

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MAINE

Board Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2013

UMA Student Center, Rm 208, Augusta, ME

Board Present – Barbara McDade, Jill Ward, Ann Luther, Val Marsh, Colleen Tucker

By Skype/phone: Cathie Whittenburg, Martha Dickinson

Absent: Polly Ferguson

Guests – Karla Wight, Barbara Kaufmann, Polly Ward

Called to Order – by Barbara at 10:03 a.m.

Review of minutes from the September and January meetings.

ACTION: Motion to accept September and January minutes as amended by Ann Luther moved by Ann, seconded by Jill and approved unanimously by the Board; final minutes to be posted to LWVME website

E-Mail Votes:

On February 7, 2013 email vote moved by Ann seconded by Martha to recommend to Ed Fund that Jill Ward replace Michelle Small as signatory to LWVME Ed Fund. Approved unanimously.

On February 4-8, 2013, with Ann moving and Colleen seconding, the Board approved the committee description for the Advocacy Committee, unanimous among those present.

On February 4-8, 2013, with Ann moving and Martha seconding, the Board approved the committee descriptions for the Communications Committee, unanimous among those present.

Board Operations & Governance

Jill led a discussion about developing the LWVME Calendar

Jill will work on developing a Social Media policy for our next meeting

Policy Review: The Board reviewed the Conflict of Interest Policy and the policy on Making Decisions between Meetings policy.

ACTION: Ann moved, Jill seconded a motion to approve as presented and the Board unanimously voted to re-approve both policies as written

Nominating Committee: The Board reviewed the slate of potential nominees for the 2013-2015 State Board, going into Executive Session

ACTION: Motion to approve the recommended slate of twelve Board nominees made by Barbara; seconded by Jill, and passed by unanimous vote of the Board

Convention: Board discussed moving the next Board meeting/ State Convention date to avoid conflict with Memorial Day weekend; Board determined that a \$40 registration fee was appropriate

ACTION: Jill moved, Ann seconded motion to hold the next Board meeting on May 31 and the State Convention on May 31 - June 1 with a \$40 registration fee; the motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board

Quad States: Barbara discussed program

ACTION: Val moved, Colleen seconded motion to ask Ed Fund for \$400.00 to pay for a couple of rooms at the hotel or to otherwise offer scholarship funds to attendants; motion passed without dissent.

ACTION: Ann moved, Jill seconded motion to ask Ed Fund to pay \$500.00 contribution toward costs of Quad States; motion passed without dissent.

Board's Spring Retreat: The Board discussed having the retreat on June 8th; location was discussed

Advocacy

Ann led a discussion on top issues we'll be following, including: early voting, IRV bill, Clean Elections and ethics & disclosure; the advocacy committee needs assistance with covering legislative sessions

Coalitions and Collaborations

- **MFOIC:** the Board will solicit a new Board member to be our representative at meetings
- **MCCE:** Jill reported on recent activity, Capitol Hill advocacy and \$\$\$ in Politics roadshow
- **Coalition for Maine Women:** Cathie reported on their legislative priorities
- **Maine Choice Coalition:** Cathie reported
- **InFormME:** Anne Schink holds the LWVME seat at InFormME. We will ask Anne for periodic reports.
- **Gun Violence Prevention:** Cathie reported on meetings with Senator King's and Senator Collins' offices to discuss pending federal legislation; attended by Cathie and Anne Schink (both meetings) and Ann Luther (Sen. King's office) and Colleen (Sen. Collins' office)

Fundraising:

Treasurer's Reports: Ann reviewed LWVME, Portland, Brunswick and Downeast Leagues' finances

ACTION: Treasurer's Reports will be filed for audit

Report of the Budget Committee: Val reviewed with the Board

ACTION: Jill moved, Val seconded motion to recommend Budget, as amended, to Convention.

Passed without dissent.

March Madness Appeal Update: Jill reported on progress/ plans

Major Donor Plan: Cathie reviewed and Board discussed timing of asks and persons to ask

Membership:

Board discussed outline of program to solicit membership renewals from recently lapsed members (postcards, calls, emails)

Brunswick League – Barbara led discussion on engaging various Brunswick area members (Library contact, Barbara Kaufmann, etc.) who may be interested in revitalizing Brunswick League

Portland League : Karla reported on recent meeting about the Portland's City Charter Commission led by Pam Plumb; ongoing meetings relating to the LWVUS Ag Study

Communications Committee

Jill discussed internal master calendar on Google calendar to consolidate events/reminders for action; all Board members encouraged to review and contribute to calendar and to give Jill a gmail email address if you have one

Martha led discussion about timing and content of next newsletter, to come out in time for Quad States (4/27 & 28) and State Convention (6/1)

Program & Events

Post-Park Avenue movie report: Both Bangor and Portland events very successful; MPBN wants to collaborate on future events; Board discussed possible programming

Posie Cowan: Board discussed timing and outreach to hold/publicize events this Fall

LWVUS Task Force on Campaign Finance Reform: Ann and Jill reported that, after a year of service, they had both stepped down from the task force

-Board discussed and determined not to conduct a forum on “independent voters” in Maine and will suggest to requestor that they work with established groups in Maine focusing on that demographic

-Board discussed and determined not to participate in formulating Civic Guides with the League of Young Voters at this time

Adjourned – 3:00 pm

Respectfully submitted
Colleen Tucker, Secretary