

LWVGTA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 27, 2020 – 10:00 am
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Present: Mary Beeker, Barb Berry, Ingrid Brophy, Linda Crandall, Mary Grover, Anne Montgomery,
Cheryl Naparela, Nancy Nordfjord, Christina Schlitt, Ann Swaney,
Peg Townsend, Jan Warren, Jane Watts,

Call to Order- 10:12

1. Welcome – Additions to the Agenda

2. Board Leadership Options – Christina Schlitt

Jan will be taking a “backseat.” May try a management team or simplified leadership style.

Camilla Davis is available to help us. We would still need someone who would speak for LVWGTA.

So far discussions have not been that helpful. Jan – our past history has been getting someone to work on a project, then Chair of something, then Pres. Of Board. Christina – hoped we could find leadership by recruiting new members. Anne M. – We’ve had forums, programs, and voter services events conducted by a small group of women, and results have been excellent. B.Berry – ask others to join the board mtgs.

Mary G. – A good example is Cheryl Naparela who has organized the program committee so that six individuals take responsibility for each of the six programs.

Christina – One of the programs – “lame duck” will have to be done before March and should be one of our own programs. Jan - All leagues in Mich. will be studying Lame Duck Sessions and how to reach a consensus on a stated recommendation. Last time was Finance with Jan Geht, Ann’s husband.

Christiana mentioned that we never did reach a consensus on redistricting.

Peg T. – This would be better done with league members – not as a general public program.

Mary G. – Perhaps we could do a joint info session with Leelanau? Christina suggested we contact Trish to see when they are doing one.

Jan W. – Some call them “Studies” but we consider them Educational Programs, as part of our mission.

Watts – Programs which are locally focused bring in more participants.

Christina – Consensus Programs are only for League members.

Warren – It is important we reach Consensus before bringing anything to the public.

3. Mid-November - LWVMI Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Survey, email of Oct. 18th –

Christina – DEI is part of everything we do. Although Nat’l has not asked for this – State will send out a survey to get a baseline. It will go to all 2500 LWV members in Mich. Results will be shared with local leagues. MOTION by Mary G., 2nd by Ingrid to ask for results of our local league survey.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes of July 28th Board Meeting

MOTION to approve minutes by Peg T., 2nd by Anne M., Minutes approved

5. Approval of August 22nd Annual Meeting Minutes

MOTION to approve August 22nd Annual Meeting Minutes by Barb B., 2nd by Linda Crandall
Minutes approved.

6. Treasurer’s Report – Ingrid Brophy

We had \$10,862.72 as of yesterday (Oct. 26th), including profits from wreath sales, and new member dues.

Jan asked Ingrid if she has submitted the invoices for Ad copy and Copy Shop work to the Ed. Fund

7. Membership Dues Received – Nancy N.

Approximately half have paid dues.

Jan asked Nancy to send out paper letters, and to send the same letter which was used in the email.

Then we should call those who haven't paid yet.

Jan commended Nancy on her great job with the production of the VOTER Newsletter.

Anne M. – Seven (new?) members have contacted us & we should follow up.

8. Wreath Sale

Anne M. - \$1525 paid out – we sold 152 ft. of roping this year.

See #6, Treasurer's Report for more.

9. Program Committee – Cheryl Naparela

She explained her plan of getting 12 people on the committee.

There will be a committee meeting on Nov. 10th to go over program ideas.

New members are Ellen Kossek & Lynda Boynton

Some Program Ideas are: Dave Dempsey & Linda Wagner (PFAS) & Donna Hornberger (Redistricting).

Also the Gd. Trav. Community Foundation – has lots of good ideas for future programs

Jan – It may be time to look again at our Education Position – Need an Education Committee.

10. Voter Services Committee – Anne M. & Peg T.

Peg – A large number of people attended the various candidate forums, many via our Facebook page.

Best attended was the one for TCAPS – at 1.7 thousand. (1700)

Might be a good idea to include a virtual presence at all our forums from now on.

Unfortunately, a number of candidates did not participate.

Vote411.org – Becky Somsel reports we will have the total number of viewers for all forums by November. She thinks we should do more township candidate forums.

Jan – The U.S. League is surveying Voter Service Committees & she'll send the survey to Peg & Anne.

11. Crawford County Unit – Marcia Koppa

VOTE411 --With the help of Becky Somsel, we finished the preliminary phase of VOTE411. Completed by Betsy Cushman, otherwise known as Superwoman. A notice was put on FB and included with the Voter Guide notice in the local newspaper, *The Avalanche* under The Briefs.

Voter Guides - Christina Schlitt helped with distributing Voter Guides in 3 counties: Otsego, Crawford and Roscommon. We got them out within 4 days of receiving them.

12. LWVMI Lame Duck Study - See Agenda item #2

13. LWVMI Virtual Convention May 21-22

Jan recommended anyone attending can learn a lot about the League from this experience.

Meeting adjourned at 12 Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Swaney

Secretary, LWVGTA