

League of Women Voters of Duluth: Board of Directors Meeting
“Zoom” meeting
April 14, 2022
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

SECRETARY MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Anita Gille, Jane Hovland

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by President Meg Litts.

Diversity Statement: The LWV Duluth Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement was read by Meg Litts

Consent Agenda—Approval of the Minutes and Financials:

A **motion** was made (G. Trachsel) and **seconded** (S. Grandmaison) to approve the minutes and financials, as provided. **Motion passed unanimously.** The minutes from the March 17, 2022 Board meeting will be filed.

Committee Reports:

- ***Written reports from the Communications, Voter Services, Natural Resources, and Membership committees were made available for review.***
- ***Communications***
 - See written report.
- ***Membership***
 - See written report.
- ***Observer Corps***
 - No report.
- ***Voter Services (S. DeNio)***
 - See written report.
 - The committee is checking for events being held, to proceed with voter registration. Waiting for acceptance by a potential co-chairperson
- ***Diversity, Equity and Inclusion***
 - No report.

Review and Vote on Updates to Bylaws to Align with LWVMN and LWVUS:

Discussion was held. J. Seidelmann and G. Thorson reported that the revised bylaws have already been given preliminary approval by Laura Helmer, LWVMN President. A **motion** was made (N. Aldridge) and **seconded** (S. DeNio) to approve the revised bylaws. **Motion passed unanimously.** The bylaws will be presented to the membership for final approval, at the Annual Meeting on May 12, 2022.

*NOTE: J. Seidelmann will send the Board of Directors Handbook to Board members, upon email request. (Handbook includes League bylaws, policies, and program.)

Update on Redistricting (E. Wiss):

St. Louis County has proposed a few changes to Commissioner Districts, which will receive a final vote at the Board of Commissioners Meeting on April 26, in Hoyt Lakes. The Fond du Lac reservation will be completely within the 5th District. Brevator Township will move from District 5 to District 7. The city of Duluth is within 1%; and are eliminating precinct #20—putting citizens in the current precincts #19 and #21 areas. LWV needs to be aware and continue to monitor the process.

Recruiting Co-Chairs and Members for Communications Committee (M. Faulkner):

The "Voter" newsletter, membership committee, and E-News are being used to recruit potential co-chairs. Formation of an ad hoc committee is being considered to address League communication needs, which would include: Maria Isley, Christina Woods (offering a Duluth Art Institute staff person), Kristin Smith (LWVMN Communications Director), and others as needed.

Old Business:

a) Dues reimbursement (M. Faulkner): A portion of our dues is tax-deductible. This information needs to be communicated to members, perhaps on our website and/or via E-News. Suggestion was made that this information be shared with members in the September and December newsletters, including an explanation of the tax-deductible percentage and an explanation of where our dues goes (i.e. LWV Duluth, LWVMN, LWVUS). M. Faulkner will draft language to address this.

New Business:

- a) Equali-TEA: S. Grandmaison will communicate with Jean Farmakes, Equali-TEA co-chairperson, indicating the Board's support for a tea in March 2023. The Board recognizes that it may or may not be the final time that this event is held.
- b) Holiday Social: S. Grandmaison will check on availability at the Building for Women in December 2022.
- c) Annual Meeting: S. Grandmaison reminded members that the Annual Meeting begins at 7:00 pm. on Thursday, May 12. She also announced that a \$200 honorarium will be given to Jodi Slick, guest speaker.
- d) Fall Kickoff: The Kickoff will be held on September 8, 2022 at Harbor City School. The membership committee wants the Board to direct the Kickoff program.
- e) LWVUS Convention: G. Trachsel announced that the national convention will be held in Colorado. Members will also be able to attend virtually. She suggested that M. Faulkner and J. Hovland, incoming LWV Duluth president and vice-president, be asked if they are interested in attending. M. Litts will check with them. It was recommended that this be a line item in future budgets and that an electronic vote to authorize any expenditure for this year's convention be conducted.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Future Meetings:

May: Annual Meeting, Thursday, May 12, 7:00-8:30

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Thorson, Secretary