

**League of Women Voters of Maine  
Minutes of December 10, 2009**

Present were Barbara McDade, Sarah Walton, Ann Luther, Martha Dickinson, Polly Ferguson, Michelle Small and Cathie Whittenburg (via telephone).

Secretary's Report

The Minutes of the October 8, 2009 meeting were approved without change.

Treasurer's Report

The League of Women Voters of Maine has \$5,051.27 in its checking account. The report was filed for audit.

Ann is temporarily assuming responsibility for the LWVPA checking account. The Board gives Ann signatory authority over the checking account and the CD.

Communications Report

Cathie participated in a conference call with the Public News Service, a public relations firm for progressive causes, which is not working with LWVUS at the moment, and she concluded that the service is probably not of interest to LWVME at the moment.

Cathie reviewed the Changing Maine Directory and tried to sort groups by LWVME priority areas.

Cathie agreed to convene the Coalitions Subcommittee to discuss voting rights coalitions.

Quad States

Barbara met with other League Presidents to discuss Quad States, which will be held in Wells on May 22 and 23, 2010. There was a discussion of possible workshops.

Board Policies

The Board reviewed and adopted the Document Retention Policy and the Conflict of Interest Policy.

Keys to the Capitol

The event is scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 2010.

National Convention

The Convention is scheduled to take place in Atlanta on June 11 to 15, 2010. Ann is planning to go because she is on the Resolutions Committee. Cathie may be interested in going.

LWVUS will set advocacy priorities at its January 2010 board meeting. It is taking input from state and local Leagues. Ann proposed clean elections as a priority, and it was agreed that Barbara should convey this to LWVUS.

The Board decided not to join LWVNY in its protest of LWVUS fundraising policies.

#### Membership

Michelle mailed reminder postcards to 41 non-renewed dues paying units on December 3, 2009. Member recruitment letters will be mailed in February; Board members should send suggested names to Michelle. Ann and Michelle agreed to investigate the possibility of collecting membership fees on the Web site via PayPal.

#### Fundraising

LWVME has raised \$1,918 and LWVED has raised \$2,390 from the annual appeal. There was discussion of sending reminder postcards.

#### Maine Citizens for Clean Elections

There was discussion of the *National Organization for Marriage v. McKee* case and whether or not MCCE would seek "intervenor" status.

#### Maine Freedom of Information Coalition

There was agreement that LWVME's representative to the Coalition should be on the Board. The Board voted to ask Ed Benedikt to join. Michelle agreed to serve as the representative if Ed declined to join the Board.

#### Other Coalitions

The Board declined to join a CAHC coalition and a Trainriders Northeast coalition. It also declined to co-sponsor a Physicians for Social Responsibility event.

#### PAC Study

Jill and Alison Smith have made comments on the 4<sup>th</sup> study paper, and Ann is revising it.

#### League Lobby Corps

State priorities for advocacy remain the same.

#### Maine Voter

The deadline for the next issue is the middle of January. Possible articles concern *Citizens United*, the people's veto in June, forums in a box, Quad States, Convention, calendar items, Keys to the Capitol, climate change, Magistrate Judge John Rich, a letter from the president and advocacy priorities. The decision was made not to invest in color printing.