League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara

Board Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2021 4:00pm via Zoom

Present: Lori Robinson, Marian Deutschman, Susan Dombrowski, MaryAnn Turkla, Barbara Gunderson, Alberta Roman, Sue Czyrny, Shirley Joy, Rebecca LaCivita, Jennifer Hoffman.

Excused: Elisabeth Zausmer

This meeting of the Board was called to order by Lori Robinson, president, at 4:05 pm with a quorum being present.

Barbara Gunderson brought an addition to the agenda. She has a remaining 100 Spanish edition Proposition Literature pieces to distribute. L. Robinson agreed to find an appropriate use for them.

By consensus the minutes from the September 13, 2021 meeting were accepted. They will appear on our website as usual.

The Board reviewed and discussed the Election Services chair job description included in these minutes. The job description was adopted by consensus. We are still in need of a nominee for chair.

The Nominating Committee has a vacancy for two (2) Board members and one (1) non-board member. It also appears that an updated job description needs to be developed. B. Gunderson has volunteered to fill one Board member position and suggested Amy Moritz as a possible candidate for the non-board member position. Elisabeth Zausmer may be willing to fill the last Board member seat. B. Gunderson’s appointment to the Nominating Committee was approved by consensus.

Treasurer Shirley Joy presented a financial review of our 1st quarter of the fiscal year 2021-2022 as well as the Operating reports. Rebecca LaCivita submitted an Investments report. Both took questions from the Board. The reports were approved by consensus.

MaryAnn Turkla expressed concern over the large number of members who have not renewed. A reminder email will be sent out promptly. The lagging renewals remain a concern.

On a brighter note, L. Robinson was able to seize the moment and called in to a local radio talk show about the October 14th Webinar. Not only did she have the opportunity to get a free plug in, the speaker, Frank Housh spoke for several minutes on the good work of the League.

The 21 Day Racial Equity Challenge being offered by LWVNYS is ongoing. The State DEI Committee is sponsoring a webinar on Oct 19th with Debbie Irving, author of Waking Up White. This is part 2 & 3 of their program. Those interested in continuing their journey in this important topic should tune in.

The membership list and interest survey will be emailed to members of the Board and committee chairs. M.Turkla suggested that it be updated quarterly for internal purposes, and that a “final” copy be sent out in February to all members, when it would be accurate. Members who prefer a hard copy will still be able to request one from our office. M. Turkla will discuss with Nora Mikes if and how we might be able to set up a password protected section of the member page for members only to access this personal information. These actions were approved by consensus.

MaryAnn Turkla brought to the Board’s attention the confusing state of our Facebook presence. There are at least two (2) sites: *League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara* and *LWV/*BN*.* We need to know about the process to remove the second site, or at least make certain our logo isn’t appearing there any longer.

Our website continues to shine through the herculean efforts of Nora Mikes and MaryAnn Turkla. Committee chairs in particular are encouraged to review the section on their committee for comments or corrections. There are big plans for the new member information portal and big things yet to come.

All items on the agenda having been completed Alberta Roman moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Marian Deutschman. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:22pm

Next meeting of the Board will be November 8th, 2021 4:00 pm via Zoom.

Submitted by Susan Dombrowski, secretary

Susan Dombrowski