League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara

March 8, 2021, 4 p.m. via Zoom

All Present: Terri Parks, Susan Dombrowski, Shirley Joy, Marian Deutschman, Mary Ann Turkla, Rebecca LaCivita, Lori Robinson, Liz Zausmer, Nancy DeTine, Alberta Roman, Nora Mikes, Barbara Gunderson, Victoria Mueller

Guest: Ramona Gallagher

President Terri Parks called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Motion made by Lori Robinson to accept the Consent Agenda consisting of

* Approval of the February 8, 2021, Board Minutes and
* Appointment of Deborah Schiffner to budget committee

Motion seconded and unanimously approved.

Form the Nominating Committee Chairperson Ramona Gallagher submitted the proposed slate for 2021-2023.

For a 2 year term beginning June 2021:

President Lori Robinson

Secretary Susan Dombrowski

At-Large Member Rebecca LaCivita

At-Large Member Elizabeth Zausmer

At-Large Member Barbara Gunderson

At-Large Member Sue Czyrny

For a 1 year term beginning June 2021:

At-Large Member Jennifer Hoffman

For a 1 year term beginning June 2021:

Nominating Committee Chair Ramona Gallagher

Nominating Committee Members Al Dozoretz

Janet Goodsell

B. LaCivita presented to the board the final version of the Speaker Reimbursement Policy (see below) which was unanimously adopted.

League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara Speaker Reimbursement Policy

LWVBN does not ordinarily pay speakers a stipend, honorarium, or speaker fee. There are exceptional circumstances that warrant consideration of payment but only with board approval.

Reimbursement for travel expenses including flights, train, car service, standard auto mileage, and one or two nights of lodging may be paid but only with board approval. These expenses need at least three months’ advance notice to the board. There are times when admission to an event may be charged to cover these costs. It is also possible that costs may be shared or covered by another organization or defrayed by a paid sponsorship. Without board approval, a speaker may receive a gift of nominal cost as appreciation for speaking at a LWVBN event.

On behalf of the Membership Committee Mary Ann Turkla suggests that we direct all new members to our website for information on our various committees. Committee chairs are requested to visit the website to review and update committee information as necessary. Victoria Mueller has our members’ interest spreadsheet available for the asking. Committees are encouraged to use to the spreadsheet to identify, and invite new members who share interests.

Delegates to the New York State Convention in June include Alberta Roman, Barbara Gunderson, Lori Robinson, Rebecca LaCivita, Elizabeth Zausmer, Ramona Gallagher, and T. Parks. Anyone else interested in being a delegate should inform T. Parks by email.

Mary Ann Turkla and Barbara Gunderson expressed interest in joining Nora Mikes in learning how to use a Wiki platform to help manage committee communications, projects and/or for use as a knowledge base. The wiki is a prepaid benefit of our web hosting service, and offers a private (password protected) collaborative space that league members may find helpful. Anyone interested in the potential that a members only easily editable space could provide is welcome to join in and contact Nora Mikes.

All board members are asked to review their position’s job description which is found in the League Handbook. Is the job description current and complete? In addition to reviewing job descriptions the board is looking to review the Executive Committee policy during April and May. Anyone who would like T. Parks to send her another copy of the Handbook should send her an email.

All business having been concluded the meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Next meeting Monday April 12, 2021 at 4p.m. via Zoom

Submitted by Susan Dombrowski, Secretary