

Minutes of the Legislative Committee Meeting

December 19, 2016

Attendance: Sue Larsen, Pam LaCashu, Bonnie Anderson, Jess Stram (S&L), Melissa Russell, Paddi LeShane (S&L), Lauren Ollson, Mike Wyman, Helen Campbell, Rick Marcone, Lisbeth Becker

The meeting was opened by Chairman Sue Larsen at 10:02 am. Sue announced that Jess Stram would no longer be with us as she is leaving Sullivan & LeShane to go on her own. Paddi LeShane would be working with us until a replacement has been hired.

Paddi LeShane discussed the upcoming legislative session. Opening day will be long as committees will be consolidated and power in the Senate is finalized. The Senate is 16/16 and therefore several options have been proposed for leadership options. 2 senate chairs or alternating chairs were discussed. This will be a difficult year for us because of new members and chairs.

Sue Larsen and Tim DeCarlo along with Paddi and Jess, met with Shannon Weggles and Peggy Reeves from SOTS. We presented our legislative agenda. It was a productive meeting and most of our objectives were met with agreement to either handle as a directive or handled by SOTS. The areas of conflict were the online directory and poll books. Cost of setting up an online directory is the main issue. Shannon says to do it right and develop a good search engine would be costly and she doesn't believe the budget will be able to handle it. Pollbooks are now an issue due to Homeland Security concerns about hacking into the system by Russia. While CT did not have any major issues that impacted the election, concern that pollbooks could be hacked into and then impact CONVERSE is a priority for SOTS.

Paddi LeShane recommended a letter be drafted based on the meeting and sent to SOTS so that we are on the same page as the legislative session begins.

Right now, SOTS may be proposing early voting but no proposal has been discussed. We will see if any bill comes through.

The Committee discussed the certification deadline of June 30th. WE will alert GAE that the deadline is approaching and wait to see if the issues we are facing are resolved.

Pam Lacashu brought up the idea of preregistering online for EDR during the 7 day period before the election. No one will actually be registered but it may speed up the process if we just have to download the information on election day.

Peter Gostin had written up legislation on the primary petition %. It was passed out and no one had an issue with the language.

Rick Marcone motioned to adjourn at 12:00.

Respectfully, submitted, Sue W. Larsen