

**LWVGTA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 21, 2021 – 10:00 am**  
**Virtual Zoom Meeting**

Present: Barb Berry, Linda Crandall, Mary Grover, Marcia Koppa, Anne Montgomery, Cheryl Naparela, Nancy Nordfjord, Ann Swaney, Peg Townsend, Jan Warren, Jane Watts,  
Guest: Donna Hornberger.

Call to Order - 10 AM by Jan Warren.

Added to Agenda – to set a date for our next meeting.

**1. Minutes of Oct. 27th** Board meeting minutes read and approved. MOTION by M. Grover, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B. Berry  
With correction that we took 5500 Voter Guides, of which 1500 went to Christina for distribution.

**2. Treasurer's report** (checking account balance; Ed. Fund balance) – Anne Montgomery reported for Ingrid B.  
We have done well and have \$13,183.33 in our checkbook.  
Ingrid is still at a loss (because of Liz being gone) with knowing how much is in our Education Fund.

**3. Wreath Sale results** – Anne Montgomery – We had 103 Total Sales – 44 of these were by Jane Watts.  
The most popular item was the \$25 wreath. We made \$484.20 more in profit than we did last year.  
Mary Grover suggested we turn it into a contest next year.

Sold	\$5,954.40
Pleasanton Cost	- <u>3,648.60</u>
Our Profit	\$2,330.80

**4. Membership** status and recruitment (possible membership committee) – Nancy N.  
85 household members paid for fiscal year 20/21 - with Ingrid's recent info – the total could be up 2.  
18 of these are new members.  
Not paid for 2020-21 are either 9 or 11, depending on Ingrid's most recent information.  
Graying – three have paid, with one more expected to pay.  
Month of December had 60% of membership opening our online newsletter.  
Barb Berry ask Nancy to put something in the newsletter in memory of Carol Hale.  
Nancy N.– in the past we've offered free membership for the following year if they pay in January.  
We all agreed to continue this policy.  
We agreed about the need to tell voters at our programs how to join. Cheryl will take care of it.  
Jan asked about Membership Handbook. Nancy said she will get membership information out.  
Cheryl suggested perhaps helping Nancy with the technical aspects of this might be another opportunity for HS student Audrey to help as part of her Nat'l Honor Soc. Comm. Service.  
Jan made the point that interns should broaden their experience, not just do clerical work.  
Jane wondered about using business cards again, as we used to hand them out at events.  
Another idea is to create membership directories with bylaws & positions to post on our website.  
Women could return membership applications to us electronically.  
Jan – We probably need a Membership Committee, for recruitment plus care & feeding of members.  
Christina, Mary G., and Jan met and discussed the idea of forming a recruitment committee.  
Every year we could send a welcome letter to all new members, including a survey asking about their interests and specific abilities. We already have a survey but it needs revision.

**5. Program Committee - Cheryl Naparela**

Jan asks that you use our official league logo – the one from the Nat'l League. Cheryl is debriefing with Matt Kern and will make sure Matt has our logo for next time. Also that TC Ticker has the correct one.  
Kudos to: Anne Magoun for moderating our last program; Linda Crandall for publicity through IPR, Record-Eagle, and the Ticker; and Linda Wagner for her program help.  
There are five active members on the Program Committee, plus Anne Magoun.

Each member is responsible for one program. 58 people watched our last program via Zoom. Others watched on Community TV & Facebook.

Cheryl wonders how we can move from that program to some ideas for our league study of issues.

For instance, to study our Natural Resources Position, which was last revised in 2011.

Our next program will be Nicco Pandolfi on Media Bias. March Program titled: 2020-Dark Money in Michigan's Most Expensive Election. The April program will be on Gerrymandering. May Program will be John Zachman on the Electoral College.

Program Committee Budget – Currently at \$300 -- How much more will they need?

Record-Eagle ads will be \$207 (each program?). When we return to the McGuire room for programs (Sept.?), Cheryl thinks costs will be lower there. Jan said the Library programs will be more because we'll have to pay for the contract tech worker who films us, and also the tech hookup with Matt Kern and TACM. They would also like to have simultaneous streaming, if possible. So Program Committee may need as much as \$1,000.

**MOTION:** Anne Montgomery, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peg Townsend to authorize the Program Committee to spend through the end of May a maximum of \$1500. Motion carried.

High School student Audrey Gollan will help the program committee with technology.

**6. Graphics and pictures** on local League communications.

How do they relate to copyright and public domain issues. Jan says that other leagues have been sued for violating copyright regulations. She wants Nancy N. to make sure to use graphics in public domain when writing about issues.

**7. LWVMI Lame Duck Study --**

Our last lame duck study was Jan Geht on political financing. In 2020 no legislation passed. Jan would like us to offer our study to the whole membership and not just the board this time. She thinks we could do it at one meeting if we got study materials out ahead of time. Mary Grover thinks the materials have been distributed and offered that maybe Margaret Goeman would be available to facilitate. Anne M. suggested we might want to do this in tandem with the Leelanau League. Peg will check with Margaret but not before Anne M speaks with Leelanau.

**8. Review of LWVMI positions** and program planning - Jan

This is usually done in January or February. And we'll have to respond to the state about this, however. We have not always done this review, so it may be okay to not review them this year also.

The Lame Duck study takes priority.

**9. Possible Social Media Committee**

Mary G. thinks the Observer Corps takes precedence.

Mary B., Robin Stott, Kathy Tuckerman, and Audrey need to work together and have a coordinator.

One of their jobs would be to set standards.

**10. LWVMI convention, May 21-22** – The LWVMI Spring Convention will be virtual this year.

Time will be from 6:30 PM on Friday 5/21 to 5:00 PM on Saturday, 5/22. The registration fee will be paid by LWVGTA. The convention is highly recommended and can be viewed as a delegate (with voting privileges) or as an observer. There will be formal sessions as well as educational sessions and keynote speakers. As we get more information on what will be offered, we can send that out to our members in the *Voter*.

**11. Board structure and recruitment of a new Treasurer –**

We need volunteers to set an agenda and chair the meetings for the next few months (and afterward).

Mary Grover will do February, Peg Townsend will take March, and Cheryl Naperala will take April.

We also desperately need a new treasurer who knows Excel, or some other similar spreadsheet application. The treasurer doesn't need to be an accountant, just a detail-oriented person. This will be put in an email blast as well as in the *Voter*.

**12. Donna Hornberger is looking for volunteers** – The Independent Citizen’s Committee – a redistricting observation committee which Donna is on – needs 3-4 people to volunteer to learn how to find out what Communities of Interest there are in our region. There will be training and meetings for the volunteers to virtually attend. Hornberger is being trained to train these volunteers. Learning and interacting with “Communities of Interest,” will help the Commission make sure that those communities are not split up when voting districts are set up with redistricting. Communities of Interest can maintain their power when the voters are kept in the same district. Our State Constitution states that redistricting cannot break up any Communities of Interest. There is a beginning date and an ending date for this work, so it is not a project that goes on and on.

**13. Voter Service Committee** -- There will be local August and/or November elections in 2021. Mary Grover strongly suggested that we go to commission meetings to observe the proceedings. We don’t know yet about any special elections. Betsy Cushman, VP of LWVMI, uses the Observer Committee to ask questions of candidates. Betsy can send the recording about this to Becky Somsel.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 11 AM.

Meeting adjourned at Noon.

Respectfully submitted (with help from Nancy Nordfjord)  
Ann Swaney,  
Secretary LWVGTA