

LWVB/N BOARD MEETING MINUTES, May 9, 2016
1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo NY 14209

At 4:07 P.M., Co-President Judy Metzger convened the regular monthly board meeting with a quorum present.

Present: Terri Parks, Judy Metzger, Judith Clarke, Sue Stievater, Nancy De Tine, Patricia Costanzo, Margaret Brunson, Marian Deutschman , Theresa Pope, Mary Herbst and Office Manager Mary Ann Turkla.
Excused: Dorothy Tao, Lori Robinson, Joan LoCurto (Indeterminate Leave of Absence)
Absent: Wynnie Fisher

Approval of the Minutes – M. Herbst

Motion made by T. Parks and seconded that we approve the April 11, 2016 board meeting minutes as presented. Motion approved.

N. De Tine and J. Massaro are appointed to be the committee to read the minutes at the annual meeting and help with any needed revisions.

Treasurer's Report - L. Robinson

Ending balance as of March 31, 2016	\$104,124.05
Total income for April, 2016	1,265.18
Total expenses for April, 2016	4,380.54
Total balance as of April 30, 2016	\$100,052.10

Q&A about Board Monthly Reports – J. Metzger

There were no questions.

Q&A about Issues Committee Summary – M. Deutschman

T. Parks informed the board that there is a tentative calendar of programs for the year and these programs need to vary between day and evening time. The December meeting will focus on a charitable organization with the Family Justice Center as a possible focus and Mary Travers Murphy as a possible speaker. In the Summary of Issues Meeting Report – Tuesday, May 3, 2016, under Update on Voter Turnout, M. Deutschman asked that the sentence, beginning with “Janet mentioned” be moved from this section to the end of the report.

Discussion of updated policies for Candidate Forums – M. Brunson

The League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara Candidates Forum Procedures and Practices was distributed online for discussion at the board meeting. After several suggestions for changes and corrections were offered, it was decided to rewrite and retype the Candidates Forums Practices and send them to N. De Tine to proof read. They will be sent online ahead of time for approval at the annual meeting.

M. Brunson explained that when someone calls the office and wants to schedule a candidate forum, they are informed they must have a coordinator from the organization and fill out the proper paper work. M. Brunson would prefer that the paper work specify a date when the form should be returned to the LWVB/N, in order to plan the event. If they are unable to return it by the specific date by postal or personal delivery, they would need to scan it or use email. The

Voter Service Chair needs to be notified when the information is received. M.A. Turkla, as Office Manager, needs information ahead of time about candidate forums. J. Clarke, volunteer coordinator stated that we need more moderators for debates as the list is meager. She requested that a training session be organized for moderators.

Discussion of Voter Turnout Efforts and creation of a workable action plan – J. Metzger

M. Brunson reported that four LWVB/N members conducted “Vote 18” events for seniors at Maryvale High school. At the end of each class, Voter Registration Forms were distributed. Ninety-four students completed the registration forms.

They were able to adapt the script from LWVNY to fit the event. M. Brunson offered to write a report for the *Voter* and contact Social Studies teachers to schedule future events.

Volunteers are needed for voter registration events and for school programs. Please call J. Clarke if you are interested in volunteering.

Voter Turnout Efforts – The suggestions from the April 9 Regional Training Meeting were reviewed and several were considered as worthwhile to pursue and bring to the annual meeting. Before decisions can be made, it is important to look at costs. Several board members offered to check some possibilities:

N. De Tine - Signs on buses.

M. Brunson - Partnering with UNYTS at the Erie County Fair – Check with Jeremy Morlock

J. Metzger – Money from the organ grant could pay for booth at Erie County Fair - Check with Janet Massaro

J. Metzger – Wegmans and Tops about providing cloth bags with voter information printed on them

N. De Tine- Bookmark design and wording

M.A. Turkla _ Price of bookmarks

T. Parks – Allied Organizations

P. Costanzo – Stickers with washable tattoos about voting

It was decided to focus on bookmarks this year and consider postcards for next year.

The reports need to be ready for the July board meeting.

Suggestions for Changes to the Membership Interest Survey – J. Metzger

N. De Tine offered to replace the italicized section on the present survey with more appropriate wording and email it to M.A.Turkla.

Updates from folks who have or will visit their state legislators re: LWVNYS priorities - T. Parks

T. Parks reminded members who visit their state legislators that one copy of the report of their visit is sent to the State League and one copy is sent to T. Parks who sends it to J. LoCurto.

Select the New Letterhead Design for LWVBN – J. Metzger

The letterhead with Making Democracy Work above the local LWVB/N contact information was selected. This is a Word Document so a letter can be copied into it. M.A. Turkla will check on the cost of color for the stationery.

T. Parks thanked Theresa Pope for her service to the board.

Erie County Budget Review Commission: The Executive Committee approved submitting an article to *Another Voice* related to the Erie County Budget Review Commission and virtually the same content in a letter to each Erie County Legislator and County Executive. The *Buffalo News* published it on Saturday, May 7, 2016.

We need a short meeting prior to the annual meeting to approve the State League budget for 2016-2017.

Reservations for the June 4, 2016 annual meeting are due by the May 20 deadline. (Deadline extended until May 31 after the board meeting.)

Next board meeting: July 11, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

League Pot Luck Picnic: July 19, 2016 at the Chelsea Club House on Downing Lane at Canterbury Woods.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Mary Herbst

Submitted by Mary Herbst
Recording Secretary

Filed with the Minutes: Monthly Board Reports, Treasurer's Reports, Summary of Local Government Meeting, Summary of Issues Meeting, Voter Turnout Efforts Sheet

