

**LWV of Marquette County**  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 28, 2024  
Community Meeting Room at Baraga Place  
129 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette MI

In Attendance: Jo Foley, Sandy Breitenbach, Sue Holliday, Ruth Ziel, Barb Owdziej, Johanna Worley, Pri Burnham, Jeanne Sekely, Laura Sabo, Laura Petrie, Madalyn Koval

The meeting was called to order at 10am

**1) Open and welcome to Laura Petrie, newest appointed board member.**

**2) Approve agenda** with following changes: Defer items #10 and #11 to September meeting. Move #7 earlier in agenda. Motion to approve agenda made by Madalyn, seconded by Sandy. Motion carried.

**3) Approve Minutes from BOD meeting of July 17, 2024 and the e-vote of August 15** (Motion was made via email to appoint Laura Petrie to the board for one year by Jo; seconded by Pri and the motion carried). Motion to approve minutes made by Sue, seconded by Laura. Motion carried.

**7) Discuss Ruth's conflict:** LWVMC Board of Directors vs Democratic Precinct Delegate: Ruth accepted a nomination and has been elected as a partisan delegate. Since that time, she learned that she must resign from the LWVMC Board to abide with LWV nonpartisan requirements. Resignation accepted and to be effective after this meeting. Discussion. Ruth outlined the tasks/requirements of being the League Liaison. Laura P. then volunteered to accept the responsibilities of League Liaison. Motion made by Madalyn for Laura P. to become the new League Liaison, Pri seconded it and the motion carried. Ruth will hand over the role to Laura P. With the Board of Directors vacancy, a new appointed board member will be sought.

Laura S. reminds us that Voter Services Coordinator, Convenor and Communications Coordinator are visible positions and thus shall not participate in electioneering, including but not limited to, public endorsement, making campaign donations, and/or posting of yard signs. (Other members may do so).

**4) Treasure's Report:** January to July YTD report due to members at next meeting; 990-N filing as nonprofit organization.

**5) Appoint Peer Reviewer** (Treasurer oversight): Member Marie Moisio has agreed to be the Peer Reviewer.

**6) League Report:** Ruth summarized latest LWVMI monthly Zoom call:

**a.** Any public questions or comments about Vote411 policy should be directed to LWVUS.

- b. The “Leadership Options” recording is now available on the Membership and Nominating page of LWVMI operations.
- c. There is a grant available from LWVMI for the GOTV (Get Out The Vote) postcard project; we will apply for that to use prior to the November election. Names and addresses of target voters are available through the LWVMI as this is public information.
- d. Noted that if any questions arise locally related to “Project 2025”, we are to forward the inquiry to LWVUS (as neither political party has formally adopted “Project 2025” to date).
- e. Refer to League Links for further information shared by LWVMI.

**8) Proposals:** MAPS Board Forum will be held on Thursday, October 10, in the Community Room of PWPL with probable start at 6pm. Decision yet to be made as to whether a second forum will be for the Negaunee or the Ishpeming City Commissioner candidates.

Project and Event Proposal Form: This item is tabled until September meeting.

Sandy will be talking with county clerk today to obtain email addresses for candidates. Requesting postcards (from Pride Printing) to send to all candidates to alert them to arrival of emailed Vote411 questionnaires three days later. Will need approximately 100 postcards. More will be ordered for general purposes also. Motion made by Pri to order 1000 postcards for \$165, seconded by Sue, and motion carried.

9) Committee Reports:

a. **Nominating:** None today.

b. **Membership:** Discuss New Member Orientation: Barb will contact Jeanne and Laura S. to put together.

c. **Voter Services:** NCLL Presentation developed and will be held Sept 12 at 6pm, PWPL.

**Hooked on Voting**, Sept 21 at PWPL, 10am – 2pm. **National Voter Registration Day** event to be held at Westwood High School (West Ishpeming) on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 2pm for Brooklyn Fitzpatrick’s government class. Alternative High School students and Superior Central students are also invited. Sue applied for and was able to reserve the Secretary of State Mobile Unit to provide services on the school grounds. Parents are also encouraged to attend.

**Baraga Block Party** and **NMU Fall Fest** successful. Report given on “Learning Circle” event with Secretary of State Benson at NMU. **Adopt a Highway** cleanup scheduled for Tuesday Sept. 24, meeting at “old” JC Penney parking lot at 9:30am; with rain date Thursday, Sept. 26. Also discussed “tabling events” at NMU in fall.

d. **Communications:** Website is progressing. Probable Archivist selected and volunteering as of end of year. At that time, items to be saved for the archives will be determined. Newsletter will go out next week.

e. **Education:** Plan in place for Mayor Sally Davis to present at September 4th general membership meeting.

**f. DEI:** Update on Oct membership meeting: Plan to have two speakers, last name is Dickey. Barb Coleman will do the introduction.

**g. Observer Corps:** No update.

**h. Environmental: Upcoming tours:** Upper Peninsula Geological Repository, 416 Avenue C., Gwinn. Thursday September 5, 5:00 – 6:30pm. Topics to include mining regulation and tour of the repository. Short business meeting of the Environmental Committee to follow. Contact: Joan Park. Another event: Joint Tour of Partridge Creek Farm and Partridge Creek Compost in Ishpeming, Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, 2p – 4p. Contact Anna Wild.

**i. Fundraising events/Fundraising Outreach:** Laura P and Laura S. will be attending a Community Foundation event.

Citizen's Academy: Sue will be attending. Topic: How Cities Work.

**12. Draft of September membership meeting agenda** – Reviewed. Topics to be added: Appointing an additional board member and statement by Ruth as to why she has resigned. New member orientation will be held from 6:00p – 6:30 that evening.

**13. Board Comments:** Several members have potential new appointees to the Board in mind and offered opinions. Discussed.

Barb suggested LWV members once again act as timers at an NMU swim meet. Would do prior to November election and can wear LWV shirts to promote community good will. She will check dates.

**14. Meeting adjourned** at 11:15am