



LWV of Marquette County
BOARD of DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2024, 10:00 a.m.-11:53 a.m.
Community Meeting Room at Baraga Place
129 W. Baraga, Marquette

In attendance: David Allen, Sandy Breitenbach, Pri Burnham, Jo Foley, Susan Holliday, Madalyn Koval, Joanna Mitchell, Barb Owdziej, Laura Sabo

Absent: Johanna Worley

Guest: Darlene Allen, Jeanne Sekely

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. **Review and Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by David Allen, seconded by Pri Burnham, to approve the agenda as amended to add recording an email vote. Motion carried.
2. **Review and Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Pri, seconded by Barb Owdziej, to approve the March 27, 2024 Board meeting minutes and affirm the following email vote to create a board orientation plan subcommittee. Motion carried.
 - 04/15/2024 Motion by Joanna Mitchell and seconded by Jo Foley that the Board authorize Joanna Mitchell, Laura Sabo and Barb Owdziej to meet as the subcommittee to review and prepare the Board Member Orientation Plan and the table of contents of the Orientation Notebook in order to submit these to the Board for consideration at the May 22nd Board meeting. Motion carried. (9 yes, 1 silent)
3. **Treasurer's Report—Madalyn:** The unrestricted balance available at the end of March is \$14,538.17. Restricted funds consist of \$8,067.43 in dues held for annual per-member payments to the state and national LWV. Madalyn explained side notes about credit card and Pride Printing payments. The reports will be held on file for review with thanks to Madalyn.
4. **LWVUS/LWVMI Report—David Allen:** Two delegates for the national convention are still needed. At the May membership meeting during the round robin, David will talk about the opportunity and invite members to become delegates. The convention dates (June 27-30) overlap with the June 28 Candidate Forum.
5. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Nominating Committee—Barb:** The slate of candidates is complete and the Committee will look into the format for presenting the slate to membership.
 - Convener: Jo Foley
 - Secretary: Jeanne Sekely
 - League Liaison: Ruth Ziel
 - Director: Sandy Breitenbach
 - Nominating Committee: Sandy Meyskens and Darlene Allen
 - b. **Membership Committee—Barb:** The speakers, timing and room layout for the round robin at the May general membership meeting were finalized. May 21st is the deadline for

award nominations. The Making Democracy Work Award decision will be brought to the May Board meeting. Annual meeting publicity will include social media, a FaceBook event, Upcoming Event email, and press/media releases. RSVP replies will be directed to lwvmqtco@gmail.com so that Laura Sabo can tally them.

- c. **Communications Network—Laura:** The annual report should be ready for distribution June 1st. Marge has agreed to produce the report. The membership list and progress report will be finalized in May. The membership list has been removed from the website. Assigned sections and photos with captions are due to Laura by April 29. See Laura’s April 5th email message for details.
Laura will edit the sidebar on the Membership Application and Donation Form to omit the phrase “secretary of the” since messages to membership are sent by the Secretary, the Communications Coordinator and others as delegated.
The YouTube video of the April general membership meeting via Zoom has 12 views. Video of the May 1 round robin may be useful to retain for new members.
 - d. **Voter Services Committee—Pri:** The Election Connection postcard will be changed to include a QR code for the Michigan Voter Information Center and Vote411.
At the Munising High School, 30 students were actively engaged in the NVRD presentation. Many were surprised to find they were already registered to vote. The Alger County Clerk talked about students serving as poll workers, how the upcoming sinking fund millage vote in May affects students and certification of that vote. The League was invited to return in the fall. Superior Central’s presentation was postponed. Westwood High School is Apr. 25.
 - e. **Education Committee--Sandy:** The Board confirmed the September general membership meeting program will be the local government presentation by Sally Davis. An Observer Corps panel may be included depending on timing and fit.
 - f. **DEI Committee—Sandy:** The committee is planning a book club.
 - g. **Observer Corps—David:** The OC is looking for an observer for the MAPS Board to replace Laura Petrie. David invited everyone to join the Observer Corps for pizza, a meeting & a movie May 23 at the Allens’ house.
 - h. **Environmental Committee—Pri:** More tours are being planned this summer. When the Marquette City Master Plan is published, the City Planner will speak to the committee about its environmental aspects. Some members sort batteries with the local battery collecting group.
 - i. **Fundraising Committee--Susan:** Laura Petrie is working on a donor fundraising mailer to fund the Candidate Forum. A yard sale is likely in the spring. Major corporate sources for community grants will be explored.
6. **Priorities 2024/25:** Responding to Darlene Allen’s suggestion, the Board added an organizational development priority. Pri offered to draft language in a style matching the other priorities. The Board will approve a final version by email prior to May 1.

7. **Bylaws—Jo:** Motion by Pri, seconded by Susan, to delete the proposed amendment to Article 8, Sec. 1 on the Nominating Committee. Motion carried. Joanna will send a corrected redline/strike-out version to Jo to send to members May 1st.
8. **Date/Time for Board Meetings:** When the new Board convenes in June, the meeting schedule will be revisited. A member survey was suggested to identify what deters members from considering joining the Board.
9. **Agenda for May Membership Meeting:**
 - a. Open & Welcome
 - b. Land Acknowledgment
 - c. Approve Agenda
 - d. Approve Minutes of April 3, 2024
 - e. Member Comments
 - f. Close business meeting and turn over to Membership Committee for Round Robin.
10. **Board Comments:**
 - a. Pri announced that Zonta Club of Marquette holds its [Honor a Woman dinner-fundraiser](#) May 23.
 - b. Barb raised a message she received as an LWV member concerning a “grassroots listening tour” to bridge political divides similar to the [Braver Angels](#) who recently held a [workshop](#) in Traverse City.

The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

***Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 22, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – Noon
Community Meeting Room at Baraga Place, 129 W. Baraga, Marquette***

***Next Membership Meeting: Wednesday, May 1, 2024, 6:45-8:15 p.m., 6:30 Social
Peter White Public Library, Studio 1, Lower Level, 217 N. Front St., Marquette***

Submitted by Joanna Mitchell, Secretary