



Board Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2021 - via Zoom

Meeting called to order by Barb Barany at 7:05 pm

Present: Barb Barany, Rachel Geiser, Wayne Groff, Sherry Hood, Bonnie Koch, Sharon McCord, Rita Mills, Mary Peterson, Florence Sprague, Teresa Wernecke, Jim DeBenedet, Nancy Simpson

Absent: Barb Anderson, Jessica Holz, Kathy Macomber, Karen Schaffer

1. Additions/changes to agenda : Under new business, donation to Friends of the Ramsey County Library.
2. Approval of minutes, August 25, 2021: unanimously approved
3. Treasurer's Report :See report
4. Reports of Officers – Discussion/Questions/Comments
 - a. President: The State League has an emphasis on redistricting. The current focus is the court. Our LWVRA communities have conflicting interests in many cases.
 - b. Vice President: none
 - c. Secretary: none
5. Reports of Committees – Discussion/Questions/Comments
 - a. Action/Advocacy: Continue to update weekly government meetings on the website. Attended the State Action/Advocacy committee meeting, led by Vivian Tanniehill. She encourages local leagues to have their program chairs attend the monthly meetings on the 3rd Friday of each month. Advocating for the Freedom to Vote Act. The environmental subcommittee will meet 9/28.
 - b. Communications: see report
 - c. Membership: Currently at 130 members with four moved to inactive, including two members of the Program Committee. Need to find someone else to work on Conversations with Constituents. The rolling membership is making a difference. October spotlight article is Wayne Groff.
 - d. Voter Services: New Citizen Ceremonies: There are none in September, 10/14, 11/23, 12/14. One ceremony per month through September 2022. All ceremonies will be at the River Center and have 1200-1400 new citizens. The new An̄pétu Téča Education Center (formerly Fairview Community Center) grand opening is October 5 from 5-7 pm. Youth engagement application has specific requirements and reporting. While we still want to recruit students to work with us, we won't be applying for the grant. DGR homecoming service learning doesn't look like it will move forward due to lack of faculty time as homecoming is very early this year.
 - e. Programs: staying on Zoom and with the library. Two upcoming panels 9/23 and 10/21--REal Life Mr. Rogers 1 and 2. November the equitable representation committee has arranged for representatives from the University of Minnesota Extension. December may be a gathering. Conversations with Constituents in January. State Firearms study update with consensus in January or February. There will be voting, so it will be a members meeting. February is the ADA study consensus meeting Mary is working to get the State exhibit in the library, perhaps in April
 - f. Programs: Studies
 - i. ADA Compliance in our Five Cities: See report. Nearly finished looking at City Halls, parks and voting places. Working on the report.
 - ii. Equitable Representation (Advocacy): Lauderdale has been completed and Maplewood is Monday evening. Falcon Heights is in October. Roseville is on for 10/25 and the presentation is on the agenda.

The city has requested that the presentation also be delivered during the 10/20 Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission meeting 10/20. The programming--11/16 6:30-8 with DGR and RCL. No promising solutions. Want to hear what U of M Extension has to say about their work in other communities. Conversations with constituents, taking the outcomes from November, and working with cities and mayors in January. Much will depend on how things go on 11/16.

- g. Ad Hoc Student Awards Committee: Karen Lake's ad hoc committee for developing student recognition scholarships. Fairview Alternative HS, RAHS,, and Tartan; each has a mechanism for recommending scholarship candidates, so we put together some guidance for the selection of students; this is included in your packet.

6. Unfinished business DEI within LWVRA: There have been no volunteers. Is there another approach we can take to recruit or to organize DEI activities. We could organize what we are currently doing around DEI and get it on our webpage. Rita said a committee like that might be useful in organizing our website. Barb B said she will pull together what we are already doing for the November president's report. State would like a DEI person in each local league. National and State have made DEI a priority. Barb B attended the recent Crystal-New Hope meeting and how we exclude/include. How do we make it possible for people to participate without a big time commitment?

7. New Business: Making a contribution to Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries. Rita suggests we contribute as we used to do to the church where we met. In the budget we had put \$200 for facility honorarium. Friends of RCL also support our online programming. Rita proposed a \$500 donation to Friends of RCL. Unanimous support. Discussion of contribution to 9 North in support of candidate forums. They don't require it but do accept donations. We could discuss for next year's budget. We will consider it as a new business item for next month.

8. Announcements: none

9. Adjournment: 8:10 pm

Next Board Meeting Wednesday, October 27, 2021