

**League of Women Voters of Duluth: Board of Directors Meeting**  
**“Zoom” meeting**  
**July 9, 2020**  
**5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**SECRETARY MINUTES**

**Present:** Candy Winkler, Sandy Grandmaison, Gwen Thorson, Nancy Aldridge, Theresa O’-Gara, Barbara Johnson, Karin Haidos, Mary Faulkner, Jane Hovland, Julie Seidelmann, Gail Nouska, Sue DeNio, Ellen Wiss, Gay Trachsel

**Absent:** Pat Castellano

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Co-President Candy Winkler.

**Diversity Statement:** The LWV Duluth Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement was read by Co-President Sandy Grandmaison.

**Consent Agenda—Approval of the Minutes and Financials:**

A **motion** was made (J. Hovland) and **seconded** (S. Grandmaison) to approve the consent agenda. **Motion passed.** The reports from the June 4, 2020 board meeting will be filed. N. Aldridge, treasurer, reported that LWV Duluth has purchased a Zoom account through LWVMN.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Beginning in August 2020**, Committee Chair reports will be sent to C. Winkler, at least 3 days before the scheduled board meeting. She will forward them to board members for review prior to the month’s meeting. Only committee issues that require board action would need to be discussed in more detail. This should allow for a more efficient meeting.
- **Communication** (J. Seidelmann and G. Thorson)
  - There will be a “Voter” newsletter in September. Deadline for article submission is August 15.
  - Discussion was held about the League’s “Zoom” account. It was decided that the Communication Committee will manage this account and that board members and committee chairs will have access. The League website’s “Events Calendar” will include Zoom meetings (to avoid meeting schedule conflicts) AND contact information for members to use when they wish to attend—and need a Zoom invitation.
  - Bylaws Committee has created a 1st draft of an update. Committee will meet on July 13 to review the draft and begin review of policies.
- **Cross Cultural** (G. Trachsel)
  - The next committee meeting is July 11, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.
- **Events** (S. Grandmaison)
  - Board members are encouraged to think about ideas (including potential speakers) for the “Women of Influence” event in February or March 2021.
- **Membership** (T. O’Gara)
  - The committee will meet on July 21, 2020 to brainstorm ideas. They invite board members to join them.

- **Natural Resources** (G. Trachsel)

- Barb Akre on behalf of the NR Committee did an “Our View” column for DNT entitled “Band is a Anti-Pollution, Not Anti-Mining.” Sent a letter also to Gov. Walz and Commissioner Phillips. It supported IRRRB funding for the Fond du Lac Band for water treatment.

- MEP. (LWV Duluth is part of) sent a letter to Gov. Walz and Lt. Gov. Flanagan about Environment and Conservation Community Priorities for the Special Session: Historical structural racism, Police brutality, Farm crisis, Healthcare crisis, Climate crisis

- We support a bonding bill that supports significantly greater investments in the environment, such as water and natural lands, rebuilding of neighborhoods and equitable hiring in contracts. (Specifics as to accomplishing this were included.)

- Board members were encouraged to visit <https://fixthepipes.org/about> to learn about needs of Minnesota in relationship to infrastructure and needs to be included in bonding bill.

- **Observer Corps** (T. O’Gara for Mary Jane Peterson)

- Following discussion, a request for someone to coordinate this committee will be put in the September “Voter.” It was mentioned that a current “observer” (and non-board member) may be interested.

- **Voter Services** (E. Wiss and M. Faulkner)

- M. Faulkner stated that the 7th District State Senate forum will be held July 10, 2020 at the PACTV studio. Attendance is restricted due to COVID-19, but the forum will be available for viewing on our website and PACTV—and then Facebook and Twitter.

- Committee hopes to host 3rd District County Commissioner and 8th Congressional District forums.

- Committee has been awarded a \$1850 grant—for venues, printing, new banner, pens, and hand sanitizer.

- Need ideas for voter registration procedures.

- “Vote 411” is a good site for voter information.

- Exploring printing of face masks (with “On the Limit”)

**New Business:**

- G. Trachsel introduced a “Proposed Statement on Indigenous Land,” which she created. Following discussion, it was determined that she obtain feedback from the League’s Cross Cultural Committee, which will meet on July 11. A final decision will be made at the August board meeting.

**Announcements:**

- S. Grandmason reported that the allotment of signs (re: MLK quote) has been distributed and there is a need for more signs.

- There is an interest in getting more “Vote” signs.

**Adjournment:** A **motion** was made (S. Grandmason) and **seconded** (S. DeNio) to adjourn.

**Motion passed.** The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Thorson, Secretary