

Minutes of LWVME Board- **October 14, 2010**

Jill Ward's house, 28 Candlebrook Lane, South Portland, ME

Present: Barbara McDade; Ann Luther; Jill Ward; Michelle Small; Polly Ferguson; Anne Schink; Colleen Tucker; Cathie Whittenburg and Martha Dickinson (by phone)

Absent: Sarah Walton

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. and the Minutes of the September meeting were approved.

Ann L. reviewed the Treasurer's reports with us. These reports were filed for audit.

The Board officially confirmed three email votes, as follows:

- ✦ Approving the payment of \$500 in support of the MCCE 10 yr. anniversary event (\$250 from LWVME and \$250 from LWVME Ed Fund);
- ✦ Determining that LWVME would not mail the Maine Voter to all out of state League Presidents;
- ✦ Declining to become involved in a local campaign to educate voters of ramifications of one candidate's withdrawal when said candidate's name was still on ballot

LWV archival project. Barbara reports that we have a lot of great material on hand; she is continuing contact with Richard Hollinger at the Fogler Library, and Michelle offered to help Barbara with putting together a grant for funding.

Board Operations and Governance

Policy Review: No policies were reviewed this meeting.

The Board voted to pay \$50 to renew its membership to Me. Assoc. of Nonprofits.

The Board discussed the LWVUS State Coaching Team, which involves LWVUS holding free leadership training at regional meetings. Jill, Michelle, Colleen and Anne agreed to participate in the LWVUS webinar, taking place 10/21 at 1 pm. Barbara will forward that email from LWVUS to those Board members.

Keys to the Capitol event will be held in conjunction with the Maine Women's Lobby's Day at the Capitol event. Anne Schink agreed to be the point person on that collaboration. Jill also offered to assist and Colleen offered to set up the afternoon tea at the Blaine House, should LWVME determine to include that as part of the day's events. Possible workshop topics discussed included IRV (Terry Bouricious from VT?), PACs, and "How to Read a Bill".

Quad States: Barbara reports that an invitation to join in the Quad States leadership seminar was extended to the MA and CT Presidents, who agreed to meet with the other Quad States Presidents on November 4<sup>th</sup> for a planning session.

2011 State Convention: The Board set the dates for Friday evening and Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Possible venues for Saturday's convention were discussed, with Barbara agreeing to ask to use USM's Glickman Library facility and Polly offering to call other venues, if Glickman was unavailable. We anticipate 25 attendants at convention.

#### Membership & Fundraising

Michelle reports that only 72 of 152 members have paid their dues. Michelle has sent postcards to all non-renewing members. The board agreed to review outstanding renewals at its December meeting for possible telephone follow-up.

Jill reviewed the Survey Monkey survey results with the Board; so far, only 21 responses have been received; Jill would like to double that response and will re-post the survey on Facebook and send it around again by email.

Discussion about The Calendar in a Box was tabled.

The Board reviewed the draft Fundraising letter and provided edits. and Jill offered to add information from the survey to the letter once Barbara forwarded a revised draft. Michelle offered to order mailing and remittance envelopes, and she will send her 300 plus new membership prospects to Ann Luther, who will include them in the master mailing list.

#### Communications

Jill will take over responsibility for checking the LWVME email Inbox. Polly will continue to check the voicemail.

Jill reported that we have 169 Friends on Facebook.

Martha offered to send extra Maine Voters to Barbara and Michelle.

Documentary film on LWVME history: Cathie and other Board members (Colleen, Ann L., Sarah and Anne S.) will be meeting with Shoshanna Hoose on Sunday 10/24 at 5pm at Cathie's house to discuss what this documentary might entail.

#### Advocacy

Ann reported that MCCE 'is very, very busy with its 20/10 Tour; it's coming together very well, as are plans for the November 18<sup>th</sup> event to celebrate MCCE's 10 Anniversary at Port City Music Hall in Portland. Most Board members plan to attend.

Michelle reported on a recent grant request being made by MFOIC for website development.

Anne reported that she will participate in the next WLAC meeting and she also reported on InForMe awards and activity.

Ann reported that the Lobby Corps would set advocacy priorities at our next meeting in December and reported on recent activity with the Maine Center for Investigative Reporting.

PAC Study – Martha agreed to convene a telephone conference with Ann, Anne, Polly and Michelle to discuss next steps, establish deadlines, etc.

Portland Charter Commission- things heating up. Cathie brought the Board's attention to an op ed recently published in the Portland Press Herald opposing Ranked Choice Voting. She agreed to draft an op ed for Barbara's signature which would offer some education on the issue, while refraining from advocacy, pending the outcome of our IRV Concurrence process. Colleen, Jill and Anne agreed to review and offer comments on the draft.

IRV Concurrence- Cathie and Anne will review study materials on LWVME website and work on condensing materials for use as handout to members considering concurrence.

Voter Service and Education

Anne reported that 25,000 copies of the Easy to Read Voter Guide are being distributed statewide.

Jill offered to respond to a letter received from the Progressive States Network; Barbara will send that letter to Jill.

Ann, Barbara, and Michelle reported on the various candidates' forums taking place in Brunswick, Bangor and Ellsworth.

The LWVME Board adjourned at 2:03.

Respectfully Submitted

Colleen P. Tucker  
Secretary