

League of Women Voters of Duluth: Board of Directors Meeting
“Zoom” meeting
October 1, 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, Julie Seidelmann, Gail Nouska, Sue De-Nio, Gay Trachsel, Ellen Wiss

Absent: Jane Hovland

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 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:

The consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent. The reports from the September 10, 2020 board meeting will be filed.

Committee Reports:

- ***See attached reports from the Communication, Membership, Natural Resources, and Voter Services Committees for more information.***

Additional Committee Reports:

- ***Voter Services*** (M. Faulkner & E. Wiss)
 - Senate District 7 forum is scheduled for October 5, 2020 at the PACTV studio.
 - County Commissioner District 3 forum has not been scheduled, to date. Candidates are reluctant to use any format other than virtual. LWVMN guidelines prohibit virtual forums.
 - Congressional District 8 forum has not been scheduled and is unlikely to occur.
 - Voter materials have been mailed out to identified unregistered voters.
 - October 13: last day to pre-register to vote
 - “Vote from Home” signs are still available and should be distributed.
 - Motion** was made (E. Wiss) and **seconded** (S. Grandmaison) to approve the revised Public Service Announcement, “No Pants Required.” **Motion passed** unanimously. The PSA can now be posted on our website, Facebook, Twitter pages. Other media (i.e. WDIO-TV, KBJR-TV, KUMD radio) will be contacted, also.
- ***Events*** (S. Grandmaison)
 - Several suggestions for possible speakers at the “Women of Influence” event have been received.
 - Attempts to contact the “Snowflake” facility have been made regarding the possibility of its feasibility as a site for this year’s “holiday social.” NOTE: It was recommended that the event be simple and within guidelines for holding an outdoor event during COVID-19.

Announcements:

- Reminder: Now is the time to renew your membership.

—Suggestion: Voter Services chairpersons should write an article re: the voting process, to be submitted to the Duluth News Tribune (for its “Our View” page). *NOTE: Board approval will be obtained via email, in order to have the article submitted prior to the general election.

—Gay Trachsel reported that there will be a “Zoom” presentation on the Talon/Kennecott mining project, by Don Arnosti, on October 28, 2020. Attendance is encouraged.

—Suggestion: LWV Duluth should track and acknowledge the death of members. Details will be determined.

Adjournment:

A **motion** was made (S. Grandmaison) and **seconded** (N. Aldridge) to adjourn.

Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Thorson, Secretary

Committee Reports – September 2020

September 2020 Communications Committee Report October Board Meeting

LWV Duluth email account was checked regularly, and emails were forwarded to the appropriate people.

E-News emails were sent out in September:

- Reminder: “Vote From Home: yard signs available
- National Voter Registration Day September 22: Volunteers Needed
- LWV Duluth Virtual Fall Kick-Off
- Census Deadline: September 30
- October Voter Online

New members were added to the mailing and email databases.

LWV Duluth website and calendar updated

- Zoom meetings were put on the website calendar.
- Board meeting minutes were posted on the website.
- Committee pages were updated.
- Membership page was updated including posting the 2020 membership form.

Facebook and Twitter

- Information about LWV Duluth was posted on Facebook and Twitter.

LWV Voter Newsletter

October newsletter was created and made available online and via US mail.

The deadline for the November newsletter is October 15.

Submitted by:

Gwen Thorson

Julie Seidelmann

Membership Committee 10/1/20 Report

Virtual Kickoff

A virtual kickoff was held on September 16, 2020. Sixty-two people attended. Our city clerk and past LWV of Duluth's president, Chelsea Helmer, made an informative presentation on the "Impacts of COVID-19 and the 2020 Election". Each committee chair gave a brief description of their committee and the work planned for the coming year. The membership committee is hoping for an in-person kickoff next year, however, if the country is still experiencing a pandemic, a virtual kickoff has been shown to be better than no kickoff.

Membership Numbers

To date we have 33 new members and 45 members who have renewed their membership. On October 15 a renewal letter will be sent to the approximately 150 members who have not yet renewed. Early in November an E-News will be sent reminding members if they haven't renewed, they have one last chance.

Mentors

A big thank you goes out to all of the board members who have taken the job of mentoring new members. If you have yet to sign up to mentor someone or if you are willing to mentor another new member please contact Theresa O'Gara

Meet and Greet

Due to the pandemic, an in-person meet and greet for new members will not be held. At the October 12, membership committee, a discussion of ways to provide an orientation for new members will be held.

Submitted by Theresa O'Gara

Natural Resources Committee- September Report
October Board Meeting 2020

NR Resources :

- Presentation for membership on October 28th by Don Arnosti on the Talon/Kennecott mining. (Open to non members)
- Reminder that the Bagit ordinance will be on the City Council's agenda in January- undecided as next action by the League.
- MEP, which we are a part of, is setting and discussing the scope of policies for the coming legislative year—restore MPCA Citizen Board, separate Mineral promotion from DNR, Prove it first, Landfill mining for recycled metals.
- Legal updates: some Arguments will be In October, some no date set, some 6 months to a year out.
- LWV signed on to letter to Army Corp and DNR asking for no approval to Northshore mining's tailings basin expansion.

Submitted by Gay Trachsel

2020 Voter Services Activity Log (revised 9/30/20)

Date	Activity	Contact/ Volunteers	Description
7/5/20	YWCA	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
7/16/20	Canal Park	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
7/23/20	Super One West End	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
8/6/20	Harrison Farmers' Market	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation

8/10/20	St. Louis County Commissioner District 3 Candidate Forum	Mary Katherine Faulkner, Pat Castellano, Mary Streufert	PACT TV Candidate Forum
8/13/20	YMCA Harbor Highlands	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
8/18/20	Family Collaborative at Denfeld	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
8/17/20	Hillside Whole Foods Coop	Thersa O'Gara, Gay Trachsel, Sally Munger, Ellen Wiss	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
8/20/20	Duluth Public Library	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
8/22/20	Ruby's Pantry Fond du Lac	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
8/27/20	YMCA Gary New Duluth	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
9/3/20	YWCA	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
9/10/20	Hillside Community Center	Andrea Gelb, Meg Litts, NAACP	Mask Distribution and Voter Registratation
8/24/20	Denfeld Whole Foods Coop	Sally Munger	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/9/20	Harrison Farmers' Market	Gail Schoenfelder	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/11/20	Steve O'Neil Apartments	Gay Trachsel	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes

Date	Activity	Contact/ Volunteers	Description
9/11/20	Food Bank	Judy Sausen	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/14/20	Hillside Whole Foods Coop	Sally Munger	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/17/20	Ruby's Pantry-Coppertop	Sally Munger	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/18/20	Steve O'Neil Apartments	Gay Trachsel	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/18/20	Food Bank	Judy Sausen	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/22/20	NVRD - Downtown Library	Ellen Wiss, Judith Johnson	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/22/20	NVRD - Damiano Center	Ellen Wiss, Stephanie Balmer, Joan Ura-Borchert	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes

9/22/20	NVRD - First Lutheran	Ellen Wiss, Polly Edmunds, Mary Streufert	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/22/20	NVRD - FDL	Joan Peterson, Andrea Gelb	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/23/20	Mailing to Unregistered Voters	Ellen Wiss	Mailed Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes to 700 Unregistered Voters in Duluth Precincts that were under-represented in previous elections
9/25/20	Food Bank	Judy Sausen	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
9/28/20	Denfeld Whole Foods Coop	Sally Munger	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
TBD	Kids' Closet	Gwen Thorson	Distributing Voter Registration Forms, Absentee Ballot Applicationns, and Stamped Pre-addressed Envelopes
10/5/20	MN Senate District 7 Candidate Forum	Mary Katherine Faulkner, Pat Castellano, Joan Peterson	PACT TV Candidate Forum

Submitted by Ellen Wiss

Voter Services - Forums: Mary Faulkner will report at meeting
Health Committee - No report
Cross Cultural Committee - No report
Event Committee - Sandy Grandmaison will report at meeting