



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MAINE

## LWVME Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Saturday, September 9, 2017

Maine Center for Economic Policy (conference room)

One Weston Court, Suite 103, Augusta, Maine

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Present – Peg Balano, John Brautigam, Helen Hanlon, Barbara Kaufman, Linda Lord, Ann Luther, Barbara McDade, Anne Schink, Jill Ward, Polly Ward, Cathie Whittenburg

Absent – Stephanie Philbrick

### Preliminaries

- Call to order – 9:16 am
- Approval of Minutes from May Meeting – Amended to reflect Gina Coppens election to LWVME Ed Fund board of trustees. Barbara McDade moved to accept, Polly Ward second. Unanimously approved. Approval of May Convention minutes - Barbara M moved to accept, Linda Lord second. Unanimously approved.
- Treasurer’s Reports, including plan for annual financial review. Ann Luther presented LWVME and Downeast reports. Polly Ward presented Portland report. Reports filed for audit. Note, Maria Kreilkamp has volunteered to do review of accounts.

### Board Operations & Governance

- Policy review (3) – Supporting Other Organizations’ Activities, Making Decisions Between Board Meetings, and Conflict of Interest  
Polly Ward reviewed how we assess the policies. After review, board members signed Conflict of Interest policy.  
Ann Luther moved to adopt as written the Conflict of Interest policy. Polly Ward second. Unanimously approved.  
Linda Lord moved to readopt the policy on Making Decision Between Meetings. Polly Ward second. Unanimously approved.  
John Brautigam moved to readopt the policy on Supporting Other Organizations’ Activities. Polly Ward second. Unanimously approved.
- MANP membership renewal – Barbara Kaufman moved to renew League’s membership for \$125 for the year. Linda Lord second. Unanimously approved.
- Strategic Planning Update/Discussion – Discussion about implementing our strategic plan and how we might partner with MCCE. The consensus of the group is to move ahead with partnership. It was noted that there has to be absolute, clear protocols on communications for this to succeed. The following steps need to be taken now: 1) start writing case as to why working together is better for these organizations. Ann Luther will be the League lead on this; 2) logistically how would this work, who goes where, etc. John Brautigam will be lead on this; 3) write job description of shared executive director. Jill Ward and Polly Ward will be League lead on this; 4) over next nine months what projects can we do together. Ann Luther will be lead, Peg Balano and Anne Schink will assist.
- Ann Luther presented Linda Washburn for nomination to the Ed Fund board of trustees. After discussion, Ann Luther moved to approve nomination. Jill Ward second. Unanimously approved.
- LWVUS Update – Jill Ward presented. It was noted that National has given us their list of donors in Maine. We are looking for ways to continue to partner with National.

### Committee Items

- Advocacy Corps Report – Ann Luther reported. Very robust committee along with subcommittees. Thinking ahead to 2019 session
- Membership Report – We are pleased to note that LWVME continues to grow.



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- Communications Committee Report – Jill Ward reported. Working on a Fall Voter, hopefully around Columbus Day. Ann Luther talked about changing our web site to a new platform, MyLo. Barbara McDade moved to accept Ann’s proposal to make this move with a cap of \$1500 to implement changes. Polly Ward second. Unanimously approved.
- Fundraising Report – Jill Ward noted work continues on outreach around grants.

## Coalition Partners Updates

- MCCE & the Clean Elections Initiative – This was covered in earlier discussion
- Alliance for Maine Women – Helen Hanlon reported that the Alliance is supporting the state initiative to expand Medicaid and wants the League’s endorsement. Linda Lord moved that we endorse only, with no other commitments, Helen Hanlon second. Two opposed, one abstained, the rest voted yes. Motion passed.
- Maine Freedom of Information Coalition – John Brautigam reported there has not been much activity over the summer.

## Local League Development

- Portland – Barbara Kaufman reported they continue to work on voter registration training and are putting together a calendar of upcoming events.
- Downeast – Ann Luther noted that the WERU radio show starts up again in September and that their book group is still going.
- Brunswick – no report
- Bangor – Barbara McDade reported that their book group continues and they will host three candidates forums this fall in Bangor, Hampden and Old Town.
- Other – Ann Luther reported that the Midcoast group is cranking along.

## Quad States

April 6-8, 2018 in Wells. Looking for recommendations for topics.

**Adjourn** Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Submitted by Cathie Whittenburg, Secretary