

League of Women Voters of Appleton-Fox Cities Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 3, 2024 - 4:00 p.m. Conference Room
120 N. Morrison St., Appleton, 54911

1. Welcome and call to order (4:00) **Meeting called to order at 4:08, on Zoom. Members present: Linda Bjella, Karin Alvarez, Jacqui Klimaszewski, Renee Gralewicz, Cindy Falloma, Kathy Voigt, Jan Quinlan, April Savage. Diane Putzer absent.**

2. Consent Agenda (4:00-4:10) Please read all reports in the 20240103 [folder](#) prior to the meeting. This information won't be discussed unless questions are raised prior to the meeting. Link to the in our Google drive. (Click on "+New" button to the left to upload your document to the file.) **Motion by Renee Gralewicz to accept consent agenda, seconded by Kathy Voigt. Brief update by Cindy Falloma on new members, and sponsorships. All in favor of accepting the consent agenda, none opposed.**

- a) Minutes from December 6, 2023 board meeting
- b) Presidents' Report
- c) Treasurer's Report
- d) Action
- e) Communications & Technology
- f) DEI
- g) Lens Study Committee
- h) Membership
- i) Program
- j) Voter Service

3. Old Business (4:10-4:20)

- a) Email contact list: final / upload to Club Express (Linda)
Jacqui Klimaszewski will review this and notify Kathy Voigt when finished so it can be uploaded to Club Express.
- b) Holiday Brunch / silent auction / MDW award review (Linda)
\$1550 dollars raised from silent auction (\$50 over goal). Renee Gralewicz mentioned that for future years, we may want to shorten the duration of the auction (others suggested to about two weeks), have it earlier in the year, and add new items gradually. April Savage noted that for next year, we may also want to consider having a larger venue, and perhaps separate it from the brunch. Janice Quinlan suggested having adjustments in speaker placement, to make it easier for those in the back to see. Kathy Voigt noted additional volunteers would also be helpful, given all of the various tasks to be completed.

Making Democracy Work Award: No youth nominees, but other winners/ awards were well received (standing ovation).

- c) "Dream List" for our website / review costs (Kathy)

This is located in the shared Google Drive folder. Kathy Voigt requested that others take a look at suggestions. She has been in touch with Coalesce and would like to get this list to them by early next week.

4. New Business (4:20-5:25)

a) Lively Issues & study update (Renee & Jan)

Renee Gralewicz, Cindy Fallona, and Linda Bjella are going to the Menasha Public Library for Lively Issues on 1/13 and emails about this have been sent out. Cindy Fallona has requested 2-3 minutes on the agenda to talk about membership renewal. Lively Issues and Membership Renewals will also be in the newsletter and on Facebook.

Linda Bjella, April Savage, Renee Gralewicz and Nancy Jones met to prepare for Lively Issues. Law Enforcement has come up as an area for study, as this position is very old and should be relooked at through a DEI lens. They have compiled a list of positions that could use updates, and rationale. In February, the Board determines what studies will be done.

For future study, Jan Quinlan would like to recommend to the state LWV having a position about libraries. Michigan has a position about library systems, structures, and intellectual freedom. Cindy Fallona noted that it would be timely to have a position about this and agrees we should recommend this at the state level. Linda Bjella is also in favor, especially as legislation arises seeking control of books/ media in libraries.

b) Legislative Town Hall (Jan)

Jan Quinlan has been in touch with LWV Green Bay, and including 5 representatives and 1 senator from their area. 2 from Winnebago County could also be included. Pros: More evenly balanced, could strengthen partnership with neighboring leagues. Cons: Could have larger numbers, meaning fewer questions and more difficult follow-up. This will likely be only town hall in 2024 since fall will be campaign time. Motion made by Jan Quinlan to consider what she suggested, Cindy Fallona seconded motion. All in favor, none opposed.

c) PAC event with Dasha Kelly Hamilton (Kathy)

Dasha Kelly Hamilton is an educator and facilitator with DEI-related topics, and she will be in the Fox Cities February 28th. There are opportunities for us to connect with cultural communities in the Fox Cities and increase the LWV's visibility through this event. Event would be free to us (at the PAC), likely around 6:00-7:30. The PAC is creating promotional materials, but volunteers would be needed to help promote.

d) LWV-WI data tracker-monthly task (Linda)

Linda Bjella will begin to tally the number of educational events/ rallies/ forums, events focused on the mechanics of the election process, and the number of individuals engaged on a monthly basis (instead of trying to remember everything at the end of the year).

5. Wrap-Up / Assignments (5:25-5:30) (Linda)

a) January newsletter articles

Newsletter articles due in two days.

b) Website updates

Jan Quinlan moved to adjourn the meeting, Kathy Voigt seconded. All in favor, none opposed.
Meeting adjourned at 5:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Alvarez

Secretary