

# Democracy Maine Boards of Directors Meetings

Saturday, July 30th, 2022 ♦ 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Via Zoom

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**Board Present:** Jill Ward, Ben Gaines, Susana Hancock, Ann Luther, Lilli Martin, Melissa Murphy, and Polly Ward

**Absent:** Pamela Cox, Jamie Kilbreth, Laura Genese, Chris Hafford, and Alison Smith.

**Staff present:** Anna Kellar, Executive Director, and Nadya Mullen, Operations Director

**Staff Absent:** John Brautigam, Legal Counsel

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## *LWVME*

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The LWVME Board was called to order at 9:05 am.

### **Administration (Jill Ward)**

- Minutes approval - **VOTE:** Ann Luther moved to approve the minutes of the April 30th 2022 board meeting. Melissa Murphy seconded. **The motion passed without objection.**
- **Email Vote:** Motion to approve FY23 Budget and new Sponsorship Policy. **Unanimously approved (Susana absent) 5/27/2022.**
- **Email Vote:** Motion to approve resolution in support of the Colorado League's News Access and Literacy Resolution in advance of LWVUS convention. **Unanimously approved. (Chris & Laura absent) 6/1/2022**
- Ann Luther and Nadya Mullen presented the final Compliance Checklist of FY22.

### **Treasurers Reports (Ann Luther)**

- Ann Luther presented the combined organizations' statement of cash flow, cash forecast, and budget v. actual reports, as well as the restricted funds accounts.
- Ann Luther moved to approve spending up to one additional month's reserves. Ben Gaines seconded. **The motion passed without objection.**
- The Board received the financial reports from the Portland Area and Downeast chapters.
- All reports were received and filed for financial review.

### **Nominating Committee (Jill Ward)**

Jill and Anna will be meeting in August to start the process of forming the Nominating Committee. They will be looking for an off board member to chair the Committee, ideally someone who will drive the process. They are asking for help to recruit members for the Nominating Committee as well as suggestions for potential board members. They will be looking at the previous list of potential board members in order to revisit those who had expressed interest previously but were not in a position at that time to take on the commitment.

## Executive Director's Report (Anna Kellar)

- Staff Update
  - Miles Pulsford has joined as Election Administration Organizer. He hit the ground running by reaching out to clerks to integrate them into our trust in elections mission. He comes from a union organizing background and will be on staff through the end of the next legislative session.
  - Anna remarked that they are very excited to be going into the upcoming election season with a strong and experienced staff.
- LWVUS Convention Debrief
  - Despite it being touch and go, the LWVUS Structural Reform proposal did pass.
  - The Structural Task Force is now disbanded and most members are interested in continuing to participate in the implementation process, which will focus on the technology needs, inter-league networking, and gathering information. Anna is looking to have someone from our team on that committee and deeply involved in the process. Anna is exploring ways to stay involved and would be willing to take on leadership on this work, hoping as a part-compensated role. More updates will come after the LWVUS board meets in September.
  - Our proposal for a national study did not succeed, however there was some support; and we are moving forward with a multi-state project to conduct the study. There was a mixed bag of results for proposals we supported, some passed, others did not.
  - It was a hybrid convention that presented some challenges. The agenda got compressed and issues of trust and integrity were raised.
  - It was noted that our in-person delegation was very impactful.
  - Anna is proposing to LWVUS to invest in a cross-league platform so that various affinity groups could work together. It would be a wise investment and could feed well into the preparation for upcoming conventions.

## Governance Committee Report (Polly Ward)

- The Ethics Policy was presented. **VOTE:** Polly Ward moved to adopt the policy as presented. Susana Hancock seconded. **The motion passed without objection.**
- The Whistleblower Policy was presented. **VOTE:** Ann Luther moved to adopt the policy. Susana Hancock seconded. **The motion passed without objection.**

## Development Committee Update (Anna Kellar)

- Corporate Sponsorship Outreach
  - Anna emphasized the need for everyone's support and is glad that the board is engaged in the process.
  - Board members and staff updated on their outreach to date.
  - It was noted that the list of contacts is expected to evolve and new names can be added.
  - We are planning to send an email to membership which will include a prompt for individual donations to support Vote411 but will also share the corporate sponsorship link in an effort to engage current members with the sponsorship outreach efforts.

- It was noted that Allyson Gardner's outreach efforts are focused on getting support for the youth summit.

### **Program Committee Report (Ann Luther)**

- The Committee has undertaken a series of program reviews with presentations from the staff leaders of each one. The newly developed format is working well for focusing on impacts and measures of success. They are turning to the evaluation stage next.

### **Equity, Inclusion and Membership Committee Report (Ann Luther)**

- The Membership Report was reviewed. Midcoast and Capital Area have done a great job building a membership base in the short time of their existence.
- The big conversation in the EIM Committee is about developing reporting to determine who within local Leagues are already volunteering and supporting state-led activities. This will give local League leaders a better insight into their members' involvement.
- There is a new membership brochure available.
- The Volunteer Dashboard was reviewed.

### **Council of Local Leaders (Lilli Martin)**

- They held a great retreat, and it was the first time in a while where there was a full complement of CLL members. The CLL set the goal to increase active membership. They are also holding a candidate forum planning session. Lane has been providing lots of useful resources to the CLL. Their next meeting is this coming Wednesday.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:29 am.

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*MCCE*

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The meeting was called to order at 10:29 am.

### **Administration (Jill Ward)**

- Minutes approval - **VOTE:** Ann Luther moved to approve the minutes of the April 30th 2022 board meeting. Melissa Murphy seconded. **The motion passed without objection.**
- **Email Vote:** Motion to approve FY23 Budget and new Sponsorship Policy. **Unanimously approved (Susana absent) 5/27/2022.**

### **Treasurers Reports (Ann Luther)**

- C3 reports were presented.
- Ann Luther proposed that the Board should be actively reviewing charges to the C3 organizations to ensure compliance. The Executive Committee will discuss a process and present to the full board in the future.

- The board discussed the status of the Suffrage Centennial, which is winding down, and the NE Leadership Development Conference, which is currently dormant but may revive next year in some form.
- All reports were received and filed for financial review.

### **Governance Committee Report (Polly Ward)**

- **VOTE:** Ann Luther moved to adopt the Ethics and Whistleblower Policies enbloc. Polly Ward seconded. **The motion passed without objection.**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:37 am.

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### *LWVME Education Fund*

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The meeting was called to order at 10:38 am.

- Minutes and Policy approval - **VOTE:** Polly Ward moved to approve the minutes of the April 30th 2022 board meeting and the Ethics and Whistleblower Policies enbloc. Susana Hancock seconded. **The motion passed without objection.**
- **Email Vote:** Motion to approve FY23 Budget and new Sponsorship Policy. **Unanimously approved (Susana absent) 5/27/2022.**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:38 am.

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### *MCCE Action*

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The MCCE Action board was not quorate and therefore was not convened. The composition of the board was discussed and members of the other boards were invited to consider joining the MCCE Action board, particularly if they have interest in the money in politics agenda. Interest should be communicated to Ann Luther.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:42 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nadya Mullen, Operations Director