League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara

Board Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2022 4:00 PM via Zoom

Present: Lori Robinson, Marian Deutschman, Susan Dombrowski, Barbara Gunderson, Alberta Roman, Sue Czyrny, Elisabeth Zausmer, Rebecca LaCivita, Kat Cejka. Terri Parks

Excused: Amy Moritz

Guest Samantha White, Stephanie Adams

This meeting of the board was called to order at 4:04 PM, by President Lori Robinson, with a quorum being present.

The first order of business being a presentation by local attorneys Samantha White and Stephanie Adams, inviting the LWVBN to join other petitioners in the Article 78 lawsuit over the City of Buffalo’s redistricting which they are preparing to file in the New York State Supreme Count. They answered many questions from the board and L. Robinson informed them that she would contact them by email concerning the board’s decision.

After much discussion Terri Parks motioned that the LWVBN not sign the retainer or be petitioners and that we look into filing an amicus brief with the help of an attorney. The motion was seconded by Rebecca LaCivita. The motion passed 8Y 1N.

T Parks noted several corrections to the September minutes. Therefore, the approval of the September minutes was tabled. Those minutes will be placed on the November agenda.

L. Robinson noted that we still have an immediate need of both a secretary for the board and a Membership Committee Chair.

Barbara Gunderson reported that there will be massive GOTV event at the end of October in the North Common Council District involving door hangers and direct voter contact. All efforts will be made to collect data on households personally contacted as well as where literature was left. This will allow for a critical post election evaluation of the effectiveness of the effort.

Although it need not be decided now, on behalf of Janet Goodsell and herself, B. Gunderson would like to suggest that the board consider approving Maria Evancho and Aharar Akib as our 2023 Students Inside Albany candidates since they have been unable to attend the in person program hampered by COVID restrictions.

Motion made by T. Parks that the Holiday Party be held at Rizotto’s Italian Eatery & Sweetery, 930 Maple Road, Amherst, NY on December 10, 2022, from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM at $28 per person. Motion seconded by M. Deutschman. Motion approved unanimously.

Follow-up motion made by T. Parks that we approach Dionne Williamson to be our invited speaker at the Holiday Party and that Upward Design for Life be this year’s charity. Motion seconded by Elisabeth Zausmer. Motion approved unanimously.

L. Zausmer wanted to inform the board that she would be completing an application for a table at the November 2 Civic Organizational Fair being held at the Northlands Training center.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 PM.

The next meeting of the board is November14, 2023 at 4:00 PM on Zoom.

Submitted by Susan Dombrowski, secretary

Susan Dombrowski