

League of Women Voters of Maine
Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, September 26, 2015 ♦ 10:00am – 2:00pm
Maine Center for Economic Policy
One Weston Court, Suite 103, Augusta, Maine

Present Joanna Bowers, John Brautigam, Helen Hanlon, Linda Lord, Ann Luther, Barbara McDade, Stephanie Philbrick, Sarah Robinson, Colleen Tucker, Jill Ward, Polly Ward, Cathie Whittenburg, Sarah Woodard

Call to order: by President Jill Ward at 10:09 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from May Meetings Friday May 1, Saturday May 2nd and Convention Meeting: Ann Luther moved adoption minutes as block, Barbara McDade second. APPROVED unanimously.

E-mail votes for the record: Vote in July to contribute \$1000 to Maine for Accountable Elections. 12 yes votes, one abstain. APPROVED.

Treasurer's Reports: State and Local Leagues (Down East, Portland, Brunswick) filed for audit. Ann Luther Moved, Polly Ward second, a motion to grant Maria Kreildamp a one-year membership as thank you for reviewing state and local budgets.

Board Operations & Governance

Nonpartisan Political Policy – motion by Barbara McDade, second by Sarah Woodard to accept policy as amended. Unanimously APPROVED.

Financial Management Policy – motion by Ann Luther, second by Colleen Tucker, to accept policy as amended. Unanimously APPROVED.

Ann Luther proposed motion that the treasure be authorized to purchase Vertical Response credits (email system) when they run out, even if over \$100, throughout the year, without having to go to Executive Committee for approval. Polly Ward moved, Colleen Tucker second. Unanimously APPROVED.

Review of Goals & Strategies from Retreat. Looking to see if we are on track, also looking at Committee & Coalition Assignments.

Committee Reports

Advocacy – Ann Luther presented overview of committee. Would like to work towards going into legislative session with one or two bills of our own. Ann Luther proposed that the Advocacy committee amend the priorities to include Good Government. Barbara McDade move, Polly Ward second. Unanimously APPROVED.

Communications - Jill Ward recapped goals of the committee. Would like to try

for one op-ed a month, one letter to the editor, Maine Voter 3 to 4 times a year and keep active on Facebook and Twitter.

Fundraising Plan - Sarah Woodard reviewed. Agreed to work towards a 10% increase in membership and broader outreach.

Membership - Barbara McDade presented overview.

Program/Events

- Quad States – Scheduled for April 8-10, 2016 in Wells, ME. Committee still working on theme, speakers.
- 100th anniversary suffrage event at Maine State Museum, Nov 2019. Museum asked that someone from the League be involved in planning.
- Portland League sponsoring Mayoral debate on Oct. 6th.

Coalition Partners Updates

- MCCE & the Clean Elections Initiative - Ann Luther made a motion that board authorize LWVME to send an email blast to our members asking them to donate directly to the MCCE Yes on One campaign. Jill Ward second. Ann Luther recused herself from the vote. Motion APPROVED.
- Committee for Ranked Choice Voting - Polly Ward reported that the committee was preparing to hand over signatures for 2016 ballot initiative on Oct. 19th to Secretary of State. LWVME needs to prepare for a quote for the press conference.
- Coalition for Maine Women/Choice Coalition - Jill Ward reported that the coalitions are thinking of combining the two organizations again.
- Maine Freedom of Information Coalition - John Brautigam noted there wasn't much to report from the coalition. One of the issues being discussed is what happens to body cams, dashboard cams film of police, where is it stored, who can access it?

LWVUS Updates – no national updates.

Local League Development

- Portland – newsletter went out last week. Mayoral debate Oct. 6th, Oct. 13th Clean Elections house party at Mad Science, 5:30-7. Nov 21st consensus meeting on Constitutional Amendment study.
- Downeast – Held four Ranked Choice Voting events. Partnered with One Hancock on one of the event, they were a great partner
- Brunswick – Need to work on getting some things going again.
- Bangor – Book group read Madison's Music, very well received.

Other Business

Sarah Robinson reporting on the new phone service. It will have many new options including the ability to forward calls to multiple people. It is also cheaper than the current phone service.

Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

