

League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara
Board Meeting Minutes
1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY
August 12, 2019, 4:00 p.m.,

Present: Marian Deutschman, Nancy DeTine, Susan Dombrowski, Barbara Gunderson, Shirley Joy, Nora Mikes, Terri Parks, Christine Prygon, Lori Robinson, Ramona Gallagher, Liz Zausmer, and Mary Ann Turkla
Absent: Margaret Brunson

Guest: Mary Lister from "Ain't I a Woman?"

Kudos: Krysta Doerfler and Nancy DeTine for the new membership brochure; Mary Ann Turkla, Nora Mikes, Shirley Joy, and Barbara Gunderson for their work to obtain contact information for this November's candidates

President Terri Parks called Board Meeting to order at 4:30.

Guest Presentation by Mary Lister of "Ain't I A Woman?"

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A: Approve the Minutes of the July 2019 Board Meeting

B: Accept Pat Costanzo's Resignation from the board with deep regret

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

There were no additions to the agenda and a short discussion of monthly reports.

After our guest departed, the board discussed ways we can support local and state efforts for "Ain't I a Woman?" Ramona Gallagher will contact Sally Robinson about the proposed Bill surrounding this issue. Nora Mikes will send thank you note to Mary Lister and keep her apprised of actions by the League. The League will possibly invite this group for monthly educational presentation.

The board had a detailed review and robust discussion of Non-Partisan and Diversity Policies. Specific consideration to board members' activities resulted in the conclusion that none violate the League's Non-Partisan Policy. A main concern of board members was what constitutes a "sensitive" board position. A Motion to approve both policies made by Ramona Gallagher and seconded. Motion passed.

We had a detailed review and discussion of Nominating Committee Recommendations and how they might affect our Bylaws. The board will prepare a charge to the Bylaw Review Committee and Terri requested comments from the board that she and Ramona will incorporate in a draft charge for board consideration in September. A consensus was reached that 15 members on the Board was the preferred number. Limiting a President to 1 year was undesirable with a two year term the most popular. A 3-year term with the 1st vice president becoming President Elect in the third year might also be considered. A suggestion was made that the committee suggest two or three succession plans for board consideration.

Tina Prygon noted that leadership training, and membership orientation will be main goals of the Membership Committee. Barbara Gunderson and Ramona Gallagher agreed to work with Tina on these efforts. Terri Parks has agreed to draw up a committee flow chart to provide for orientation.

Shirley Joy and Lori Robinson presented a Finance Committee Recommendation. The motion recommended by the Finance Committee is that \$9000 that was disbursed to our checking account in 2018 from capital gains and dividends be reinvested. \$4500 will go to the Bond Fund and \$1500 go into each of the three equity funds (Social Justice, Growth and Income and Mid-cap Value). Because this motion came from the committee, no second was needed. Motion adopted.

Ramona Gallagher, Lori Robinson and Shirley Joy have volunteered to take over the responsibility for the selection of locations for our Holiday Party and Annual Meeting. We will provide information to board members so we will be ready vote on a charity for the Holiday Party at the September meeting.

All business having been conducted, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35. Board members completed a meeting assessment form and gave them to Terri.

The next board meeting will be Monday, September 9, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by Susan Dombrowski, secretary