

LWV-GTA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 14, 2011; noon – 2:00 PM
Traverse City Convention and Visitors Bureau
101 W. Grandview Parkway

Present: J. Howard, A. Wettlaufer, I. Kurt, B. Newson, D. Hornberger, L. Crandell, B. Berry, M. Grover, I. Brophy, M. Beeker, B. Ort-Smith, K. Dean, P. Laarman . V. Mikesell

Minutes: The minutes of the Annual Retreat June 13, 2011 were approved

President's Report D. Hornberger

*Lake Michigan LWV Board Meeting in Oaklawn, IL October 21-22. Registration due October 10. Susan Dixon LWVMi Board is attending.

*Take Action for Convenient Voting workshop in Lansing October 12, 2011
Registration online <http://fs16.formsite.com/lwvmi/ActionDay/index.html>

*Tapping: the Power and Using 411 workshop Nov. 5 10 AM – 3 PM NMC campus Beckett Bldg computer lab. Sign up sheet was passed.

Membership V. Mikesell

Ten new members since June. Letters will be going out to those who have not paid their dues.

Treasurer's Report J. Howard

9/12/11 Cash on hand \$13,624.99

9/12/11 Education Fund \$ 2,773.64

Full report on file in the Secretary's file.

Old Business

*Annual Meeting Dinner in May (date to be determined) at the Top of the Park.
A \$100 reservation is required

*A letter to LWVMi about approaching other state leagues to support preservation of Lake Michigan. Committee: M.L. Orr, M. Grover, D. Hornberger

*Purchase of 3 LWV banners for podiums will cost \$130.

*Purchase of 5 LWV signs \$138.89

*Moved by A. Wettlaufer/M.Grover to support the ballot issue Traverse City Human Rights Ordinance. **Approved**

Chapter 605 Non-Discrimination

Intent, Purpose, and Construction

(a) It is the intent of the City of Traverse City that no person be denied the equal protection of the laws; nor shall any person be denied the enjoyment of his or her civil rights or be discriminated against because of their actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, marital status, physical or mental disability, family status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

(b) The prohibitions against discrimination as provided for in this ordinance are intended to supplement state and federal civil rights law prohibiting discrimination in the areas of employment, public accommodations, and housing. Provided, however, this ordinance shall be construed and applied in a manner consistent with First Amendment jurisprudence regarding the freedom of speech and exercise of religion.

(c) Nothing in this ordinance shall require preferential treatment of any person or group on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Support for this ballot issue will consist of the President's Letter to the editor, an article in the Voter, and a letter from the LWV-GTA to the Human Rights Commission.

*Wreath Sale fund raiser: Committee Chm I. Brophy, Others: A. Wettlaufer and K. Dean

*Holiday Openhouse Sunday, Dec. 4 from 2-4 PM at the home of J. Howard
Committee: J. Watts, D. Hornberger, B. Newson, I. Kurt, L. Crandall, M.

Grover

Voter Service

Traverse City: Forums on October 4 or 11 at the City Opera House
Traverse City Commission
Traverse City Mayor

Benzie Unit will not hold forums because of a lack of candidates for open seats

2nd Vice President I. Brophy: General Membership Meetings September and October

*Wed., Sept. 28 5:30 – 7 PM in the Janis Room at the Dennon Museum Center **Public School Academies** (a panel discussion) I. Kurt is the moderator

*Wed., Oct. 26 5:30 – 7 PM at TADL **LWVUS Study and Consensus on the Federal Role in Education** . Members from Traverse Area, Leelanau and Benzie must attend this meeting in order to vote.

Voter B. Berry

Voter will be ready to mail next week.

Voter Ads, B. Newson is seeking suggestions and making calls

The possibility of having our Voter online was proposed for future discussion

Leelanau Unit V. Mikesell

Sept. meeting discussion on What is LWV, What do we want...

Oct. 19 Mary Beeker will lead a discussion on how to navigate the web
Suggestion on writing Letters to the Editor and to legislators, and information on being a LWV Observer
Updates on Charter Schools and BATA

Nov. The Mechanics of Redistricting... a panel discussion

Benzie Unit P. Laarman

- Sept. 16 Organizational meeting for the coming season
- Sept. 23 Great Decisions: "Responding to Financial Crisis" J. Macey
- Sept. 30 Great Decisions: "U. S. National Security" T. Curran and
A. Ferris
- Nov. 11 Great Decisions: "Horn of Africa" M.L. Orr and J. Lean

Education Committee I. Kurt

Forum on Wed., Sept. 28 at the Dennon Museum Center; Janis Room
5:30 – 7:00 PM Panel discussion " Looking at Public School
Academies" I. Kurt is the moderator

Website M. Beeker

Request for Board members to send dates for the website
Statistics show Benzie has a lot of hits
Thoughts on an electronic newsletter for future discussion.

Announcements:

Article from the "Rolling Stone" *The GOP War on Voting* Which
mentions the League's efforts to register voters.

K. Dean suggested contacting Jim Olson about a program in January
about his new water initiative: Education in Schools.

B. Berry is trying to update an inventory of LWV supplies

Submitted by Pat Laarman, Secretary

Next Board Meeting: at noon on Wednesday, October 12, 2011