procedurally, the Mayor asked that each condition be discussed separately (e.g. size, colors, locations, graphics, length of flash, etc.); consensus was reached on size, limit of one, a one-minute time period before change of message (therefore no scrolling), none allowed off-site, one background color only, no animation. Property size was adjusted downward to include the Kennel Club. A proposed amendment to disqualify hospitals/medical centers failed 3-4.

Final vote: Recommended changes adopted 6-1 (Shelley opposed), with modest changes re size (35A) and allowing deviations if “necessary to promote public health and safety.”

- (3) Lillian Place was approved 7-0 for “semi-public” use, with 2 amendments banning outdoor music after 10:00 pm and establishing some parking rules. Comments were positive, as the recent restoration with ECHO funds, the site involves old families (& a friendly ghost) and good memories, the Historic Preservation Trust is looking forward to sponsoring public and private events in a beautiful venue.

- (4) Gateway Daytona PCD proposal for stand-alone marina - public hearing set for April 20, 2011.

**Citizen Comments:** Ask that electronic signs not be allowed on Interstates. Suggest City consider running its own power plant, a money-maker. Criticism from reporter that City official not aware of upcoming Black College Reunion, and that police not answering inquiries about crowd management plans. More pleas for senior managers to live in the city.

**Elected Officials Comments:** “Clean up! Remove old unused signs.” Beef up incentives to live in City. Put issue on future agenda, some senior managers make over \$100K. Make City more user-friendly by reducing red tape. Bike Week was more spread out, less impact on neighborhoods. Reminder to research and discuss fire transport matter, & meet with County. Visitors email complaints about conditions in some hotels to the Mayor.

*Jody Williams*

### **Edgewater City Council 3/7**

Passed design and construction of project allowing reclaimed water storage, Mango Tree Drive barrow pit; applied for grant to purchase the police equipment; renewed Mosquito control aerial inspection and spray flights; authorized storm water pipe lining in Wildwood Sub by Miller Pipeline Corp, \$53,000; also Miller not to exceed \$127,000 lining Riverside Drive, both piggyback with City of Largo, also amended budget for these items.

*Nora Jane*

### **Volusia County Schools**

Volusia Schools expect a budget reduction between 6-7%.

The superintendent stated school board members, administrators and teachers are making progress with the American Federation of Teachers grant and Race to the Top grant addressing staff evaluation and compensation, professional development, and technology. In addition, Volusia County Schools was selected by Gates Foundation as one of six districts in Florida to participate in a grant in conjunction with FADSS (Florida Association of District School Superintendents). This will assist the district with resources to train principals, assistant principals, peer teachers and district instructional staff to conduct evaluations using the new evaluation system.

During school board meetings and workshops, a live audio broadcast can be accessed from the School District of Volusia County’s website at <http://myvolusiaschools.org>.

### **Port Orange City Council: March/April 2011**

- A Port Orange resident asked the city council to review the city's charter regarding the strong manager form of city government. He has requested that the council consider changing to a strong mayor form.
- The state and county are currently wrangling over how to regulate internet cafes. Port Orange has entered the fray. During a January council meeting, the council voted to place a moratorium on new internet cafes. Prior to the moratorium, however, a non-profit agency, Allied Veterans of the World, Inc., applied to open a game/recreational facility (internet café) on Nova Road. The agency had previously gone before the Planning Board and had received approval. When the agency went before the council, the council wondered if the café should be considered adult entertainment since it is opened to adults only. The request has been tabled until the city attorney researches the legal definition of adult entertainment.
- The down turn in the economy has caused the city to scrap its development plans for the Riverwalk CRA. The original concept was to have high-rise condominiums, a marina, shopping, restaurants, and a public park area. In order to get the project off the ground, the council asserts a willingness to be more flexible in the proposed projects. It will advertise for creative proposals from developers.

*Summer Clayton*

### **VOLUSIA COUNTY COUNCIL Apr.7, 2011**

1) **Mini Budget Workshop. CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH:** After much discussion Council voted unanimously to move to a county run consolidated dispatch system. All emergency calls will come into one point and then be dispatched. Every effort will be made to encourage cities to join this system. County Manager (CM) Dineen stressed the importance of cities and employees understanding issues (relationship between county and cities, employee pay and benefits).

According to CM cities will benefit financially as county will assume costs of the program. An efficient county system is needed for future. Residents should be better served. Costs will be borne by the General Fund (County will need to find 1.6 million?) Workshops will be held between Council and cities to address concerns regarding this effort. Cities and county must have their budgets by October 1, so need to know who is going to be participating.

#### 2) **Remedial amendments to Farnton Local Plan stipulated agreement between DCA and Volusia:**

Brief history of how land change request came to this point provided. Public comments: 4 people were heard, 2 against (Barbara Herrin, Edgewater City Alliance for Responsible Development (ECARD) and Sierra Club representative), 1 pro (Farnton employee who praised the long term plan which other areas see as a model). Miami Corp. attorney Larry Storch stressed that within 1 year of adoption the protected lands will be in perpetual conservation trust. Amendments approved 5-2 (Kelly and Persis against)

3) **Update on sea turtle protection program:** Kelli McGee (staff) reports that education efforts continue, targeting life guards, beach vendors, and general public. Councilor Wagner states E-zone needs lights to attract, so is hoping for balance. Of concern is how to strike balance between protection of turtles and the wants and rights of businesses and residents. The consultation with those having specific concerns seems to work well according to McGee. She is also looking into new technology such as true-red and true neon. If used, a new ordinance would be required. Approved to continue unanimously.

### **Apr. 21, 2011**

1) **EVAC discussion:** Subject of EVAC coming under county contract must be renegotiated by October, CM Dineen wants to move ahead however council felt too little known about how this would be structured and financed. Councilor Cusack wondered how this change would be explained to public if plan not laid out. After council discussion CM agreed that meetings prior to going forward were necessary.

**Public comment:** one person from EVAC employee rep. Marion County, was not against but, sees a problem of rushing and advises that input from employees and hospitals is needed. He also advised to keep medical focus.

2) **Utility rates increase:** A conservation rate will be the format for increase. For households using less than 5000 gallons, there will be no rate increase. Over that amount, the more you use the higher the bill. 5000 gallons is used because of study showing this is amount used by a 2 person household, with no irrigation.

Recktenwald, Director of Public for Volusia County, says people are paying attention to usage, he is writing fewer tickets and doing more education. County will go to home of customer whose bill seems out of line to check meter, check for leaks and suggest ways to cut water usage.

County is required to pick up systems in receivership and meet federal and state regulations. This is an expense. Good thing, more people will have use of reclaimed water, lines are already laid. Purchase of the Leffler property is resource for the future.

3) **Golf Carts on county roads amending ordinance:** This matter concerned only unincorporated areas. Some sites do allow carts on certain roads. Golf carts are defined as Low Speed Vehicles (LSV) and are prohibited from roads having a speed limit over 35mph so that rules out most roads. Some council members felt enforcement and administration would cost the county and a fee would be necessary. Vote was 3/3 (Kelly absent). No change.

4) **Local Hiring:** This matter was delayed as those present felt full council was desirable. To be heard in May.

**Items Not on agenda:** Councilor Cusack brought up minority contractors, how many are women, black, Hispanic? She would like to see an effort to bring in minorities as contracts. Management will make effort to reach out and offer workshops on how to become a vendor for the county.

*Linda Burgher*



**Welcome New Members!**

*Terry & Peter Mercer  
Ormond Beach*



**Thank you  
for your  
Contribution!!**

**Ellen Nielsen**

At the 2011 Annual Meeting on April 16, I forgot to bring the minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting for members to read. Therefore, as promised, the minutes are published in this VOTER. -Sandy Horikami

**2010 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES—**  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS VOLUSIA COUNTY**

DATE: Saturday, April 24, 2010

LOCATION: Palmetto Club, 1000 S. Beach Street, Daytona Beach, FL

The 2010 Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Volusia County was held at the Palmetto Club, began at 10:10 with Welcome and Announcements from Sandra Horikami, LWVVC President. Ann Smith introduced the speakers for the day. **Jason Caros** (Volusia County Schools, K-12 Social Studies Curriculum Specialist) and **Charles Brinkerhoff** (District Administrator for the Volusia County Teaching American History Grant) spoke on: CIVIC HEALTH: WHAT'S OUR DIAGNOSIS.

NOTES FROM THE SPEAKERS:

How is the health of our Civics Education in Florida and in the country. It's a mixed diagnosis. Florida health is "not so hot." The state of Florida tried to analyze the Civics Health of the state in Florida's major metropolitan areas, in relation to the other states in the nation.

Here's a snap-shot: looking at all the states – Florida is 34<sup>th</sup> in Voter Turnout, 49<sup>th</sup> in Volunteering, 37<sup>th</sup> in "working with others to solve problems", 46<sup>th</sup> in Overall Civics Health, 44<sup>th</sup> in Charitable Giving. The city of Melbourne has a stronger civics culture. Miami/Ft. Lauderdale ranks 50<sup>th</sup> (the lowest) in all categories. (Brinkerhoff)

For a long time, Florida did not have Civics Classes. The new State Standards include a Civics Class for all 7<sup>th</sup> graders, now, in Volusia County. The entire state will be initiating the program by 2010. Ultimately the addition of social studies and civics in all grades will help make better citizens out of our population, while state-wide assessment tests are held for students are in 7<sup>th</sup> grade; educators may see what these students are learning and lacking. Local Civics activities will be held students learn about different facets of local government. Students can take an on-line college course called the Civic Government Academy. This is the potential future that may change our culture in the years to come. (Caros)

Following lunch, the Annual Meeting of the LWVVC began at 11:50 a.m., with Sandy Horikami presiding. Special thanks were given to all the board members who have worked so hard during this year. A presentation of thanks was made to the following people: Claudia Roth (First VP), Chris Moseley (Treasurer), Jean Snyder (Interim Secretary), Ann Smith (Voter Service Chair), Rosemarie Gore (Natural Resources Chair, Linda Sullivan (Voter Editor), Gwen Azama-Edwards (Go-To Census Person), Pat Gadbow (Observer Corps Chair), Carol Grigas (Archivist), Pat Drago (Voice for Volusia Co. Growth and Development), Dennis Clayton (Budget Chair), Carolyn West (Nominating Committee member), and Summer Clayton (Our venue organizer/communications). Thanks also go to leaders not present: Maritza Patterson (2<sup>nd</sup> VP), Betty Johnson (Webmaster), Lynn Lempel (Off- board Director), Kay Semion (Chair, Nominating Committee and committee member Ann Harrell).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND RULES – Larry Moore made a motion and Gwen Azama-Edwards seconded the motion to accept the Rules of the Meeting. There was no discussion. The motion passes.

Ann Smith made a motion and Linda Sullivan seconded the motion to accept the Agenda. There was no discussion. The motion passes.

APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN: Ann Smith was appointed as Parliamentarian.

REPORT OF MINUTES OF 2009 ANNUAL MEETING: Copies of the 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes were available at the tables. These were approved at the July 2009 Board Retreat meeting. Sandy Horikami then appointed Jean Snyder as chairperson of the 2010 Annual Meeting Minutes Committee. Claudia Roth and Carolyn West were asked to assist in this task. They agreed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The year-end report will be presented at the August Board meeting and printed in the September VOTER. Our Treasurer Chris Moseley, was not present.

CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET-ADOPT BUDGET – Dennis Clayton, Budget Committee Chair present the budget, and responded to any questions arising. There were issues regarding the adjustment in budget projections for meetings, they had been reset so projections were not so out of line (cost versus revenue). Lengthy discussion ensued.

Finally, a motion was made by Pat Drago and seconded by Larry Moore which reads:

“I move that the proposed budget for FY 2010-2011 be amended by increasing the amount of income for meetings from \$2500 to \$3500, and changing the subtotal from \$8,156 to \$9,256.00. Also, in the expense portion of the budget the meetings line be increased from \$2,500 to \$3,500 to reflect actual experience, corresponding expense subtotal changed from \$8,156 to \$9,156. The motion passed.

On behalf of the budget committee, Dennis Clayton moved the acceptance of the 2010-2011 LWVVC budget as amended. No additional discussion took place. The Motion Passed.

CONSIDERATION OF PROGRAM: As stated by the LWVVC president, in the program on page 7, members could find the revision proposed by the Children’s Committee regarding Children’s Services. Therefore Sandra proceeded with the readopting of the following program positions – together: County Charter, Government, Natural Resources and Stormwater. A motion to readopt these positions was made by Pat Gadbaw and seconded by Pat Drago. There was not discussion and the motion passed.

CONSIDERATION OF REVISION OF CHILDREN’S SERVICES POSITION: Maritza, chair of the Children’s Committee was not present, committee member Mary Derr spoke on behalf of the committee’s position revision

As written in the program book: CHILDREN’S SERVICES (new title)

The League of Women Voters of Volusia County supports making children’s services a top priority in Volusia County with an emphasis on:

- Prenatal health care that includes screenings for maternal and fetal wellbeing; maternal screenings and treatment for social-emotional health and for addictions
- Comprehensive healthcare for children that includes preventive screenings and timely treatment of physical, emotional and behavioral problems
- Age appropriate educational programs for children that includes access to factual programs in sex education, parenting, child development and addictive substances

The League of Women Voters of Volusia County supports the following recommendations for local legislative or community action:

- Create a resource center to collect, coordinate and disseminate information about services to children available in Volusia County, that will be made available to parents and professionals working with children
- Require training of all child care personnel in child development and behavioral interventions
- Require licensure of all family child care homes
- Encourage employers to provide or subsidize childcare for employees.

A motion was made by the Children Services Committee representative, Mary Derr, a second was not required. There was no additional discussion and the Motion passed.

CONSIDERATION OF LWVF 2009-2011 TRANSPORTATION STUDY. Following a concurrence survey conducted on-line for LWVVC members, there is a next step. Local league committees must study the transportation issue in this area so that the state can ultimately reach consensus and have a position on transportation in Florida. Pat Drago addressed the issue explaining that the Florida Transportation Planning process and local government money, how local communities use transportation funds, what our future plans are – would be discussed in a local committee. Committee members would also need to attend MPO meetings, learn about land-use decisions, members would need to meet 4-5 times as a committee but would not need to make any

action decisions – just be prepared and our members educated so that when state study questions are sent we may answer them with insight. Several members signed up to work on the study.

A motion that LWVVC have a Transportation Committee to learn and discuss the local effects as pertained to the LWVF 2009-2011 Transportation Study. The motion passed with no opposition.

#### REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE – ELECTION OF NEW BOARD

Kay Semion, chair of the nominating committee was not present and Carolyn West committee member, presented the slate:

Nominated Officers and Directors beginning 2010:

Secretary: Jean Snyder 2010-2012

Treasurer: Christina Moseley (2010-2012)

Directors (2010-2012)

Betty Johnson

Ann Smith

Joanne Pinkston-McDuffie

Nominating Committee (2010-2011)

Kay Semion, Chair

Ann Harrell

Carolyn West

Current Elected LWVVC Officers and Directors Who Will Continue To 2011 Are:

Sandra Horikami – President; Claudia Roth – First Vice President;

Second Vice-President-Maritza Patterson

Directors: Rosemarie Gore and Linda Sullivan

At this time, Sandra Horikami asked if there were any nominations from the floor (three times), and seeing none, called for the vote. MOTION PASSED, unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Members present were reminded to review the committee reports on pages 9-12 in the Meeting Booklet. Pat Gadbow wanted to remind members that there will be a training session for interested and ongoing Observer Corps members, conducted by Pat Drago, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

OTHER BUSINESS: Then our president, Sandy Horikami was presented with a lovely orchid arrangement for all she has done, and who “thinks of everything”.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: A reminder that membership renewal letters will be sent out in May – be on the lookout for them. Ann Smith reminds the group that the key for us to raise money at Politicos on Parade to remember – this can be fun. This year fundraising has started off slow but she encourages members to step up to the challenge. Sandy thanked Ann Smith, Pat Gadbow, Maritza Patterson, Chris Moseley and Larry Moore for all they have contributed to the event. They have worked so hard.

The Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Volusia County was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jean A. Snyder

Chairperson, 2010 Annual Meeting Minutes Committee