

**League of Women Voters of Duluth: Board of Directors Meeting**  
**“Zoom” meeting**  
**October 6, 2021**  
**5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**SECRETARY MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Meg Litts, Mary Faulkner,, Gwen Thorson, Nancy Aldridge, Sandy Grandmaison, Theresa O’Gara, Julie Seidelmann, Ellen Wiss, Gay Trachsel, Jane Hovland, Anita Gille, Gail Nouska, Sue DeNio

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by President Meg Litts.

**Diversity Statement:** The LWV Duluth Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement was read by Anita Gille.

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

A **motion** was made (G. Thorson) and **seconded** (M. Faulkner) to approve the minutes with the addition of the addenda (reported orally). **Motion passed unanimously.** The minutes from the August 11, 2021 Board meeting will be filed. The financial report was unavailable.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Written report from the Voter Services (Registration) was made available for review.**
- **Events** (S. Grandmaison)
  - A “voting rights” event will be held on November 16. The planning committee will meet on October 8.
- **Voter Services (Forums)** (M. Faulkner)
  - 2 forums were filmed today for at-large and 2nd district city council seats.
  - 2 forums were filmed earlier for at-large and 1st and 4th district school board seats.
  - No forum will be filmed for the 4th district city council seat.
- **Communications Committee** (G. Thorson)
  - 11 E-News messages were created and sent.
  - Website was updated and new pages were created for upcoming events.
  - “Voter” deadline is October 15.
- **Membership** (A. Gille)
  - Membership is underway, now: Renew, encourage new people to join; can join or renew online.
  - We now have 220 members (18 new members since February 2021).
- **Natural Resources** (G. Trachsel)
  - Bag-lt ordinance will take effect on October 15.
  - St. Louis River Areas of Concern: Lots has been done and there is more to do. There will be a November event to celebrate accomplishments.
  - Need a replacement for Barb Akre, to be an observer for the Natural Resources Commission.
  - Working to monitor mining issues.
  - Line 3: DNR has fined Enbridge for a leak.
  - Planning to work with college students to be active, especially on climate change issues.
  - City of Duluth has hired Mindy Granley as Sustainability Officer. It is hoped that she will do a presentation for LWV in the future.

**Other:**

- Written “committee reports” will be sent to Mary Faulkner, prior to Board meetings.
- Board meetings will be posted on the website calendar.
- LWV Duluth committee meetings will be posted on the website calendar.

**Old Business**

- None.

**New Business:**

- **Board retreat:** There was general discussion about how to proceed. A November date was suggested as was waiting until we could meet in person. Recommendations for retreat discussion: deciding on “program” and a “land acknowledgement statement.”

- **Programming**

- The **Cross Cultural Committee** has organized a presentation on CRT, on October 12.

- Redistricting and Voter Impact** (E. Wiss): We are working with LWVMN to inform our members, community, and faith-based partners about the importance of their participation in drawing fair and accurate redistricting maps. A virtual training was held September 23. We need to be aware of this timely issue. We need to act now.

- Family Freedom Farms Big Tent Festival:** We were not invited for voter registration.

**Announcements:**

- None.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Thorson, Secretary