

LWVB/N BOARD MEETING MINUTES, April 10, 2017
1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo NY 14209

At 4:06 P.M., Co-President Terri Parks convened the regular monthly Board meeting with a quorum present.

Present: Terri Parks, Marian Deutschman, Shirley Joy, Dorothy Tao, Sue Stievater, Nancy DeTine, Kathie Macaluso, Pat Costanzo, Lori Robinson, Nora Mikes and Mary Herbst
Excused: Judith Clarke, Judy Metzger and Margaret Brunson

Absent: Nicole Matteson

Leave of absence: Joan LoCurto

Guests: Ramona Gallagher and Amy Witryol

Additions to the Agenda – T. Parks

LWVB/N support the March for Science in Buffalo on April 22, 2017

LWVB/N Delegates for the State Convention

Call for volunteers for legislative visits

Consent Agenda – T. Parks

Board Meeting March 2017

Motion by S. Stievater and seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report - L. Robinson

Ending balance as of February 28, 2017	\$106,917.07
Total income for March 2017	1,064.20
Total expenses for March 2017	4,232.18
Net change in equity	(803,80)
Total balance as of March 2017	102,945.29
Monthly Surplus/Deficit	(3,167.98)

The treasurer's report was received for filing.

Presentation and discussion of the proposed budget for 2017-2018 – A. Witryol

A. Witryol presented the proposed Budget and offered several recommendations:

- If the Board approves unbudgeted items, which, *cumulatively* total more than \$1,000 in any one year, the Budget Committee chair should be notified.
- Dividends and interest – should not be automatically reinvested unless budgeted also as an Expense for that year.
- Establish an informal target of roughly \$10,000 cash on hand between the total of the checking and savings accounts.
- Due to the unpredictability of BMHA income, specific goals and monthly or quarterly progress reports to Board may become necessary longer term for; a) grant writing to offset TRY expenses, and b) specific sponsorship goals for a key annual (marquee) event. Ex. Who is responsible and what is the plan for sponsorship? What are the target dates to identify prospects and get back to the Board?

- Due to BMHA unpredictability, this year's budget includes a 5% withdrawal out of an investment fund. This should not become a regular practice without a recurring plan to restore such investment.

Motion by L. Robinson with no second needed to approve sending the 2017-2018 budget to the membership for approval at the annual meeting. Motion approved.

N. DeTine offered to draft an email reminder to members to follow up on the recent Annual Appeal letters. It is now possible to donate online through our Pay Pal account.

Report for the Nominating Committee – R. Gallagher

The Board candidates for terms beginning in June 2017 were presented. The positions of President and 1st VP or Co-President are open. R. Gallagher explained that these positions could be filled by someone stepping forward or with nominations from the floor at the annual meeting. The Board discussed the concept of forming a leadership team if no one comes forward to fill these positions. At the May meeting we will define the leadership team, noting that we will always try to find a president and consider a position of one or more presidents elect for the future. The job description for the president was reviewed with potential delegation of duties discussed. Board members need to be prepared to step forward to assume some of the duties of the president at the May board meeting.

Review and Acceptance of the Bylaws amendments – S. Joy

The changes recommended by the bylaws committee to be presented to the membership for action at the annual meeting were reviewed and voted on by article and section. Board members recommended some additional changes to be added to those suggested by the Bylaws Committee, but at this late date it isn't possible to consider them for this year. Motion on behalf of the bylaws committee to approve the suggested changes by S. Joy with no second needed.

- Article IV Section 1 Motion Approved
- Article V Section 1 Motion Defeated
- Article VI Section 2 Motion Approved
- Article VI Section 3 Motion Approved
- Article VIII Section 2 Motion Approved
- Article XI Section 3 Motion Approved
- Article XI Section 5 Motion Approved

Review and Acceptance of the Updated Communications Policy – N. De Tine

Motion by L. Robinson and seconded to approve the updated Communications Policy as submitted. Motion approved.

Q & Answers about Issues Committee Summary – M. Deutschman

New sites for luncheons are under consideration.

Request for Donation to the Western New York Center for Survivors of Torture – K. Macaluso

Motion by K. Macaluso and seconded that LWVB/N donate \$100 to Jewish Family Services for their program for Survivors of Torture. Motion approved.

Pens with the League Logo – Decision tabled until we have a Marketing Committee.

March for Science in Buffalo

Motion by N. Mikes and seconded that LWVB/N be a supporter of the March for Science in Buffalo on April 22, 2017.

Motion approved.

LWVB/N Delegates to the State League Convention

Lori Robinson, Shirley Joy, Nora Mikes, Christine Reichmuth, Marian Deutschman and Ramona Gallagher will be delegates to the convention. Terri Parks will attend as an outgoing member of the State Board.

Terri asked for volunteers for legislative visits and Marian Deutschman agreed to visit Michael Norris.

Next board meeting: Monday, May 8, 2017

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Mary Herbst

Submitted by Mary Herbst

Recording Secretary

Filed with the Minutes: Monthly Board Reports, Treasurer's Report, Summary of Local Government Committee Meetings, Summary of Issues Meeting, Finance Committee Report, Nominating Committee Board Candidates for terms beginning in June 2017, LWVB/N Proposed Bylaw Changes and LWVB/N Communications Policy