

League of Women Voters of Duluth: Board of Directors Meeting
Zoom
December 11, 2023
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SECRETARY MINUTES

Members Present: Jane Hovland, Anita Gille, Gwen Thorson, Ellen Wiss, Sandy Grandmaison, Jeri Quest, Kay Allen, Sue Henke, Sue DeNio, Theresa O’Gara, Candy Winkler

Members Absent: Katherine Rasley, Nancy Aldridge, Sue DeNio, Pam Kramer,

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by President Jane Hovland.

2. Women of Influence event co-sponsor: The American Association of University Women Duluth Branch (AAUW) will co-sponsor the Women of Influence event, February 15, 2024, with LeAnn Littlewolf as featured speaker.

3. Consent Agenda (including Treasurer’s Report, Secretary’s Minutes, Reports of standing committees—Environmental Action, Membership): A **motion** was made (J. Quest) and **seconded** (A. Gille) to approve the consent agenda as corrected (*Corrected wording regarding “recurring donations” management: “Anita Gille stated that recurring contributions are not feasible at this time. LWV Duluth would need to invest in software to automate and track the process.”) **Motion passed.**

4. Discussion/Action Items:

a. Recommendation of Transition Task Force: A **motion** was made (S. DeNio) and seconded (T. O’Gara) to accept the report of the Transition Task Force.
Motion passed.

Highlights of the report include the following:

Duties of the president would include presiding over meetings of the Board and total membership; serve as ex officio officer of all committees; attend LWVMN leadership meetings; follow the responsibilities outlined in “LWV Duluth President’s Outline;” be familiar with Robert’s Rules of Order; update LWV Duluth President’s Outline, annually. Duties of the vice president would include presiding over meetings of the Board and total membership, if needed; coordinate Program for Action process with committees; attend at least 2 LWVMN leadership meetings online; volunteer for at least one Voter Services event; learn about and educate committees re: best practices in LWV advocacy; be familiar with Robert’s Rule’s of Order.

The committee also examined the tenure of president and proposes that the nominating committee consider that when recruiting for one person for vice president, the candidate would be making a 3-year commitment.

b. Bylaws changes: Discussion was held about the possibility of changing the term of office for president, from a 1-year term to a 2-year term, which would require a change of current bylaws, approved by the total membership. In addition, LWVMN is proposing some changes for our bylaws, which would not require total membership vote. Gwen Thorson will coordinate this process.

c. Donations discussion: 1) Kathrine Rasley is on leave from the Scholarship Committee. 2) There will be no Equali-TEA this year because of lack of capacity. (If some members want the tea to resume, they could explore the possibility for 2025.) 3) It was suggested that there is a need for a “Fundraising Committee.” It will start as an ad hoc committee. Nancy Aldridge and Theresa O’Gara volunteered to serve on the committee, but not chair the committee. There is a need for “younger” members to serve on the committee. Events should be considered that would attract people outside of LWV membership.

Reminders for January 2024:

–**Announcement:** LWV Duluth and Izaak Walton League joint presentation, “Putting Duluth on a Low-Salt Diet: Learn How Passing a Limited Liability Bill Can Help,” January 17, 2024 at 6:30-8:00 p.m., Hybrid Venue: Hartley Nature Center & Zoom

–**Announcement:** January Jumpstart: LWVMN (Week of January 22)
<https://www.lwvmn.org/january-jumpstart-2024>

–**Announcement:** Citizens in Action Workshop, January 27, 2024, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., First Methodist Church, Duluth

–**Announcement:** Legislative Roundtable, January 28, 2024, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Congregation Duluth

Adjournment:

A motion was made (S. Grandmaison) and seconded (G. Thorson) to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Monday, January 8, 2024, 5:00-6:30 p.m., via Zoom

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Thorson, Secretary

NOTICE: *The January Board meeting was cancelled on January 3, 2024.*

