

**League of Women Voters of Duluth: Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Kitchi Gammi Club**  
**August 20, 2024**  
**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

## **SECRETARY MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Jane Hovland, Nancy Aldridge, Gwen Thorson, Ellen Wiss, Sue DeNio, Theresa O’Gara, Barb Possin

**Members Absent:** Sandy Grandmaison, Sue Henke, Faye Witt, Lori Dando, Pam Kramer

**1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:01 a.m. by President Jane Hovland.

**2. Consent Agenda (including Secretary’s Minutes, Treasurer’s Financial Statements):** A **motion** was made (S. DeNio) and **seconded** (E. Wiss) to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda was **approved** unanimously.

**3. Committee updates, if available:**

- a) Communication: E-News has been sent throughout the summer
- b) Membership: October “meet and greet” will be held; 7 new members since May; unable to find a committee chair, but Gay Trachsel and Sally Munger are sharing chair responsibilities until November; next committee meeting will be November 7
- c) Environmental Action: Searching for chairperson(s)
- d) DEI: Meeting the 2nd Saturday of the month (September 14); Gail Schoenfelder is looking for a co-chairperson; will be examining the DEI statement
- e) Observer Corps: no report
- f) Voter Services: has adequate volunteers; several voter registration events scheduled; assisting other groups with materials; general election forum videos will be available at the end of September; committee will be invited to a January or February Board meeting for discussion/lookup to past year
- g) International Relations: Need for discussion of future plans; Humphrey Fellows will not be visiting Duluth this fall

**IMPORTANT:** Communication with all committees is important. Each committee should have the opportunity to come to a Board meeting to share their information.

**4. Fall Kickoff discussion:** The “Fall Kickoff” will be held on September 5, 2024, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth. The Board will supply desserts and beverages. Kathy Heltzer will lead a sing-a-long. Membership committee will do renewals. Committee chairs will table and do a brief elevator speech. “Votes for Women” sashes have been purchased and will be worn by Board members and committee chairs. Brief discussion followed regarding decorations, food, etc.

**5. Building for Women:** Discussion was held about our rental at the Building for Women. There is potential of a rent increase. This issue will be addressed in the future, as needed.

**6. Action Items:**

- a) Section II of Nonpartisan Policy: A **motion** was made (E. Wiss) and **seconded** (N. Aldridge) to approve Section II of the nonpartisan policy. **Motion passed.** (NOTE: Sections I and III were passed previously.)
- b) Youth Fellows funding request update: One student bowed out, so we now have 3 fellows—1 at Denfeld and 2 at East. LWV Duluth has now received funding from LWVMN for a 4th fellow.
- c) Land Acknowledgement Statement: Discussion included questions about whether we need to have a statement and if so, should we use or adapt the statement used by LWVMN. It was decided 1) to continue the discussion at the September Board meeting, 2) that adoption of the LWVMN statement is a good idea, and 3) that we need to determine when and how to use the statement.

**Announcements:**

None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Thorson, Secretary