



MINUTES OF THE LWV ROSEVILLE AREA BOARD MEETING November 20, 2019
Fireside Room, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Victoria and Co. Rd. D, Roseville, MN

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by League President Sherry Hood.

Present: Barb Anderson, Barb Barany, Jim DeBenedet, Stephanie DeBenedet, Sherry Hood, Priscilla Morton, Mary Peterson (secretary), and Beth Reinhart

Absent: Joyce Briggs, Grace Gee, Rachel Geiser, Wayne Groff, Bonnie Koch, Karen Lake and Karen Schaffer

1. Approval of Minutes of October 23, 2019 Meeting

Seeing no corrections, the minutes are approved.

2. Financial/Treasurer's Report

We accepted the treasurer's report (**see attachment**).

3. Reports of Officers:

a. President

President Sherry Hood reported on the Local League Presidents' call. Paul Huffman from the Woodbury/Cottage Grove League will have a toolkit on the State League website soon for the People Powered Fair Maps Campaign. There is a Census Action Kit available on the State League website including information on determining residence for college students. State League was audited and was ok.

President Hood is looking into a replacement for Elizabeth Hansel for the LWVMN Youth Civic Engagement program. Vote411.org has been very successful for the Golden Valley League. An ad hoc Vote411 subcommittee under Voter Services may be formed sometime in January 2020.

b. Vice-President

- Vice-president Barb Barany attended LWVMN sponsored training on November 9, along with Sherry and Teresa Wernecke. Topics included board meetings for small boards, logistics and timing for the upcoming presidential primary and local league centennial celebrations and fundraising.
- Barb B. attended Fundamentals of Nonprofit Finance on November 12 that was sponsored by Twin Cities United Way. Training was given by Propel Nonprofits and focused on income statements, balance sheets, what should be included, and what board members should look for with each. The website propelnonprofits.org, includes educational materials.

c. Secretary – No report

4. Reports of Committees:

a. Action Advocacy

Observer corps process is running smoothly. Volunteers are sending observations and highlights of agenda items to be sent to Barb A. on Saturday. Current volunteers are:

- Deb Alexander – Falcon Heights
- Carol Marchel – Roseville School district and Maplewood
- Beth Salzl – Ramsey County Commissioner (just started)
- Judy Murakami – Mounds View School Board (unconfirmed)
- Priscilla Morton - Roseville

Thank you was given to Barb A. for all her assistance and taking on this additional page each week.

Environmental Subcommittee – notes from Donna Peterson

- Scheduled writers and topics for regular articles in the *Voter* for the next six months.
- Moving forward on details and timeline for March 24 Forum with mayors, to be co-sponsored by the Roseville library.
- Participating in plans for 50th Anniversary of Earth Day 2020 with the State LWV.
- Continue to work with Resilient Roseville group.

b. Communications

1. Social Media: Boosted event in Facebook for the November 19 Fair Housing program. Shared postings from LWVMN.
2. Friday Email Blasts: Sent information about the November Fair Housing program, the December Holiday Dinner, Local Meetings schedule on the website and a Better Angels workshop - talking about politics with family members.
3. Website: Posted an article about the Presidential Primary, an article about (and link to) the November/December *Voter*, weekly updates to the Local Meeting schedule, and a notice about the January Conversations with Constituents.
4. The *Voter*: November/December issue was published and distributed.
5. Public Relations: Shared information with Little Canada and Maplewood about the Conversations with Constituents January event in order to meet early deadlines. Will also share that information with the other cities in December.
6. With the help of Grace Riley at LWVMN, created an event on the DataBank software to allow members to register for the Holiday Dinner and pay online.
7. Provided an updated logo to the Board to be used going forward.

c. Membership

- Membership continues at 127.
- The new membership event held on November 7 at Wayne Groff's home had approximately half of the new members attending along with a good turnout of seasoned League members. Thank you to Wayne. Sherry extended her thanks to Beth, Stephanie and Jim.
- A Spotlight article appeared in the last month's *Voter*.
- There is a new handout for prospective members that will be used in place of the old pamphlet.
- The next step in the State data project is to convert renewals to their assigned dates. New members will renew according to their join date. All who were members prior to January 1, 2019 will have a March 31 renewal date, unless they choose to do it earlier.
- Stephanie reported there were 56 guests and 24 members at the November 19 program event – A Place for Everyone.

d. Program

- Up and coming events: December Theater Centennial Celebration on December 12, Conversation with Constituents on Thursday, January 16 at the Roseville City Hall. Please note, the date is not our regular third Tuesday.
- Considering a second Minnesota History Theater event in the spring for “Not For Sale” on the topic of redlining, a historical real estate practice to keep people of color from purchasing property in white neighborhoods in the 1950s and early 1960s. Before offering another theater opportunity, an improved method for payments needs to be put in place to assure that all tickets are paid for.

e. Voter Services

- Voter Services chairs’ statewide conference call occurred on November 11 with Nick Harper and Laura Helmer.
 - Information on the MN Primary Election is on the State League website under Member Resources/Voter Services, Picking the President Part 1. Publication of information on the Primary will again be publicized in the *Voter* and on the website.
 - State LWV is working to reduce administrative tasks for local leagues participating in Vote411. More information expected in January. LWVRA needs a volunteer to be the Vote411 coordinator.
- Teresa Wernecke, supported by Cecilia Warner will be organizing LWVRA Candidate Forums in the future.
- Rita Mills and Karen Lake picked up voting booths that were being replaced by the Minneapolis Elections Office. The booths are in storage at the Falcon Heights City Offices and may be used for displays and/or for voter education. Voter education opportunities are possible at Fairview Community Center.
- Promotion of Voter Services events will be sought through the five cities’ social media and other means. The goal is for one LWVRA person to serve as a contact person for each city and once the relationship is established to facilitate the communication of LWVRA voter services activities.
 - Alana Howey will be contact person with Roseville
 - Rita Mills – will be contact person with Little Canada
 - Volunteers are needed for Maplewood, Falcon Heights, and Lauderdale.
- Barb A. will manage increasing Boosts, which already occur. Merrie Zakaras currently submits LWVRA publicity items to the St. Paul Pioneer Press, but rarely is anything printed. Costs of ads are prohibitive.
- Two new members joined the Voter Services Committee after discussion at the gathering at Wayne Groff’s: Judie Murakami and Sharon Oswald.

f. Ad Hoc Census Report

- Infographic is complete and will be used in conjunction with one-on-one outreach, particularly with residents who do not read English well. Requested a version of the infographic that has open dialogue boxes, so different languages can be substituted or added.
- Census Awareness and Recruiting
 - Rice-Larpenteur Alliance Harvest Festival, even though cold weather was able to make valuable contacts with the Bhutanese Community of Minnesota with whom a tent was

shared. BCOM is supporting census, citizenship and voter registration among other services. League members encouraged people to apply for jobs with the US Census (enumerator) and the Asian American Organizing Project (phone banking). Connection was also made with the pastor of Galilee Lutheran Church who offered space for census activities. (staffed by Barb B. and Sherry)

- Fairview Alternative High School parent/student/teacher conferences. A table was staffed by Teresa Wernecke, Kathy Whatley, Sherry Hood, Rita Mills and Barb Barany. Explained the 2020 census logistics and recruited for US Census enumerators.
- Ramsey County St. Paul Complete Count Committee October 24 quarterly meeting was attended by Lisa Scribner, Teresa Wernecke and Barb B. Starting in December, meetings will be monthly. Flyers in many languages are becoming available. We are responsible for printing costs.
- Minnesota Council of Nonprofits grant proposal. Grant request submitted to purchase two tablets, giveaways (bookmarks and food), and marketing materials. Status update is expected this week. Barb B. also assisted the Bhutanese Community of Minnesota in writing a proposal for a different category of the same grant opportunity. LWVRA is listed as a collaborating organization for the BCOM grant.

g. Ad Hoc Centennial Report

- The subcommittee working on the Banner just finished a first review proof of the banner. Final edits/art will go to the printer by November 27.
- The subcommittee is also requesting \$150 toward the purchase of a table drape that will have the Roseville logo on it and fits a 6' or 8' banquet table. **(see Action Item C.)**

5. Unfinished Business: None

6. New Business

- Joyce Briggs is retiring as Treasurer effective December 31, 2019. Beth Salzl requested that an Ad Hoc committee be formed to find a treasurer. Sherry suggested appointing a committee consisting of Beth Salzl, Barb Anderson, Rita Mills, June Stewart, and Joyce Briggs. **(see Action Item A)**
- It was noted that Joyce is the only person on the LWVRA checking account. After discussion it was decided to add Barb Barany (incoming President) on the checking account. **(see Action Item B.)**

7. Action Items

- A. Barb A. motioned to create an ad hoc committee consisting of Beth Salzl, Barb Anderson, Rita Mills, June Stewart, and Joyce Briggs to review and clarify the job description of the treasurer. Motioned passed.
- B. Jim motioned that Barb Barany be put on the LWVRA checking account allowing her to write League checks. Motioned passed.
- C. Jim motioned for up to \$150 to purchase a 6' table drape with the Roseville logo on it. Motion carried.

8. Announcements: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Mary Peterson