

League of Women Voters of Iowa  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
September 14, 2019  
Coralville Public Library, Coralville, Iowa

**Present:** Terese Grant, Mary Rae Bragg, Polly Horton, Doris Kelly, Linda Meloy, Sue Wilson, Gaylen Wobeter, Bonnie Pitz, Nancy Halvorson, Mary Ann Nelson, Raven Hollenhorst

**Absent:** Nancy Porter, Bev Ver Steegh

**Guest:** Tam Prenosil

Call to order 10:03 am by Terese Grant (with gavel!)

Minutes of the August 9, 2019 meeting approved. G. Wobeter moved, D. Kelley seconded, unanimous vote.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer L. Meloy presented the Balance Sheet as of September 11, 2019. The amounts were as follows: checking account \$10,143.55, total Education Funds (History Book Project, Johnson County, LWVIA, Muscatine County, Dubuque League) \$12,784.95 and Heartland Investments \$14,334.50.

Meloy stated that LWVIA is not over budget in any category, and identified line items to be removed. The filing fee for our 501c3 status (A8) was a one-time fee so it will be gone. Giving Tuesday (K) is discontinued so deleted. B. Pitz was sent to LWVUS Council (D) for cost of \$1311.01. Our Local Leagues Rock event (8/10/19) partial cost \$277.50 (E6) since all bills have not been submitted.

PMP is due . Invoices have been distributed. Metro Des Moines, Black Hawk Bremer, Dubuque and Johnson County Leagues have still to pay.

The 2018 Audit is on file.

**President's Report**

President Terese Grant opened her report stating that since she took office "this has been a roller coaster ride"! Her report is summarized in the bullet points below:

- LWVIA and the Brennan Center for Justice's letter to Iowa Secretary of State Pate regarding Iowa's rejection of ballots from people misidentified as felons. The Brennan Center invited LWVIA to NYC for training, and M. Loehrlein and K. Person went as LWVIA representatives.
- Review of the Local Leagues Rock workshop in August in Grinnell :
  - Opportunity to learn about each other
  - Promoted gearing up for fall Voter Registration and Forums
  - Group photo a great idea
  - Provided a relaxed time for sharing/ networking

- Concerns that need tracking for training
- People Powered Fair Maps Campaign  
LWVUS is starting a 3-year endeavor in all 50 states to implement fair mapping, for which Iowa's plan is the gold standard. President Grant will attend a Redistricting Workshop October 9-10/ 2019 in D. C., ALL EXPENSES PAID. She will meet with Senators Schneider and Witmer and Representative Prichard to get the "lay of the land" with respect to any anticipated bills/action on Iowa's reapportionment process in the 2020 Legislature.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **19<sup>th</sup> ACC Update**

Kelley presented a 12-point review/ summary of the accomplishments of the Committee:

- Stanley Corporation and Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust are sponsoring the Education Curriculum
- Veridian contributing \$25,790 for calendar
- Memorandum of understanding with Maine to use **Hard Won, Not Done** slogan and graphic.
- Peer review confirms the Curriculum follows core standards
- Calendar
- 28 different projects
- "Hard Won, Not Done" beer 2/14/2020
- Suffrage Wagon
- Contact your local Credit Union and encourage them to contact the Veridian Credit Union regarding the commemoration calendar
- Library posters
- 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment
- 

The Board gave D. Kelley a hearty round of applause!

### **Members at Large (MAL)**

P. Horton and L. Meloy presented a draft LWVIA Member -At -Large Membership form. Discussion concerned the membership gains, the need to define nonpartisan and review the LWVIA By-Laws. B. Pitz moved and S. Wilson seconded, that the form be adopted with amendments discussed. The process for implementation will be

- Placement of form and PayPal account "button" on lwvia.org webpage
- MAL policy placed on Facebook
- MAL notice to all local Leagues via email to Presidents and VOTER article
- Distribute a news release across the state of MAL League membership

Motion passed with unanimous vote.

### **Juvenile and Justice Committee Update**

B. Pitz reported the Committee had met on a Zoom teleconference call. The Committee plans to focus their efforts on contacting the Judiciary Committee of Iowa Legislature. D. Kelley recommended the Committee use our Lobbyists.

### **MLD Update**

M.A. Nelson provided handouts of the 2019-2020 Grow Me - MLD call schedule plus sample Guidances (April 2019, October 2018 and September 2018). She encouraged everyone to be on the upcoming 9/16/19 7:00 pm call.

### **Legislative Public Policy Priorities 2020**

All the issues listed are “hot” topics in Iowa so the primary and secondary ranking was removed. It was recommended that \* *Support the adoption of state strategies to address climate change and make Iowa a welcoming place* be changed to 2 separate statements. L. Meloy made motion that we approve the Priorities as amended, G. Wobeter seconded, and the motion passed on unanimous vote.

### **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion explained**

M.A. Nelson provided handouts that define the terms Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. T. Grant recommended watching two webinars on the LWV management site: one by Carolyn Jefferson-Davis and the other on “Making a Personal Commitment to DEI”.

### **Issues Briefing and DEI Workshop – October 19, 2019 at Marshalltown Community College (MCC)**

LWVIA will be using LWVUS materials featuring “Developing Your Own Personal Commitment to League” and the webinar “Making a Personal Commitment to DEI”.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Registering Voters at Youth Voice Forum –D.M.**

M.R. Bragg was contacted by the Des Moines Register and asked for LWVIA participation in the Forum. It is a forum for candidates for POTUS, and at this time partisan (only one political party), so LWVIA will not participate.

#### **New LWVIA Banner**

B. Pitz moved and L. Meloy seconded a motion to authorize purchase of a vertical banner for LWVIA, featuring the mission statement ‘Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy’. N. Halvorson will get bids for this banner.

#### **Fundraising Campaign for “Voter Registration/ Voting Rights”**

Decision to form a task force (likely early 2020) to create fundraising to develop a “floating fund” that LWVIA can use to assist various local Leagues with individual projects. Nancy H., Bonnie P., and Mary Rae B. agreed to serve as Committee.

#### **LWV People Powered Fair Maps Campaign**

T. Grant is attempting to schedule meeting with Majority and Minority leaders in the Senate and House of Representatives.

(See President's Report)

### **2020 Census Involvement**

Certified Census Committee will help educate public. Resources can be found at census.gov. Possible partners are LULAC and NAACP.

### **Policies and Procedures for Candidate Forums and Legislative Forums**

P. Horton and M.R. Bragg will develop protocol.

### **Responsibilities for LWVIA Board Members**

19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Celebration: D. Kelley

Juvenile and Justice Committee: B. Pitz

See Yourself Here: L. Meloy, N. Halvorson

UMRR: S. Wilson, N. Porter

MLD: M.A. Nelson

VOTE411: Laure Wess-Peters

Fundraising: M.R. Bragg, N. Halvorson, B. Pitz

**Liaisons to Local Leagues:** N. Halvorson/ Ames, M.R. Bragg/Black Hawk  
Bremer, G. Wobeter/Metro Des Moines, S. Wilson/ Dubuque, T. Grant /Grinnell,  
B. Pitz/ Jasper, N. Porter/ Johnson, M.A. Nelson/ Linn, L. Meloy/ Muscatine,  
B. VerSteegh/ Ottumwa, P. Horton/ Sioux City

Send your local League a post-meeting note and ask to receive their VOTER.

### **Calendar for 2020 Meetings and Capitol Day**

Capitol Days: 2/19/2020 **virtual** and 3/11/20 **at Capitol**

Board of Directors' Meetings:

November 9, 2019 in Grinnell

January 11, 2020 in Cedar Rapids

March 14, 2020 in Ames

April 25, 2020 in Iowa City

Council 2020 in Cedar Falls (plus attend The Suffragists performance)

### **Other**

#### **Electoral College presentation**

Tam Prenosil offered to present the LWV Wilmette, IL, 45-minute program "Why the Electoral College is Bad for America" to Iowa local Leagues that are interested.

Meeting Adjourned 1:47 pm

Polly Horton, Secretary