League of Women Voters of Iowa

Board of Directors’ Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

March 20, 2021 (Court of Public Appeals)

Present: Terese Grant, Mary Rae Bragg, Polly Horton, Doris Kelley, Linda Meloy, Sue Wilson, Jean McMenimen, Bonnie Pitz, Bev VerSteegh, Nancy Halvorson, MaryAnn Nelson, Raven Hollenhorst

Absent: Nancy Porter

Call to order: 10:13 am

Approval of minutes of January 16,2021 Zoom minutes: Bev Ver Steegh moved, and Jean McMenimen seconded ; vote was unanimous to approve.

Treasurer’s Report

Heartland Investment Account $26,758.00

History Book project $603.25

Treasurer Meloy has presentations scheduled with local League Treasurers

President’s report

* Legislature not addressing issues important to Iowans
* Task Forces have been positive; local members are participating
* Redistricting

**OLD BUSINESS**

**19th ACC (Doris Kelley**)

* See report
* 10/04/21 CATT Center for Wrap Up
* Register for Suffrage Wagon

**Criminal Juvenile and Justice Committee**

* Educate Committee
* Work on “Court of Public Opinion”

**MLD** (MaryAnn Nelson)

* 3rd Monday : April 2021 Sioux City , May 2021 Jasper County
* Outreach Circle to offer Iowa training

**ERA**

* House submitted and passed 222/204
* Not clear when Senate will take up

**Environmental Committee (**Sue Wilson)

* 63 Leagues from 4 states (IOWA, ILL, MN, WI)
* Issues: Soil, Water, Air
* Mary Ellen Miller is new Chair
* Sue Wilson is agent for the ILO distribution list; send her your interest

**SWOT**

* Fundraising - $5,000
  + How many from each local League contribute?
* Promotion
  + Defending trifold
  + Local Leagues rock in VOTER
  + Members-at-Large (MAL) Interviews
* Outreach Circle
  + T. Grant will investigate possibility of training in April 2021
  + Need minimum of 6 participants from each Local League

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Task Force Updates**

Redistricting will focus on **educating Iowans**

* Drake CEU credit seminar featuring Ed Cook on 3/18/21
  + 506 registered; 300 able to attend on Zoom
* Grinnell videos (3); 2 minutes each
* Reapportionment Lesson Plan
  + Grades 8-12
  + Adapted from Census Bureau model
* Outreach Circle
* Day of Action

Justice has merged with Criminal Juvenile Justice Committee

Environment

* Bottle Bill
  + L. Schreiber, who researched topic in depth met with T. Grant and Lobbyist Amy Campbell
  + Presented data to Senator Rosenboom
  + LWVIA registered as undecided; maintains communication
  + Only LWVIA advocating for Bottle Bill

Workforce

* Broadband HF 796
* ICN Infrastructure still okay
* The endpoint connection is limiting factor

Health

* Mental Health
  + Refine Mental Health districts
  + Get psychiatrists in districts
* Early childcare
  + Bills falling short
  + HF 230, HF 712, HF 370

Election Regulations & Government Accountability

* Contacted County Auditors’ Association to support legislation they proposed on Absentee Voting and Election Recount revisions
* Sent Action Alert to LWVIA members to express opposition to the Election Integrity bill SF413
* Government Accountability: Who to partner with and What to measure?
* Interview with Randy Evans, Iowa Freedom of Information Council
  + Foster well-informed citizens (educate)
  + Cover a broader geographic footprint: Town Halls
  + Partner with other agencies: Universities, Nursing Homes
  + Research and share ideas/ facts with newspapers
  + PSA with Iowa Public Television

**Liability Insurance**

* LWVIA has coverage as an **entity** not individual
* Treasurer Meloy will have a Zoom meeting with local League Treasurers

**Contract for 2021-2022 for Melissa Gesling**

Changes to the 2020-2021 contract are:

* Update Mail Chimp
* Publish 6 VOTERS newsletters
* Increase hours to 155; $6000 (2021) increase to $7750 (2022)
* Update Web Page

***Sue Wilson moved to accept the proposed Contract with Melissa Gesling; Nancy Halvorson seconded, and the motion passed on unanimous vote.***

***Mary Rae Bragg moved to immediately begin the process to update the LWVIA webpage with an allocation cap of $2,000; Bonnie Pitz seconded, and the motion passed on unanimous vote.***

**Convention 2021** (Nancy Halvorson)

* Saturday, June 12, 2021; 9 am – 12 pm
* Theme is “Let’s Grow Our Future…Now”
* Virtual Program posted 2 weeks prior so attendees can print at home
* Cost is $20 per delegate based upon membership count and a billing sent out by LWVIA Treasurer. Any attendees/observers above that number will attend at no charge.
* T. Grant will investigate if need upgrade to Zoom
* Keynote Speaker will be Deb Turner

**Nominating Report** (Bonnie Pitz)

The goal is to have a member from every local League on the Board of Directors. The By-Laws have been proposed to be updated as follows:

* 6 individuals chosen by the Board of Directors
* All 11 local Leagues represented
* Online Convention and Council

Check the Spring 2021 VOTER for details.

**Member-At-Large (MAL) Video** (Linda Meloy)

* Video idea to recruit and retain members
* Refer to Promotion Committee
* Make donation to LWVIA and earmark for MAL video

**Next LWVIA Board of Directors’ meeting**  **May 15, 2021**

L. Meloy moved for adjournment, and N.Halvorsen seconded. The motion passed on unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Polly Horton