

League of Women Voters of Appleton-Fox Cities Board of Directors meeting
Wednesday, February 1, 2023 - 4:00 p.m. – LWV office conference room

Welcome and call to order (4:00-4:05) **In attendance were: Linda Bjella, April Savage, Marti Hemwall, Renee Gralewicz, Diane Putzer, Jan Quinlan, Kathy Voigt, Jacqui Klimaszewski, Cindy Fallona, Julie Evers. The meeting was called to order at 4:03 by Linda.**

Consent Agenda (4:05-4:10)

Please read all reports in our board [folder](#) prior to the meeting. This information will not be discussed unless questions are raised prior to the meeting.

- A. Minutes-January 4, 2023
- B. Presidents' report
- C. Reports
 - 1. Treasurer and fundraising
 - 2. Voter Services
 - 3. Action
 - 4. Program
 - 5. Membership
 - 6. Communications and Technology
 - 7. DEI Study
 - 8. DEI Committee
 - 9. Events Committee
 - 10. Budget Committee
 - 11. Women's Action Coalition

Marti moved to accept the consent agenda, April seconded the motion. Discussion: Membership, about 20 that didn't renew. Cindy will let the board know who hasn't renewed in case they have a personal connection and want to reach out. All were in favor of accepting the consent agenda.

Old Business (4:10-4:30)

- A. Update on Oral History Project (Linda) **Kathy is working on 'Legacy Project'. Timeline, how many people we need to do this properly, how can we get this out to the community? Can we get Lawrence Students involved to do the interviews? If so, students should not go without a LEague member accompanying them. Linda will ask Marcia Hittle to convene a group of legacy members together to share memories and get the discussion started. Find out about the women that were mentors to our legacy members. we decided this should not be seen as a finite project but an ongoing effort to capture our successes and history. When a board president retires, or study group leaders finish, they should be interviewed. Kathy will work on starter questions, Linda will contact Marcia.**
- B. Update from Nominating Committee (Jan, Cindy) **Moving along. Goal is to be done by March 1. They are exploring the idea of having co-presidents who overlap by one year for continuity and learning the role. This created a lengthy discussion during which the board discussed that this would make unequal presidential partners. The board discussed the possibility of a president-elect position. In the meantime, co-presidents will be allowed without any other structure imposed.**
- C. Vote on proposed by-laws changes (Marti, Jan) **Discussion: Change the bylaws to say allow for the possibility of co-president. We need to have this done by the annual meeting**

in April. We want to retain the flexibility of having a single president or to have co-presidents elected in different years. Co-presidents can work to their strengths. The co-presidents share a single vote. Should a co-president elected in an off year serve a term of only one year? The board did not reach consensus about several of these larger questions. For now, Jacqui made a motion to accept the limited proposed change of wording to allow for co-presidents and in that case, the co-presidents would share one vote. Renee seconded the motion. All were in favor. Will be voted on at annual meeting.

- D. Vote on document retention policy (Marti, Diane, Jan) Do we need to find a person to be in charge of the archives? Barb Kelly would like to pass the responsibility to someone else. Add category for Membership lists. Jan made a motion to accept with addition of an archivist, Diane seconded the motion. Jan and Marti will tweak the document. All were in favor.
- E. Ratify fiscal sponsorship of and donation to Women's Action Coalition (Marti) Two actions were taken by the board over email after the last meeting which then requires that the board ratify those actions in person. Marti made a motion to ratify the vote to accept fiscal sponsorship, Renee seconded the motion. All were in favor. Marti made a motion to ratify the board's vote to make an initial donation of \$500, Cindy seconded the motion. All were in favor.

New Business (4:30-5:20)

- A. Candidate forums / interviews: develop LWV AFC policy (Jacqui) ([LWV WI candidate forum policy](#)) Federal election guidelines define forums including real time, in person questions. We can do this electronically. Use Q & A function instead of chat. Can we do forums where there are 2 candidates (city district) and interviews for the races with a higher number of candidates.
- B. Debrief of Lively Issues (Renee) A lengthy discussion ensued. The board thought that we should review the bylaws with a DEI lens next year. We will revisit in March when the board has a chance to review the full list of suggestions.
- C. Website protocol (Kathy) Anything going to the website should go through Kathy, she will decide whether it can be posted by a League member or should go to Coalesce. Give Kathy a schedule for when you want it up so she can coordinate with Coalesce so there are no conflicts when updating the site. Anything that is added to the calendar allows users to register when the event may not be set up yet.
- D. Invite high school students to attend board meetings (Jacqui) Always a possibility as observer or non-voting member.
- E. DEI board workshop with Maria Douglas (April) Pushed to March board meeting
- F. LWV-WI Annual Meeting: June 9-10 in La Crosse (hybrid) (Linda) We discussed whether we would be allowed to sell Swag there. Linda will check with the LaCrosse and state League but pointed out the LaCrosse is considering selling t-shirts like we did.
- G. Appleton [Flag Day Parade](#): June 10 (Linda)
- H. People Powered Day of Action (LWV birthday) on February 14 (Cindy) Sending out Valentine thank you postcards
- I. LWV-WI Membership and Leadership Award (Linda) The board decided this, and other award possibilities, should be forwarded to the Awards Committee for consideration. Linda will discuss this with Nadine Miller who is chairing that group.

- J. How to update monthly updates of [LWV US survey](#) we decided to set aside a two hour slot on Friday, February 10 to go through the survey process that will work best for us, and to complete the current DEI survey.

Wrap-up: Newsletter article (due Friday, February 3) / website updates (5:20-5:30)

Reminders and Announcements:

February 6, 6:30-8:00 p.m. – Legislative Town Hall (Zoom)

February 20, 6:30-8:00 p.m. – Fox Cities Advocates for Public Education program on school funding (Zoom)

March 1, 4:00-5:30 p.m. – LWV AFC Board meeting – ZOOM (Marti will be in AZ)

March 20: Consensus meeting – details TBD

April 5, 4:00-5:30 p.m. – LWV AFC Board meeting, LWV office (conference room)
(Annual Meeting packet must be approved)

April 17 – April program TBD

May 20: 10:00-noon -Annual Meeting (brunch) – Scheig Center, Memorial Park, Appleton

June 9-10: LWV WI Annual meeting

June 10: Appleton Flag Day Parade

July: Picnic and social?

Meeting adjourned at 5:41 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Evers
Secretary