

# **LWVME Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday, January 6, 2018 ♦ 9:00am – 1:00pm  
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, Peg Balano, Anne Schink, Cathie Whittenburg by phone

Members present: Anna Kellar

## **Preliminaries**

- Call to order at 9:20 am.
- Approval of Minutes from November Meeting – Barbara McDade moved. Helen Hanlon seconded. Unanimously approved.
- Email vote on November 21, 2017 on LWVME- MCCE criteria for ED offer to Anna Kellar. Welcome to Anna. Unanimously approved.
- Email vote on November 28, 2017 to recommend to the Ed Fund a transfer of \$8,500 to MCCE in support of partnership work. 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 – Candidate Debates, Issue Forums, Nonpartisan Political and Financial Management policies:
  - Barbara McDade moved to adopt the revised policy entitled Candidate Forum for State and Local Elections. John Brautigam seconded. A set of guidelines will be developed on how local leagues will handle local races. Unanimously approved.
  - Barbara McDade moved to re-adopt the policy on Issue Forums. Peg Balano seconded. Unanimously approved.
  - Barbara McDade moved to adopt the revised Nonpolitical Policy. Linda Lord seconded. Unanimously approved.

- Linda Lord moved to adopt the revised policy on Financial Management. Barbara Kaufman seconded. Unanimously approved.
- Update on MCCE partnership – Jill Ward provided an update on the partnership between MCCE and LWVME, including a review of the MOU and the program of work. Jill and Anna Kellar shared information on grant applications and grant receipts, proposed hiring and budget. There was a discussion on the coordination of the dissemination of public information.
- Board Development – there was a discussion of adding some new members to the Board of Directors to increase capacity for some board activities. Linda Washburn and Regina Coppens will be approached to determine if they would like to increase their involvement with the Board. Ann Luther will check with the Mid-Coast to see if there is someone who might be represented on the Board.
  - It was moved by Ann Luther and seconded by Linda Lord to give Jill Ward permission to talk with Andy Bossie about joining the Board.
  - It was moved by Polly Ward and seconded by Peg Balano to give Ann Luther permission to approach Deb McDonough and Penelope Hamblen about becoming more involved with the League.
- LWVUS Update – Jill Ward provide information on the resignation of the LWVUS Chief Executive Officer.

### **Committee Items.**

- Advocacy Corps Report
  - Ann Luther reported on the status of the RCV peoples veto signature gathering effort, the Secretary of State's agency bill that would restrict signature gathering for referenda and initiatives, and the request from the Ethics Commission for additional funding due to the gubernatorial race in 2018.
- Membership Report – Ann Luther presented the current membership report and reported on the process for following up on lapsed memberships.
- Communications Committee Report
  - Jill Ward reported that she would send out a calendar and assignments for the Winter Voter. The Spring Voter may be a combined LWVME-MCCE publication.
  - Ann Luther reported on the possibility for migrating to a new web site platform. The Board advised that we should wait on this for now to see how the new platform works for states that are currently adopting it.

- Anna Kellar offered to take on the Twitter, Instagram and Facebook social media efforts.
- Jill Ward asked the Communications Subcommittee to look at the Social Media policy.
- Fundraising Report
  - Ann Luther discussed to confusion generated by LWVUS using a Lewiston post office box for donations and the situation in which LWVUS has the information on our donors but will not share information on Maine people who donate to LWVUS.

### **Coalition Partners Updates**

- Alliance for Maine Women – Helen Hanlon reported that there will be a Women’s Day at the State House on February 1, 2018. Helen will be there and have a table. Anyone who is available to go with her would be welcome.
- Keys to the Capital on February 15, 2018 – Helen Hanlon passed out the tentative budget. The program is coming together. They would like representation of at least 2 people from each local league. John Brautigam and Linda Lord will develop the draft of a legislative sentiment/joint resolution.
- Jill asked for a committee to plan the League’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.
- Maine Freedom of Information Coalition - John reported that the MFOIC is following the public access to court records issue.

### **Local League Development**

- Portland
  - Joint MCCE-LWVPA event on January 20, 2018 on money in politics.
  - Book Group at the Portland Public Library on February 20, 2018, reading Evicted.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 1:19 pm

Respectfully submitted

Polly Ward

Vice President

