

**League of Women Voters of Duluth: Board of Directors Meeting**  
**“Zoom” meeting**  
**October 6, 2022**  
**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, Katherine Rasley, Ellen Wiss

**Members Absent:** Meg Litts, Jeri Quest

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by President Mary Faulkner.

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

### **Unfinished Business:**

**A. Special Presentation: Program & Advocacy:** Michelle Witte (LWVMN Executive Director) and Sam Streukens (LWVMN Civic Engagement Director) provided education on “Advocacy” and “Program” to help LWV Duluth strengthen its work in these areas. Michelle gave an overview of a number of resources available on the LWVMN website (under “Local Leagues: Member Resources,” especially) and the LWVUS website. Tips from Michelle included: 1) “Speak with one voice.” 2) “We can have ‘big P’ (priorities) and ‘small P’ (providing opportunities for education and other events.)” 3) “Put the big rocks in first.” Questions/Answers followed the presentation.

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

A **motion** was made (G. Thorson) and **seconded** (S. Grandmaison) to approve the minutes and financials, as provided. **Motion passed unanimously.** The minutes from the September 1, 2022 Board meeting will be filed. Comment: Since the annual Kickoff, LWV Duluth has received approximately \$1800 in donations. N. Aldridge stated that the letter sent to members prior to the event encouraging membership renewal and donation probably helped.

### **New Business:**

**A. Resignation:** Mary Faulkner announced that Board member, Meg Litts, submitted a letter of resignation from the Board, today (October 6, 2022). This Board vacancy will be filled as soon as possible. Mary Faulkner will explore potential candidates.

**B. Land Acknowledgement Statement:** Mary Faulkner introduced the topic, which was followed by discussion. It was determined that more time is needed in order to see the proposed LWV Duluth statement alongside the LWVMN statement and to obtain clarification before voting. In the meantime, it was determined that we use the LWVMN land acknowledgement statement.

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

**A. Fundraising:** Mary Faulkner applied for the Whole Foods GIVE program, on behalf of LWV Duluth. She reported that LWV Duluth is now listed on the “Owner” ballot. Results of the fundraising survey indicated that approximately 75% of the members would “likely” or “very likely” 1) purchase an LWV Duluth T-shirt and 2) purchase a ticket for a League-sponsored event.

**B. Environmental Action Committee:** The committee will conduct an information session, via Zoom, about the Duluth Parks Levy Referendum, on October 19, 2022, 6:30-8:00 p.m. It will be held in conjunction with the Izaak Walton League.

**C. Voter Services:** Sue DeNio reported that a new youth fellow has been recruited. The student attends Denfeld High School and now joins another fellow from East High School. The committee has received 5 more requests to conduct voter registration since this month's committee report was submitted. Three forums have been completed and one more is to be scheduled. (There is a link for viewing available on our website.) Mary Faulkner and Ellen Wiss will write a "letter to the editor" re: voting, secure elections, etc.

**D. Membership Committee:** Anita Gille reported that many of the new members are the result of voter registration events.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

Board Meeting, Thursday, November 3, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Thorson, Secretary

**ADDENDA** (Business occurring after the regular meeting on October 6, 2022—Voting completed electronically):

**October 19, 2022**—The Board approved, by majority, the appointment of Lori Dando to the Board of Directors of League of Women Voters of Duluth.