

League of Women Voters of Duluth: Board of Directors Meeting
“Zoom” meeting
January 5, 2023
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

SECRETARY MINUTES

Members Present: Mary Faulkner, Jane Hovland, Anita Gille, Gwen Thorson, Nancy Aldridge, Sandy Grandmaison, Sue DeNio, Ellen Wiss, Jeri Quest, Katherine Rasley, Candy Winkler, Sarah Mikesell

Members Absent: Lori Dando

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by President Mary Faulkner.

Diversity Statement: The LWV Duluth Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement was read by Mary Faulkner.

Consent Agenda—Approval of the Minutes and Financials:

A **motion** was made (E. Wiss) and **seconded** (J. Quest) to approve the minutes and financials, as provided. **Motion passed unanimously.** The minutes from the November 3, 2022 Board meeting will be filed.

Unfinished Business:

A.: Land Acknowledgement Statement: M. Faulkner reminded Board members that LWVMN released their Land Acknowledgement Statement in November 2022. The question is now, “How should we proceed?” Discussion followed: It was mentioned that discussion/work has already been done by the Board and the DEI committee. It was suggested that our focus be on the “action” that should be taken, related to this issue, and those “actions” should be recorded. The Board recognizes that this is a process/commitment and should not be “easy.” The president will contact committee chairs and ask that their members familiarize themselves with the LWVMN statement and look at how their committees are keeping this in mind when doing their work.

B. LWVMN Firearms in MN Study: M. Faulkner reported that the “LWVMN Firearms in MN” Consensus Meeting has been rescheduled for February 9, 2023 (at 6:00 via Zoom).

New Business:

A. 2023 Former and Currently Incarcerated Persons Voter Registration Grant:

E. Wiss reported that LWV Duluth has received a \$500 pass-through grant from LWVUS for this project. LWVUS will be offering two opportunities for kick-off training: February 1 at 6 p.m. ET and February 3 at 2 p.m. ET. (Attendance at only one session is necessary.) E. Wiss plans to attend.

B. Announce “Gifts in Honor of/in Memory of” in The Voter: Discussion was held on this topic, as well as the need to consider how this can be addressed on the LWV Duluth website when individuals are in the process of making their donation. The Board supports both issues. M. Faulkner, G. Thorson, N. Aldridge, and S. Grandmaison will to explore a possible implementation process—prior to the next Board meeting.

C. Scheduling the Equali-TEA, and Annual Meeting: Discussion was held. It was suggested that the Equali-TEA planning group consider a change of date and program theme. Chairperson Jean Farmakes will be contacted. The Annual Meeting will be addressed at the February Board meeting. (“Ranked Choice Voting” was suggested as a possible program topic.)

D. National Popular Vote Informational Webinar: M. Faulkner reported that Eileen Reavey is the National Grassroots Director of this effort and has reached out to LWV Duluth. The Board expressed support for presenting this information to the membership. It was also suggested that this could be the topic for this year’s “Women of Influence” event. Scheduling will occur in the near future.

For the Good of the Order (Announcements, Questions, Concerns):

A. Membership Committee: A. Gille reported that LWV Duluth now has 216 members, which is also 14 more members than one year ago.

B. Citizens in Action Workshop: E. Wiss reminded Board members of the Citizens in Action Workshop on January 28—and invited them to attend and/or volunteer to help.

C. Announcement: J. Hovland stated that Board members should consider nominating themselves to the LWVMN Board. This would give Duluth a voice.

D. Announcement: M. Faulkner alerted members to the upcoming LWVMN Convention, which will be held in New Ulm.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Board Meeting, Thursday, February 2, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Thorson, Secretary

ADDENDUM (Business occurring after the regular meeting on January 5, 2023—Voting completed electronically):

January 17, 2023—The Board approved, by majority, two items:

1. Letter signing to support Water Legacy and Honor the Earth on issues related to nickel sulfide ore mining.
2. Letter signing to support anti-nuclear proliferation.

