

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY

2019-20 BOARD MINUTES

August 14, 2019

Present: Aileen Nettleton, Paul Lindquist, Brook Soltvedt, Mary Anglim, Sally Gleason, Helen Horn, Maria Spinozzi, Christine Clements, Donna Van Bogaert, Joan Provencher, Marilyn Stephen

Absent: Marian Matthews

1. **Meeting called to order** at 1:30 PM by Aileen Nettleton. Aileen reminded board members that everyone needs to review the by-laws and sign off once they do so. The sheet was passed around. Board members are also reminded to review 2 additional documents—Roles of Board Members and Rate Yourself as a Board Member. She also reminded us that Voter Services will be the focus of the September meeting and Fundraising will be the focus in October.

2. **Approval of the Minutes**—Some edits were added electronically and approved at the meeting. Brook made a motion to approve the edited minutes, seconded by Sally. All approved. A big thank you to Chris for covering the July minutes for Joan.

3. **Treasurer's Report—Helen**—Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss, Income/Expense Reports were provided in the board packet and reviewed at the meeting. Helen asked board members which reports they most want to see each month. She noted as an example that the Balance Sheet did not change very much from the prior month. There was discussion about focusing our attention on the reports that show comparisons to budget and comparison to the same month last year. Chris pointed out that fundraising numbers may not match Helen's reports due to timing.

Aileen asked about how the payroll service is working. Helen said it is going well.

4. **Voter service—Paul** The major focus is the UW bus pass event (see report in board packet). UW made a change to the online Student Center which we have used for Proof of Address when registering students. New system is potentially more challenging for those helping with registrations. Paul is going to a meeting today on campus to try to resolve this. City Clerk will also be at the meeting.

UW intern (see report). A motion to approve the intern was passed at a prior meeting. A vote was taken to endorse this. Next step is to hire an intern. Sarah Gavic (member who is grad student) is taking the lead on this. It is a benefit to LWVDC to have a contact/connection at UW due to complications that arise with events we hold there. Job posting says applications are "Accepted through mid-September". Intern is an employee of the Union, doesn't have to be a member of the League but membership is free. Maria will look into the exact dates.

5. **Publicity**—Publicity is the "feature of the day" for this board meeting. A link to Donna's PowerPoint presentation can be found in the board packet. Donna sees creating a communication infrastructure, PR templates, and a communication plan among the most critical needs. She will create an electronic folder for archival documents. If someone thinks of a media outlet that is not on the current list, they should send it to Donna.

Donna also discussed creating a mentorship program (see documents in packet). Perhaps it could be started as a pilot program? A vote will be taken at the September meeting. A question was raised about whether any resources are needed. It was agreed that it is mostly people's time.

Other documents in the Publicity folder: PR request form, draft of Publicity Chair Job Description. Brook shared the University League's procedure of updating Job Descriptions every year or when people leave positions.

6. Program—Mary

See board packet for proposals

"Making Democracy Work" is the topic for the Lively Issues forum

Mary proposed "Why the Climate Crisis Is a Public Health Emergency" as the title for September forum. Brook made a motion to approve, Chris seconded. The motion was approved.

The 50 State redistricting strategy was discussed, including a suggestion that we advertise a meeting on Fair Maps Nov 9th in Marshfield. Discussion ensued about the partisan nature of some of the members of this coalition. To be discussed further.

The Climate change committee is talking about a request from the Sierra Club to co-sponsor meetings on climate change. In LWVDC Policies and Procedures (miscellaneous section), there is a document titled "Clarification of Terms related to Co-Sponsorship (DRAFT 2.0)". As noted in the title, this is currently in draft form. The Sierra Club says their interest is for educational purposes only (through their 501(c) (3)), not partisan. Discussion ensued about how this affects our non-partisan image with the general public. Is there any State League guidance available regarding the Sierra Club? Mary has not found any guidelines. The Sierra Club very much wants to participate in the role of government in combating climate change. Options were discussed including adding some type of disclaimer to the meeting announcement, or inviting them as a speaker but not a sponsor. Brook commented that LWVDC has a lot of risk and questioned what we would gain, especially given that this is a forum which is our program. A working group was created to discuss this further and report back to the board. Donna, Aileen, and Mary volunteered. Brook suggested Kathleen Fullin and Georgianna be added, and that the group seek State and National input.

7. Fundraising--Chris only got one "wish list" item in response to her prior request.

8. Membership

Mary Ellen discussed the new student membership program. A suggestion was made to change the name of these to "100th Anniversary Student Scholarship" (*remove "votes for women"*). This is a DEI initiative. LWVDC will sponsor all student members, even those who have already joined.

Motion to approve supporting student memberships for current and new student members for this year was made by Mary Ellen, Donna seconded. Approved.

The following are some dates to remember for league basics info-social functions: Sept. 22,

October 2nd—downtown library already scheduled. Can we do the orientation before the forum?

Marilyn—next meeting for observer corps is Sept 9 5:30 at the league office

9. Vice President—Brook stated that there is nothing new, besides what is in her report (see board packet).

10. President's Report--Aileen—planning committee for 100th birthday gathering is considering a plated dinner so presentations can start, instead of buffet. It was noted that this might actually be more cost effective as well. Aileen indicated that the event might include different pricing levels for different levels of donations. She also needs ideas about music, social hour, and other details. We hope to have someone from National as keynote speaker.

Census project—pre-publicity and speakers are needed. Materials have been translated into Spanish.

Kathy Krusiec was not available for the meeting today, but we reviewed the Proposed Volunteer Coordinator role description. Kathy has agreed to lead this. Jean Jacobson will continue to coordinate the Book Groups, but has agreed to be the Finance Chair, so cannot be a Volunteer Coordinator. Voter Services has their own list and recruits volunteers for their events directly. How can the annual survey results be used to form other groups? A mapping exercise was suggested as a way to determine how/where it is happening now.

A Board Planning retreat is being planned, possibly for November. Planning needs to occur in September. The main agenda will be to set priorities for the coming year. Marilyn, Donna, Mary Ellen, Chris will be on the planning committee. Aileen will request Georgiana Hernandez serve as facilitator.

Motion to adjourn at 3:40pm: Brook made the motion, seconded by Chris.