



## **Board Minutes**

**January 26, 2022 - via Zoom**

### **7:00 – 8:30 PM – board business**

Present: Barb Anderson, Barb Barany, Wayne Groff, Sherry Hood, Bonnie Koch, Rita Mills, Mary Peterson, Karen Schaffer, Florence Sprague, Teresa Wernecke, Jim Benedet

Absent: Rachel Geiser, Jessica Holz, Kathy Macomber

1. Additions/changes to agenda: Sherry Hood requested addition of Nominating Committee report

2. Approval of minutes, November 17, 2021

3. Treasurer's Report : In the November report there is a charge to Program which should be changed to Voter Services.

4. Reports of Officers – Discussion/Questions/Comments

- a. President: Sharon McCord has resigned from the board.
- b. Vice President: none
- c. Secretary: none

5. Reports of Committees/CMAL Rep – Discussion/Questions/Comments

a. Action/Advocacy: monitoring of local government meetings continues; and interviews with legislators. The Environmental subcommittee 4/19 program is coming along. Sherry is also on the State Climate Action Task Force and talks about the subcommittee work there. Michelle Witte has asked Sherry to speak on what the subcommittee has done: Solar panels on the Anpétu Téča Education Center, and Partners in Energy in Roseville. At the State board meeting, 34 members will comprise the observer corps. Wayne brought up the Climate Emergency Declarations which 16 cities in Minnesota have signed. In our area, Maplewood and Lauderdale have adopted declarations, Roseville declined.

b. Communications: Continues to promote league activities and inform the public.

c. Membership: Rita updated that we currently have 134 members. Our membership records are now synced with the national database. The informational flyer from State has been modified with our League information and Rita has been sending flyers in the new member information. There was discussion of new member orientation and/or social, perhaps when weather permits outdoor gatherings. The

January Jumpstart is tomorrow, including a LWV 101 session which will be recorded. State has now aligned with national, so that student memberships are now at no cost to us. Low income is only \$13.50. We currently have them combined in our state records, so will need to change that. Barb will contact Kristen at the state and cc: Rita and Ann Toney. Ann Toney, who keeps track of databank, and Jessica Holz. will be stepping down at the end of this membership year.

d. Program: The end of year dinner, held at Cedarholm, featured the speaker from Northeast Youth and Family Services as the featured speaker. Conversation with constituents was a nice presentation. Rita added information that it is best to have Jenna's home phone number, as there were some technical difficulties and Jenna was managing the Zoom from home. Also, earlier in the day of the program, Nine North asked to be able to broadcast the recording. This requires pre-approval from RCL upper management. Jenna and /or our League don't have that authority. The request was approved in time. Just an FYI for future library programs. And Rita suggested that some of the questions used in the program may be useful for candidate forums. Discussion of including Nine North with library for programs. Wayne mentioned that Nine North is very responsive, technical things go smoothly, and they have, in the past, been able to do things within a day. Maplewood and the other communities wouldn't have the same cable access. Till a replacement director is named, Maureen Anderson is the current Nine North contact.

e. February is the ADA study presentation and consensus. March is the CMAL presentation and consensus and the second program is Yohuru Williams addressing the history of voter suppression. In April, the environmental subcommittee program is on the 19th. May is the annual meeting. Florence suggests that we need to clarify and have a plan for who is our target audience, apart from the business meeting. June is the electric car program. Death with Dignity. Utah has a position. This has been discussed at our state board meeting.

f. Program – Studies

i. ADA Compliance in our Five Cities: Jim stated that the meeting is all set for 2/15 including powerpoint.

ii. Equitable Representation (Advocacy): Haven't met.

f. Voter Services : Marcia Cheney has been asked to participate in state special committee. New voter ceremonies, there is a desire for a two person team to help Judy and take over eventually. Also need people to help with new voter ceremonies, that there have been no shows with some of the volunteers. There will be a Martin and Brown grant coming up this spring. There are 3 interns, one for metro, one for greater Minnesota. If we want an intern, we should just let Voter Services know. Looking for experienced moderators to help deliver the training for new moderators. Also promoting Vote 411, and a one-person violet llama suit. Discussion that in prior years, it has been much work for a limited return. While SOS has links to candidate websites, the thought is Vote 411 is more comprehensive, and more intuitive for the public.

g. CMAL: Looking forward to the March 29 program. Will have informational program in March on the Liveable Communities grant.

h. Nominating: First meeting is tomorrow and let committee members know if you have suggestions for committee heads.

6. Unfinished business

DEI within LWVRA: Last meeting discussed barriers to membership for low income individuals. We need a committee to explore how we would proceed with a DEI focus in recruitment. Kathy Ramundt has experience with inclusion and has a wealth of connections and is very busy with DGR. Edina has 3 subcommittees that are very active; and have an outreach chair. Edina has a reading component on their website; a deeper approach than just recruiting. Discussion that previous very effective outreach (census, for example) came to halt because of COVID. The groups were interested in working with us, more so than joining. Working together is a worthy goal in and of itself. Seeking questions from diverse communities, to include in candidate forums. Advertising our programs to diverse communities, inclusion in a Rondo church bulletin, for example. Developing contact information for the groups. A focus on diversifying our service area.

7. New Business

Annual Meeting Committee Report: Looking for prior approval for dessert cost. Suggest that donations be solicited and board will cover any shortfall.

8. Announcements;

9. Adjournment 8:44 pm

Next Regular Board Meeting Wednesday, February 23, 2022