

LWV of Marquette County
MONTHLY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

September 4, 2024, 6:45 – 8:10pm
Peter White Public Library, Community Room
217 N. Front St., Marquette MI

Members in attendance: David Allen, Sandra Breitenbach, Pri Burnham, Barb Coleman, Lauralyn Curry-Leech, Sally Davis, Peter Dohrenwend, Virginia Eckenrode, Lynnette Ewbank, Kathy Flagstadt, Jo Foley, Patty Gagnon, Stephanie Gencheff, Rebecca Johnson Cook, Janet Joswiak, Iris Katers, Diane Kent, Madalyn Koval, Meredith Kulisheck, Sandy Meyskens, Laura Miller, Marie Moisio, Carolyn Myers, Libby Myren, Barb Owdziej, Joan Park, Laura Petrie, Kathryn Pouliot, Karlyn Rapport, Laura Sabo, Jeanne Sekely, Susanne Smith, Leslie Warren, Anna Wild, Christine Wilson, Don Wilson, Johanna Worley, Ruth Ziel (38)

Guests: Patricia Slotterback, Floyd Slotterback, Donna Taylor, Temujin Gold (4)

The meeting was called to order at 6:45pm

1. **Welcome**: Jo Foley, Convener, welcomed everyone, especially today's guests.
2. **Land acknowledgement**: Given by Sandy Breitenbach. In addition, gave information for the unveiling of the "Seven Grandfather Teachings" public art sculpture this Friday evening in Marquette.
3. **Approval of Agenda**: Motion made by Sandy Meyskens, seconded by Madalyn Koval to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
4. **Approval of Minutes**: Motion made by Barb Owdziej, seconded by Pri Burnham to approve minutes. Motion carried.
5. **Treasurer's Update**: Madalyn Koval presented the annual year-end budget report. Copies were sent to all members (as an email attachment with this meeting notice). Announced that member Marie Moisio has agreed to conduct the Peer Review this fall.
6. **Changes in the Board; Invitation to consider joining the Board**: Ruth Ziel announced that she has resigned from the Board of Directors of LWVMC and the League Liaison role as she has very recently taken a partisan delegate position. She explained the rationale and need for this resignation. As Laura Petrie has recently accepted an appointment to the Board of Directors and is willing to assume the League Liaison role, the change has been made. Ruth will orient Laura to the role. Convenor, Jo, at this time invited members to consider an appointment to the board if interested. If questions, talk with Jo.
7. **Announcements**:
 - a. **Voter Services activities**: Pri Burnham outlined upcoming events and need for additional volunteers and volunteers-in-training. [Contact Pri to volunteer, at priburnham@gmail.com]:

-National Voter Registration Day at Superior Central High School on September 16th for juniors and seniors in the Government Class.

-On September 20th the Westwood High School students (NICE school district in West Ishpeming) will have LWVMC members there and the Michigan Secretary of State Mobile Unit from 8am to 3 pm. Parents of students are also welcome to utilize the mobile unit.

-On September 12, LWVMC members are comprising a panel to address adults over the age of 50 years old for the Northern Center for Lifelong Learning (NCLL)

-September 21st, Hooked on Voting at PWPL in the Children's Library area

-TBD date and time: A kindergarten teacher in the MAPS district has requested that "Hooked on Voting" be brought into her classroom.

-The printed voter guides, "Vote411" will need many people to help distribute throughout the county. Contact Pri Burnham.

- "Vote411" needs volunteers to help call candidates for follow-up/follow-through with questionnaire. All candidates running for offices in Marquette County (over 100 individuals) will require postcard contact for the "Vote411" questionnaire. Postcards and the pre-addressed mailing labels are prepared.

b. Environmental Committee:

-**Tour of Geological Repository** on September 5th in Gwinn, 5pm – 6:30pm. State geologist will be presenting. Meet for carpooling at LoFaro's Fresh Market in Harvey at 4:15pm

-Anna Wild: Tour of Partridge Creek on September 12th. Sign-up sheet is on table.

c. Adopt a Highway, September 24th: Meet behind Kohl's at (9:30 a.m.); this is in the "old" J.C. Penney's parking lot. The more people, the faster it will go. Volunteers are required to watch the brief orientation (on-line in-service) to ensure safe practices with trash. Bring gloves. Colorful, highly-visible vests and bags will be provided.

8. Forums:

Marquette Area Public Schools – Planned for October 10th: Candidates for the School Board, Peter White Public Library. Candidates arrive at 5:30pm, forum begins at 6pm. Possible Negaunee City Council Forum: To be determined.

9. Member Comments: None

10. **Adjourn Business Meeting and introduction of Sally Davis**, Mayor of Marquette. Introduction made by Meredith Kulisheck. Mayor Davis discussed the role of the Marquette City Commission, the budget, actions and goals. Presentation ended at 8:10pm

Next General Membership Meeting: Wednesday October 2nd, 6:45 – 8:15pm. PWPL, Studio 1.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday September 25th, 10am – Noon, Community Meeting Room at Baraga Place, 129 W. Baraga Ave., Marquette, MI. All members welcome. To request an invite and agenda, email jfoley1950@gmail.com

Submitted by Jeanne G. Sekely, Secretary

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and advocacy