

League of Women Voters of North Carolina Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, November 16, 2024

Call to Order - A board meeting of LWVNC Inc. was held in person in Raleigh on Saturday, November 16, 2024. The meeting convened at 11:04 p.m. President Jennifer Rubin presiding and Sandra Mowell, Secretary

Present in person: Jennifer Rubin, Marian Lewin, Sandra Mowell, Regan Aduddell, Sara Baysinger, Tiffany Canaday, Suzanne Fisher and Rebecca Klase.

Present via Zoom: Mary Thompson

Guests: Andrea Cash

1. Agenda. Discussion on Lobby Day/Part-time advocacy position added by Mowell, Discussion on X added by Cash and Chapter Spot added by Thompson.

2. Minutes for LWVNC Inc. September 17, 2024 board meeting approved as corrected by consent.

3. Treasurer's Report. Thompson received an email from NC Foundation, saying we will receive funds in December. She had a question concerning \$10,000 received from LWVUS in October. Rubin will contact LWVUS and clarify what the funds are connected to. Rubin noted that the \$100,000 donation has been put into a CD that will mature in January. Thompson was asked to include that money on future reports for the board's information. Thompson reported the 1099 EZ form has been filed as well as the postcard for Advocacy tax purposes. **Rubin, Thompson, Lewin and Aduddell need to schedule a meeting soon to discuss grants.**

Unfinished Business:

4. Review of Books. Delayed due to Thompson's injury.

5. Report of Election Activities. Aduddell noted the swag was appreciated and used but she is still looking for feedback from the local Leagues on how it was used and the effectiveness of the various pieces. Lewin has received 900+ canvas reports and is compiling the data. She noted the canvas training was well attended and well received. Rubin reported that LWVUS relayed that our Vote411 use in NC was up 50% from 2020. She believes the text and postcard campaigns were effective and the email communications sent weekly also added to this increase. Cash noted the helpline was another tool that was useful. She believes we have a good template going forward for engaging voters and need to continue to focus on basic voter registration and voting dates information.

6. Office Space. Rubin noted we got a lot done in organizing the office materials this morning. Items to still deal with include - asking ODC to share storage space, making arrangements for delivery of records to NC Archives, and the status of the office

League of Women Voters of North Carolina Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes

furniture. Rubin, Lewin and Thompson will follow up on these items. The need for a Post Office Box was brought up without resolution.

9. LWNK State Convention. Mowell reported the planning committee met and toured the venue. Budget, Bylaws and Program will continue their efforts to fill the committees with a representative mix of members. The registration fee has been set for \$50 for early bird registration/\$75 after the deadline is determined to make the convention as affordable as possible for members.

10. RNC v. NC State BoE. Rubin had sent an email regarding a request for LWNK to be a part of this lawsuit if it moves forward. LWNK agreed, but it does not appear to be moving forward at this time.

New Business

11. 2025 Regional meetings. Rubin requested suggestions for topics and whether to expand attendance per League. The consensus was that local Leagues could bring up to 10 members. Topics suggested were to concentrate on League Basics, more help for new board members and new presidents, nuts and bolts type information on League internal operations, policy information: what is democracy? and some kind of convention teaser. Klase and Canaday are continuing with venue details. **Rubin will set up a follow up meeting with Klase, Thompson, Baysinger and Aduddell to flesh out the agenda.**

12. Grant Opportunities. Canaday shared a list of grant opportunities she has compiled. She requests board members review and think about any kind of initiatives we would like to pursue that fall within the scope of these grants so we might apply for funds to help in those areas. She would also like board members to review for any reason we should not apply to any of these entities. Klase brought up the possibility of applying for an Americorp volunteer and Canaday will add that to the list.

13. Document Retention Policy. Mowell reported on her recent meeting with League secretaries that this is a topic of interest and several local Leagues have a policy. The state does not and Mowell thinks we need to develop a policy. While it is not urgent, **Fisher and Baysinger agreed to work with Mowell on developing a LWNK state policy on document retention and destruction** in the future.

14. Wake County request NC auditor letter. Rubin shared the request from a Wake committee concerning funding for Crisis Pregnancy Centers. While the board recognizes the importance of the issue, the proposed letter is not the route the board would like to take. **Rubin will follow up with Wake** to see what efforts they have made to work with other groups on this issue. ProChoice NC, Planned Parenthood and

League of Women Voters of North Carolina Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes

NCACLU were suggested as possible partners on the topic. Let's look at alternative methods for approaching this topic.

15. Lobby Day/Part-time Advocacy position. Mowell added this item after the convention planning committee has decided to focus on local and state legislation/governance. First, should LWWNC plan a lobby day? Second, will LWWNC need some sort of part-time advocacy position if the focus for the next year is advocacy? Klase noted a need for a board member to focus on advocacy and there is no one available right now. As a member of the nominating committee she will address the need to the committee for the future slate. Rubin would like a copy of any memorandum of understanding LWWNC has had in place in the past with any part-time lobbyists. Mowell will search the files for any information. **For lobby day, Rubin will bring the topic up at the next presidents' call to see if there is any member interest in helping to plan a lobby day.**

16. X. Cash suggested getting rid of our former Twitter account. Mowell moved that LWWNC lock our X account. After discussion, the motion passed. We will revisit totally eliminating the account in the future.

17. Chapter Spot. Thompson shared her concern that some local Leagues are not in the loop on the coming changes rather through inattention or lack of understanding. Rubin will resend the list of board members assigned to contact Leagues re: grant reporting to ask board members to contact their Leagues again concerning this transition. Thompson will provide information for talking points.

18. Comment/Announcements. Fisher raised a concern about whether our board meetings are open to members and if so, how are they being made aware of that. Rubin agreed we need to discuss this as well as where we will conduct future board meetings without an office space. However, our board meetings for the next six months are pretty well taken care of with our regional meetings and convention. Mowell noted she would be unavailable to attend the December meeting. The meeting was rescheduled to December 13th at noon via Zoom.

19. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned by consent approximately 2:20 pm.

All documents received have been filed within the LWWNC_shared drive.

Sandra Mowell, Secretary December 13, 2024
Approval Date