League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara

July 12, 2021, 4:00 p.m. via Zoom

Present: Lori Robinson, Marian Deutschman, Susan Dombrowski, Mary Ann Turkla, Rebecca Civita, Barbara Gunderson, Victoria Mueller, Alberta Roman, Sue Czrny, Elisabeth Zausmer, Shirley Joy, Jennifer Hoffman,

President Lori Robinson called the meeting to order at 4:05

The President’s opening remarks were to share previous President Terri Parks’ thank you note to all for her gift and that Lori would send it out to all.

Shirley Joy moved that we accept the May 10, 2021 Board Meeting minutes, seconded by Liz Zausmer and adopted.

L. Robinson reported to the board that the financials for the year ending June 2021 would be completed by the August 9, 2021 board meeting.

Motion to approve the changing of board president’s name on banking documentation and as signatory with Shirley Joy made by Barbara Gunderson and seconded by Rebecca Civita. Motion adopted.

The need to update Committee lists and fill a few key spots was presented by L. Robinson. A board member is needed on the finance committee and R. Civita has graciously volunteered. It is noted that we are still searching for someone for fund development. Marian Deutschman provided the board with the names of people who have volunteered to examine the Programs, Issues and Continuing Responsibilities presented in the Annual Report. It was noted that this review needs to begin with all due haste with the need to submit it to the board in February, so that the board may consider recommendations and submit it for review well before the next Annual Meeting. Mary Ann Turkla will be the final member of the Executive Committee. A new Board/Committee Chairs through 2022 list will be forthcoming.

M. Deutschman suggested that the local program and issues focus consider a return to a speakers’ bureau concept. In addition there might be a connection with our link to the public library liaison. B. Gunderson shared that she has several prepared presentations ready to roll out.

B. Gunderson updated the board on the (3) upcoming candidate debates/forums. Our level of participation varies with each and there are many details to work out, but it was affirmed that by past practices, board approval is not needed.

B. Gunderson proposed a Membership Scholarship. She explained that some other-abled members of our community may wish to join the LWV but are financially unable. L. Robinson will look into what other chapters are doing to meet this need.

In other new projects it was again submitted that we have a new member orientation or meet-up of some sort. After further refinement, it was decided that a Zoom meeting was most feasible and would take place on August 18, 2021 at 7-8pm Each chair is to give a very brief outline of their committee’s aims or focus. Mary Ann Turkla has volunteered to inform all committee chairs and to write an email invitation to members who have joined July 2020 to date. Victoria Mueller will assist M.Turkla.

L. Zausmer and B. Gunderson reported on their experiences using the AutoMARK voting terminals. It would seem that experiences, access and poll worker training may be varied by area, and this requires more investigating.

B. Gunderson made a motion to send $100 for funeral expenses to the Shaquille Walker family from the LWV/BN. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Hoffman. The motion was not adopted.

A letter written by Mary Meyers was submitted for board approval by email to L. Robinson who screen shared it with the committee on this Zoom call. Motion made by Mary Ann Turkla that the board approve the letter to allied organizations concerning redistricting. Seconded by Alberta and adopted.

M Deutschman reminded all to make reservations for July 21, 2021 Potluck event.

Motion made to adjourn meeting by S. Joy and seconded by M. Deutschman. Motion adopted. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm

Next meeting August 9, 2021 by Zoom

submitted by Susan Dombrowski, secretary

Susan Dombrowski