

# **LWVME Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday, March 25, 2017 ♦ 9:00am – 2:00pm  
Maine Center for Economic Policy (conference room)  
One Weston Court, Suite 103, Augusta, Maine

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Present: Jill Ward, Ann Luther, Barbara Kaufman, Helen Hanlon, Stephanie Philbrick, Polly Ward, Linda Lord, Barbara McDade, John Brautigam, Cathie Whittenburg by phone

Absent: Colleen Tucker, Joanna Bowers

Members present: Regina Coppens, David Sammarco

## **Preliminaries**

- Call to order 9:11 am.
- Approval of Minutes from January Meeting – Ann Luther moved. Polly Ward seconded. Unanimously approved.
- Email vote on allocation in the amount of \$3,000 to MCCE for RCV for legal fees associated with filing a joint LWVME-MCCE brief on the RCV question before the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. Unanimously approved on March 3, 2017. John Brautigam recused himself.
- Email vote on Advocacy Committee recommendation on Maine Moms request. The Advocacy Committee recommended that the Board of Directors endorse the legislative campaign in opposition to campus carry, promote their events to our members, and let our members know that the Advocacy Committee is looking for expertise and volunteer time on the issue. Unanimously approved.
- Treasurer's Reports – Ann Luther presented reports for LWVME and Downeast League, Polly Ward presented Portland report. Reports filed for audit.

## **Board Operations & Governance**

- Policy Review – Conflict of Interest and Ethics Policies:
  - Barbara McDade moved to adopt the revised policy on Ethics. Barbara Kaufman seconded. Unanimously approved.
  - Barbara McDade moved to adopt the revised policy on Conflict of Interest. Helen Hanlon seconded. Unanimously approved

- Strategic Planning Update – Jill Ward provided an update on the status of the Strategic Plan. The concentration is on the next two years so that the plan and the LWVME budget can be presented together at Convention. There will be a third-year plan that will identify activities related to the 100-year anniversary of the League.
- Nominating Committee Update – Jill Ward provided an update on the work of the Nominating Committee.
- May 19-20 Convention planning – the Board discussed content for the Convention. It will be held in Brunswick on May 19th and 20th. The Convention itself will be held at the Brunswick Library, dinner on Friday at Daniel’s and lunch on Saturday at the Frontier Room.
  - o Budget Committee – the Executive Committee will serve as the Budget Committee
  - o Ann Luther reported on the recommendations from the Advocacy Committee for a study during the next two years. The Committee recommended three topics for study: the election of constitutional officers, the appropriate uses of citizens’ initiatives, and primary elections. There was a motion by Barbara McDade and second by Helen Hanlon to study primary elections in the first year provided that we agree with the results of the Ohio study and then establish a study committee in the second year on the appropriate uses of citizens’ initiatives that will develop the materials on this topic and get them out to local leagues for consensus meetings in the second year and beyond, if necessary. Unanimously approved. This proposal will be presented to Convention as two separate votes. Ann will provide a study commission guide at Convention.
- Introduction of David Sammarco – Jill Ward introduced David Sammarco and discussed the work plan developed to guide his work on the contract between David and the LWVME Ed Fund.
- Cathie Whittenburg reported that she had filed the 2016 Annual Reports for the LWVME and the LWVME Ed Fund with the Secretary of State’s Office.

### **Committee Items**

- Advocacy Corps Report
  - o RCV case (oral arguments April 13) – the hearing will be held in Court Room 7 of the Capital Judicial Center, 1 Court St., Augusta. The Court should issue its decision within about 2 weeks following the oral arguments.
- Membership Report – Ann Luther presented the current membership report.
  - o Volunteer management project discussion – Irene Lang will be heading up an effort to collect information to help recruit and engage volunteers.

- Communications Committee Report – Stephanie Philbrick reported on meetings of the Communications Committee.
  - Blogs, Email calendar, Social media, Meet-up tool, Spring Voter
- Fundraising Report
  - Remit envelope redesign – it was agreed that the remit envelopes would be redesigned prior to the next printing
- Quad States Update – have 36 people signed up to attend. Will continue to promote.

**LWVUS Update** – the LWVUS is looking at making it easier to form local leagues. Bangor would like to be a pilot site for the new procedure.

### **Coalition Partners Updates**

- MCCE & the Clean Elections Initiative – Ann reported on legislation on Clean Elections pending in the Legislature.
- Alliance for Maine Women – Helen reported on the activities of the Alliance for Maine Women. There will be a Women’s Day at the State House on May 10, 2017. The AMW was asked to make RCV a priority item on its legislative agenda for 2017. The vote on this has not been concluded.
- Maine Freedom of Information Coalition - John reported that the MFOIC is tracking a couple of pieces of legislation.

### **Local League Development**

- Portland
  - Facilitator training, Part II, will be held on March 29th.
  - Quad States is taking place on April 8 and 9, 2017
  - LWVPA Board of Directors meeting on April 13, 2017 at DiMillo’s
  - Book Group at the Portland Public Library, reading The Righteous Mind
  - Annual Meeting to be held on May 11, 2017 at the American Legion in Falmouth
- Downeast – there will be a reception for new members in June.
- Brunswick – Stephanie Philbrick gave an update.

- Bangor – Book Groups continue. At the most recent naturalization ceremony, 11 of the 27 new citizens registered to vote

**Adjourn** - 2:08 pm

Respectfully submitted

Polly Ward

Vice President