

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE GRAND TRAVERSE AREA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
April 10, 2019

Meeting called to order by President Jan Warren, at 12 noon.

Present: J. Warren, L. Messing, I. Brophy, B. Newson, L. Crandall, M. Grover, B. Berry, M. Koppa, N. Nordfjord, A. Swaney, M. Beeker

Welcome– Additions to the agenda

Approval of minutes of March 13, 2019 M. Beeker moved and L. Crandall 2nd - Approved with one correction. “Newson commented that we’ll have to change the Bylaws if we send only electronic invitations to the annual meeting.” Jan commented that our Bylaws state only that the annual budget be sent to the members 30 days before the Annual Meeting. It is not specified how they be sent.

Discussion of archival storage of minutes - Decision to keep minutes along with the Annual Budget and to also accumulate electronic copies of minutes on the website.

Treasurer’s Report- L. Messing. Education Fund has just under \$5,000. Agreed to keep seven years of treasurer’s reports (per law), and then shred.

Annual Meeting – May 11th -- Reception to be 9:30 am, Buffet at 10 am.

- a) Officers- J. Warren volunteered to continue administrative functions of President, if M.Grover will accept office of 1st VP. Grover agreed.
- b) Method of notifying invitees (snail mail vs. email) – Will continue with snail mail for now.
- c) Removal of funds for Benzie Unit from budget – Warren removed from budget for Annual Mtg.
- d) Volunteers needed – B.Berry & B.Newson will “man” the registration tables.
- e) Awards – Committee working on these. There will be Making Democracy Work and Outstanding Service Awards.
- f) Calling to invite new members – Nordfjord will assign names for Board to call & encourage them to attend.
- g) Other – B. Newson needs to give Country Club preliminary attendance by May 6th.
Warren asks – do we need to give committee reports? Agreed we should give oral reports.

Voter Service Committee – Montgomery & Townsend.

- a) General – Committee will continue to work mostly via email; no regular meetings at present.
- c) Empty Chair Policy - Grover. Tabled until our next meeting.

Programs

- a) Media Literacy Program - Scheduled for April 23rd at 6:30 - TADL. M. Beeker arranged for Nicco Pandolfi from NMC Library to present. L. Messing asked if anyone will be contacting teachers. Peg T. will do so. N. Nordfjord will send information to Kay Walker (MARS) to notify retired teachers.
- b) DVDs available from UpNorth TV – J. Warren has been getting DVDs of our programs. M. Beeker unable to post these on the website. We pay \$100/yr. to UpNorth TV. M. Beeker will look into it.

c) Program Committee volunteers: Brenda Rouch, Cheryl Naperala, Sue Brovant, and Bev Newson.

d) M. Beeker suggested possible fall program by JoAnne Cook of the Grand Traverse Band on GTB governance.

Membership – Jan confirmed with Christina Schlitt that Student Membership is still free. She added that some Leagues charge a \$5.00 fee to defray the cost of the PayPal fee and create buy-in on the part of the member. The Board will discuss whether to adopt this policy at the June Retreat.

LWVMI Convention – in Livonia, May 17th-19th. Nancy, Anne M., and Marcia will be attending. Chris Carson, President of LWVUS will speak. B. Berry remarked that we asked for an update of the Public Library Position this year but was turned down. We can ask for reconsideration at the Convention, with possible support from Mt. Pleasant. Jan thanked Barb B. for writing a history of our League and for the Convention. It was also suggested that a copy be put on the tables at our Annual Meeting. Barb B. mentioned that our League's 60th anniversary will be in 2020. A discussion of a celebration will be put on the agenda for our Retreat.

Parade of Homes – Bev. Newson. It is scheduled for June 13th-19th, and we haven't heard yet if we'll have a home, although Bev is optimistic.

Concerns about attendance at Holiday Open House and number of invitations sent. Warren reported that we actually sent out more to non-members than in previous years. We sent 52 and 32 attended. Bev stated that we need to develop better relationships in order to get attendance up. In 2016 we sent 82 invitations to non-members. No one from Benzie or Kalkaska attended. Had a conversation about discontinuing the Open House and just sending out solicitations for donations. This topic will also be discussed at the Retreat.

Leelanau Co. LWV will mentor Charlevoix-Emmet Unit. Jan & Donna H. discussed this with Christina Schlitt.

Report from Crawford County Unit (Jan is serving as liaison) – Marcia Koppa. They have a membership of 10-12 people, including C. Schlitt. They distributed "*We Represent You*" in Crawford Co. In January, there was a presentation from Craig Mauger of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network covering campaign contributions in Michigan elections. Koppa said she will present "*Logic & Fallacies*," to the Grayling High School Civics Class on May 18th. Marcia's & Christina's Basket Donation at Mich. Conference will be "From Grayling & Grand. Traverse."

Other –

- Grover suggested we all make a point of distributing "*They Represent You*," at various meetings & programs we attend.
- May 30th is date of the Grand Traverse-Leelanau-Antrim Bar Assoc. "Spring Dinner," where Mary Beeker will receive the Liberty Bell Award.

June Retreat – LWVGTA retreat scheduled for Saturday, June 22nd. No location scheduled yet.

Adjourn & Next meeting – May 11th at TC Country Club. Meeting adjourned at 1:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Swaney
Interim Secretary