

League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara
Board Meeting Minutes, July 8, 2019, 3:30 p.m.,
1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY

Present: Shirley Joy, Nora Mikes, Marian Deutschman, Nancy De Tine, Lori Robinson, Liz Zausmer, Barbara Gunderson, Terri Parks, Susan Dombrowski, Christine Prygon, Ramona Gallagher, Mary Ann Turkla Susan Dombrowski

Leave of Absence: Pat Constanzo

Absent: Margaret Brunson (Note to Susan, no one was excused)

Guests: Lois Uhteg, Lyle Toohey

Kudos: Everyone who helped us have another successful Annual Meeting, especially Mary Ann Turkla and JoAnn Mecca;

Tina Prygon, Barbara Gunderson, Liz Zausmer and Ramona Gallagher for their work to refine the Voter Turnout Action Plan

Nancy DeTine and Krysta Doerfler for the redesign of our membership brochure

Executive Committee Action: On May 28, 2019, after receiving unanimous approval from the Executive Committee, the League submitted a letter to Robert Gioia, Chair of the Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation with the League's reaction to their "preferred plan" for developing the Outer Harbor based on League positions. Many thanks go to Lyda Stephens and Gladys Gifford for drafting the letter.

Convention delegates, Barbara Gunderson, Lyle Toohey, Lois Uhteg and Lori Robinson reported to the board their impressions, insights, inspirations, and critiques of their experience at the State Convention in Albany prior to the board meeting. Many suggestions, contacts, links and ideas from this worthwhile experience were shared.

Terri Parks called the meeting to order at 4:35. She reminded all members to make it a personal goal to be sure to make your comments, suggestions, and questions for each item at board meetings.

Addition to the Agenda: Nora Mikes requests that the board considers a future presenter from "Ain't I a Woman?" The group will be invited by Nora to present at next meeting.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A: Approval of Minutes of the May 2019 Board Meeting

B: Approval of Minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting

C: Approval of Election to Exclude Unsalariated Executives from Workman's Compensation

E. Board and Committee Appointments 2019-2020

Finance Committee members: Shirley Joy, Chair; Pat Costanzo, Deborah Schiffner

Program/Issues Committee chair, Marian Deutschman

Advocacy chair, Ramona Gallagher

Communications and Public Relations Chair, Nancy DeTine

Outreach for Civic Education and Engagement chair, Liz Zausmer

Voter Service chair, Barbara Gunderson

Membership, Tina Prygon

Increasing Voter Turnout Steering Committee, Liz Zausmer, Barbara Gunderson, Tina Prygon

Bylaw Review committee chair, Lyle Toohey

Naturalization Ceremonies Volunteer Coordinator, Pat Wille

Election Services Chair, Alan Dozoretz with the able assistance of Nora Mikes

BMHA Resident Commissioners' Election Coordinator, Nora Mikes

Voter Registration Volunteer Coordinator, Mary (Mike) Egan

Budget Committee chair, Amy Witryol

Motion made by Ramona Gallagher and seconded to approve consent agenda items. Motion adopted.

End of Year Treasurer's Report presented.
(Lori needs to provide us with a report for the minutes.)

Lori Robinson shared the names of people to be honored at the LWVNYS celebration of its 100 years on November 16, 2019, at the History Museum. There are no other details at this time.

The following dates and times have been set for board meetings at the League Office:
Monday, August 12, 2019 at 4 p.m.
Meetings will continue to be held on Mondays at 4 p.m. unless otherwise noted on agenda. September 9, 2019, October 14, 2019, November 11, 2019, December 14, 2019 / Holiday Party, January 13, 2020, February 10, 2020, March 9, 2020, April 13, 2020, May 11, 2020, June 13, 2020 Annual Meeting

Needed: board member(s) to suggest and select venue for both the holiday party and annual meeting

Questions for the Voters Guide and Vote 411 were presented by Marian Deutschman, reviewed and edited by the board and approved with questions for Niagara Falls to be refined.

Resignation of member Joan Simmons, was reluctantly accepted with outreach by R. Gallagher.

Report and discussion of Proposed Overview to Improve 2019/2020 voter turnout. By combining our existing educational efforts, and extending our outreach and voter registration, as well as improving our technology (making our website more user friendly), we should be well placed to meet our goals. Steering committee members, Tina Prygon, Liz Zausmer and Barbara Gunderson outlined how they envision the effort will work.

Liz Zausmer explored the opportunity for LWV to be at Larkin Food Truck Tuesday to register voters. on August 27, Sept 3, and Sept 24. We will coordinate volunteers with Mike Egan. Liz also explored having a table at the Elmwood Festival of the Arts on August 24 and 25. The board approved the \$80 expense and Liz plans to reach out to other organizations to share the table and cost.

Nora Mikes requests that we seek someone to work with her next spring when she coordinates the BMHA Tenant Commissioners' election with an eye to taking over this responsibility in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35. Next meeting August 12, 2019 at 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Dombrowski, Secretary