

**League of Women Voters of Duluth: Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Building for Women, Founders' Room**  
**September 10, 2024**  
**5:00 p.m.**

## **SECRETARY MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Jane Hovland, Theresa O’Gara, Nancy Aldridge, Gwen Thorson, Ellen Wiss, Sue DeNio, Barb Possin, Sue Henke, Pam Kramer, Lori Dando, Faye Witt

**Members Absent:** Sandy Grandmaison

**1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by President Jane Hovland.

**2. Welcome:** Introduction of new Board members, Barb Possin and Faye Witt

**3. Review of “Fall Kickoff”:** Approximately 80 members attended and about 50 members paid their dues at the event. The use of online dues payment worked well at the event, also. The program of singing songs with a purpose worked well. A mix of ages attended. Suggestion: For the future, Board members could park underground.

**4. Consent Agenda (including Secretary’s Minutes, Treasurer’s Financial Statements):** A **motion** was made (P. Kramer) and **seconded** (S. Henke) to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda was **approved** unanimously. Note: Treasurer N. Aldridge reported that a \$10,000 CD was purchased in August at a rate close to 5% for 7 months.

**5. Business/Action Matters:**

- a) LWV rental at the Building for Women is in question. BFW wants to increase our rent to \$125/month and requests that LWV move to a different space within the building. Discussion/brainstorming followed. Alternative locations were suggested, including the Damiano Center, First United Methodist Church (Copper Top), Chester Park United Methodist Church, Stewart’s Bikes. Discussion will continue at the next Board meeting.
- b) Gail Schoenfelder has requested that she not be listed as an emerita member.
- c) Other: LWV Duluth is considering involvement in “election review” on/or about November 14. A first training will be held on October 29, 2024. Opportunities will be available in St. Louis, Carlton, and Lake counties.

**6. Review of Committees’ Statuses:**

- a) Communication: E-News and “The Voter” have been sent as needed/scheduled.
- b) Membership: Gay Trachsel and Sally Munger are sharing chair responsibilities until November; next committee meeting will be November.
- c) Observer Corps: Members like their identification pins.

- d) Voter Services: Budget is appropriate; Whole Foods will donate; two 1-minute videos costing \$125 each, will be created using grant monies; a second Youth Civic Engagement Fellow has been recruited at Denfeld High School. OTHER: There will be a new citizen ceremony held in Duluth, sometime in October. LWV Duluth typically provides voter registration at the event.
- e) International Relations: Humphrey Fellows will not be visiting Duluth this fall. Discussion of ideas for additional future plans.
- f) Environmental Action: The committee is not very active now.
- g) Events: The “Holiday Social” will be held on December 5 at Northland Country Club. Planning for “Women of Influence” is beginning.
- h) Citizens in Action: The workshop will be held February 1, 2025 at First United Methodist Church (“Copper Top”)
- i) Fundraising: There is now a webpage for the LWV Duluth - Joyce Benson Scholarship on our website that allows for online donation. We will continue to fundraise.
- j) Housing: Need to begin to initiate their work.

**Announcements:**

None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Thorson, Secretary