

Minutes of LWVME Board- December 9, 2010
University of Maine Augusta Student Center

Present: Ann Luther; Anne Schink; Sarah Walton; Colleen Tucker; Polly Ferguson, Martha Dickinson and Cathie Whittenburg

Absent: Barbara McDade; Michelle Small; Jill Ward

Preliminaries:

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m., Vice President Sarah Walton presiding, and the Minutes of the October meeting were unanimously approved.

Ann reviewed the Treasurer's reports with us; they were filed for audit. Motion made, seconded and PASSED to request the ED FUND to move \$25,000 of MCCE monies from its account to MCCE's bank account.

The email votes made by the Board since our last meeting to renew membership and payment of membership fee to MCCE and to allow LWVME's use of Facebook as a case study for an online class were confirmed. Jill will write up LWVME's experience for use in a class on non-profits' use of social media.

Board Operations & Governance

The Board reviewed and approved the Financial Management policy, as amended. Ann offered to write up the amended policy and post it to our website.

Keys/ ME Women's Coalition Day at the State House; Anne S. will attend next meeting and report back.

Advocacy Priorities: the Board reviewed materials provided by Ann Luther to assist us in determining our legislative priorities for the upcoming session. The Board discussed at length and determined to move Civil Liberties & Civil Rights to the back burner; to add "Gun Control" to the back burner; to note that "PAC Reform" and "IRV" are conditional priorities under campaign finance (PAC) and Election Reform (IRV) pending our development of a League position. The Board unanimously approved adoption of the revised Priorities list.

State Convention

Polly has reserved a block of rooms for delegates at the Clarion Hotel and has obtained information from USM's catering service for food/drink service on June 4th (the Board determined that breakfast would be on our own); Barbara has secured the Glickman Library facility for Saturday's Convention meeting, and Colleen will see if the Pepper Club will accommodate us for Friday evenings dinner/ presentation. Anne Schink will call Nancy Newman to ask her to deliver the Keynote address. The board will recommend an agenda and speakers at the next Board meeting. Polly, Colleen and Anne S. volunteered to be on the

Convention subcommittee and Barbara was nominated, in absentia, to be on said Committee, also.

Program:

PAC Study: Ann L. reported that the political and judicial landscape is changing constantly, making some of our written materials already out of date; the lower courts are overturning state laws limiting contributions to candidate PACs that only make independent expenditures; the PAC Subcommittee needs to reconvene and set agenda/timetable.

IRV Concurrence: Ann facilitated the Board's discussion of the Toolkit-the materials to be used to educate members. The Board agreed to review/edit Cathie's draft study paper and reviewed and edited the Concurrence Questions; discussed having a Voter article with pullout/mail-in "vote" on concurrence and then determined that a separate mailing to all members devoted to the IRV concurrence, including the study paper and mail in vote would be better. Anne S. read the concurrence statement and agreed to keep track of edits suggested by the Board. Ann L. MOVED to approve new Concurrence Statement, as proposed, and all present (but for Anne S. who abstained) approved the adoption of same. The Board determined to conduct concurrence meetings in February of 2011; Portland will have its first meeting on February 5th and Colleen will request Terry Bouricius to make a weekend swing through Portland, Brunswick and Ellsworth (and, possibly, Bangor) that weekend of February 5/6, to provide an educational background on IRV to the members/public. The Board further determined to convene prior to February 28 to determine whether the local leagues had reach concurrence on the matter.

The next IRV Subcommittee telephone conf. is 12/17 at 2 pm.

Voter Guide: Anne S. will draft letter of thanks to Sarah Robinson for Barbara's signature.

Forums in a Box: Anne S. reviewed this with the Board and asked for proofreaders/editing assistance. Ann L. asked for information to be organized so as to distinguish between 1.) League events and 2.) Non-League events.

Voter: Martha looking for input on January issue. Suggestions: PAC article; Cathie's IRV article, articles from MCCE, Women's Coalition, President's first call to Convention.

Publications: Sarah offered to revise the Court publication, Anne S. is revising the "How to Analyze a Bill" Ann L. will send Anne S. the "Path to Legislation" piece and Ann L. requested a project budget and proposal; Anne S. is working on that.

Documentary: Cathie proposed starting interviews with long time LWV members currently living in Maine; Ann suggested putting budget together for 5 minute film, and budget for longer interviews to include in LWVME's archives. Martha offered to circulate a thread on LWV documentaries that she had received

A discussion on Advocacy/Coalitions, Membership and Fundraising was TABLED

The Board adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen P. Tucker

Secretary