

**League of Women Voters of Delaware
Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 5:00 p.m.
Kent County Library, Dover DE

Minutes

1. **Call to Order** by **Carol Jones**, Co-President at 5:00 p.m.

Present: **Sue Claire Harper**, Co-President; **Sandy Spence**, 1st Vice President;
Linda Barnett, 2nd Vice-President; **Kathleen Baker**, Secretary; **Jill Itzkowitz**, Treasurer;
Directors **Kyra Hoffner**, **Beverly Jackson**, **Coralie Pryde**, **Ellen Wasfi**, **Jack Young**
Mary Kay Eggers, President, LWV of Kent County; **Marjorie Johnson**, President, LWV of
New Castle County; **Gwendolyn Miller**, President, LWV of Sussex County; **Mary Ann Coe**, Member,
LWV of Kent County; **Marge LaFond**, Member, LWV of Sussex County; **Letty Diswood**, Office
Manager, LWV of New Castle County, LWV DE, *ex officio*

2. **Changes/additions** to agenda. None
3. **Approval of minutes** of July 17th meeting. As corrected. **Unanimously accepted.**
4. **Treasurer's report:** Treasurer Jill Itzkowitz is preparing the LWVDE financial reports, as of July 2019. Referring to the July 2019 financial, statement, she noted changes in the presentation of the figures. Specifically, "Net assets" are what non-profits report, instead of "retained earnings" and "net income," terms used in the for-profit sector. They show what you have to spend for projects or expenses, specified as Board Restricted (such as the Vanguard account), and Unrestricted (for projects.) The monthly Statement of Financial Position also shows Accounts Payable, performance of the Vanguard account, and In-Kind Donations. Referring to the August statements, the Treasurer reported unrestricted assets are now \$14,602.16.

The Treasurer's Report was filed to audit.

5. **Office Manager's Report.**

Summarized on Page 6 of Pre-Board reports.

6. **Presidents' Reports**

The Co-Presidents introduced **Mary Ann Coe**, the new webmaster for LWV of DE. She described her work in synchronizing national, state and local data resources on behalf of the state website within the framework of the MyLo supplier based in California, as the League is migrating from LEW to MyLO. Dr. Coe will work with county League website managers Kim Wells (NCCo) and Rain Tyler (SxCo). The webmaster posts content as requested by the Board of Directors. The Co-Presidents and Dr. Coe will draft a protocol for the updating of the website and report at the next meeting. Co-Presidents suggested that Dr. Coe become a member of the Board of Directors. **A motion was made and seconded, and carried unanimously.**

- A) MyLo. The new LWV website platform, cited above.
- B) Other. Board members need to sign a Conflict of Interest Statement; Ms. Diswood collected signed statements from all present.
 - Vote 411 logo has been re-designed and is now in orange and blue.
 - A public relations person is still needed for the Board.
 - Financial Support for LWV: Since the LWVDE is now a 501(c)3, the League should solicit donations in every edition of VOTER; members should take advantage of the League's Amazon Smile account.
 - Board Meeting Schedule: October 9 is a religious holiday; October 2 will be the next Board meeting, venue TBD; meeting schedule to be determined.

7. Committee Reports

- A) Advocacy Corps. Sandy Spence, Advocacy Chair, proposes sending minutes to the Board as a pre-board report. Terry Stinson has joined the Corps for support in health care policy. Advocacy has lined up persons to testify at OMB hearings coming up for each major state agency in the fall. Currently, Advocacy is planning a campaign on behalf the Medical Aid in Dying legislation. Plans for likely League Day date Wednesday, March 25 in Dover, have been launched. Subjects for League Day 2020 will include the future financial needs of state government, including the Governor's vision (and his presence at League Day), escheats, property reassessment, sales tax, and brackets for income tax, among others. Brenda Mayrack, Karen Peterson, Harris McDowell, Melanie Smith, Ken Simpson, Ed Ratledge are under consideration as guest presenters. Sandy Spence (and possibly Jack Young) will represent LWV of DE at a LWVUS meeting on redistricting October 9 and 10.
- B) Environment. Coralie Pryde reported on the DE River Basin Commission and permits to carry liquid gas: possibly hold a public panel discussion in October or November, including representatives of affected districts. Invitations will be broadly sent. Tentative place would be Route 9 library. Coralie will appear on a similar panel in New Jersey in early October. A large turnout will be helpful to the cause; League members are urged to show support when a date is published.
- C) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion ("DEI"). Gwendolyn Miller, Chair of the new state-wide DEI Committee, announced that six members are in place, goals are articulated for state and local levels, and a time line of work and workshop/seminar/trainings for state and local boards as a process to serve the specific needs of DE Leagues. An organizational meeting will be held in late September.
- D) Alternative Voting Methods. Jill Itzkowitz reported that information is being gathered, with a goal to finalize the scope of work.
- E) Vote 411. Nothing additional to report.
- F) 2020 Activities. Jack Young reports The Centennial Commission has a new Chair, Jackie Griffin, of Delaware State University. A monument on the Legislative Hall grounds will be dedicated at noon, September 26, 2020. Legislature has appropriated \$50,00 for the monument and \$50,00 for a staff person. A web page will come up within the Delaware State Archives site on October 1, 2019 to provide historical information, a calendar of events for the celebration by governmental and private sector organizations. All are welcome to share ideas with Jack and Kathleen Baker.
- G) Other. Carol Jones is in touch with Patti Grimes of the Freeman Foundations for potential

funding of 2020 project activities in Sussex County and state-wide.

Jack Young discussed issues relating to the “People Powered Fair Maps Campaign” as described in the pre-board report, specifically, an opportunity to work with the College of William and Mary of Virginia to produce a map, based on the principles cited in his report, immediately following the release of the 2020 census information.

Les Stillson has agreed to serve as Finance Committee chair; the Board will be informed of the Committee’s plans as they come forward.

8. Local League Reports.

Sussex County: President Miller reports: September 25 Education Forum on Funding led by Janet Ambrose, Social Policy Committee, at # 2, The Circle, in Georgetown (County Council Chambers) from 7 to 9 p.m.

Kent County: President Eggers reports: thanks to Dr. Mary Ann Coe, LWV of Kent County has a website. Members will have a tutorial led by Coe to encourage wide use of the website; Annual Potluck and Program September 18 fundraiser at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 210 Old North Road in Camden, at 6:00 p.m.; participation in the National Registration Day, September 24.

New Castle County: President Johnson reports: a recent Board training; fundraiser on September 18; welcome to a new League Member, a high school senior; three University of Delaware students will be working on projects with the New Castle Board; Member Cami Seward will receive the Kuumba Award from the Newark NAACP.

9. Old Business

A) VOTER consolidation. Postponed to next meeting.

10. New Business.

LWV received request from Tina Showalter of Housing Coalition of Delaware for LWV of DE to sign a petition requesting a question for Presidential candidates regarding affordable housing. **A motion was moved and seconded, and carried unanimously.**

Letty Diswood will represent the League at a mixer October 12 for the Ready 2 Run class in Wilmington.

Saturday, November 2 from 6 to 9 p.m., Delaware ACLU will honor former LWV President Charlotte King for her founding of Southern Delaware Alliance for Racial Justice.

11. Adjournment at 7:45 p.m.

Attachments: Pre-Board Reports 11 Sept 2019
DEI Committee Report 11 Sept 2019

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Baker, Secretary