

League of Women Voters of Wellesley

Board Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2022 | 12:36 P.M. – 2:36 P.M.

at the home of Marguerite Chatelier

Attendees: Niki Brinkman-Ofenloch, Marguerite Chatelier, Irene Flint, Wendy Garber, Ann-Mara Lanza, Bonny Nothorn, Jenny Zannetos. League member Margie Palladino was present. Erry Johnson, Ann Rappaport, and Ellie Perkins attended virtually via Zoom. Laura Brown MacKinnon, Ellen Gibbs and Tanya were absent. A quorum was present.

The meeting was called to order at 12:36 P.M. and the following Land Acknowledgement was read by Co-President Wendy Garber.

Land Acknowledgement

Where we live and work is located on the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary unceded lands of the Massachusett tribe. We recognize that we are on stolen land, and we extend our gratitude to the many Indigenous peoples who have rich histories here, including the Massachusett, Wampanoag and Nipmuc nations, for their ongoing stewardship of the land.

This acknowledgment will challenge us to find out for ourselves the history of the ground where our homes are built. By offering this land acknowledgment, we affirm Indigenous sovereignty and commit to holding our community more accountable to the needs of Indigenous peoples

Take a moment to consider the indigenous land you may reside on and offer a sense of gratitude for the indigenous peoples who stewarded this land and water long before we arrived.

1. Secretary's Report

Corrections to the March 2022 board meeting minutes were offered, including spellings of names, committee members, and list of attendees.

VOTED: to accept the 3/8/2022 board meeting minutes as amended.

A discussion followed regarding whether treasurer's monthly report documents should be included in monthly board meeting minutes. Consensus was that this is not necessary.

Irene questioned the origin of the tradition of having a committee of three League members review and approve Annual Meeting minutes. This question was made in the context of suggested corrections to the May 2021 Annual Meeting minutes, along with the comment that the outgoing secretary, being most experienced, should be tasked with Annual Meeting minutes because of the importance of accuracy. The suggestion was made that the Annual Meeting minutes might be read at either the June meeting or at the summer retreat.

2. Treasurer's Report and Updates – Jenny Zannetos

Total assets as of March 31, 2022 were \$33,245.05. Two membership payments were received. Opening meeting speaker Catherine Simpson Bueker donated her time back to the LWVW. The consensus was that she would be given a complementary membership starting immediately and extending through the 2022-23 membership period. Niki Brinkman-Ofenloch will write her a letter to that effect.

The third quarter national PMP of \$844 was sent. LWVMA refunded LWVW \$100 for Vote411, which reflected a reduction from the original fee because of the lack of notice of an increase from 2020-21. Printing costs of \$90.31 for the Town Government Handbook were paid. Susan Clapham was reimbursed for the new VOTE signs and stakes.

The decision was made that no Scharfman grant would be needed at this time.

3. Membership – Niki Brinkman-Ofenloch

There are 122 members, including seven life members, ten household members, and four student members. Niki will reach out to town meeting members and all town-wide office candidates via email offering an opportunity to join or to donate. She will include the PayPal link.

The Membership Directory committee included Niki, Susan Clapham, Ann Rappaport, Marguerite Chatelier, Irene. Several of the sections were moved to the website, including What is the League of Women Voters, the history of the Wellesley League, and the roster of past presidents. Information about the state and national League is now accessed in the directory via links. An introductory paragraph was added. The size of the font was increased. Niki requested feedback on the changes prior to the next meeting.

4. Voter Services/Marketing – Erry Johnson

Thinking about next year, Erry projected that LWVW will co-sponsor candidate events with other groups prior to the state elections on September 6, and the midterm elections in November 2022.

Regarding the Candidates Handbook, Marjorie Frieman, who wrote the town government paragraph, will be the chief editor of the 2022-23 edition. Erry and Gig Babson will still be involved, along with a couple of other volunteers.

The next Voter Services event will be How to Run for Public Office.

There was a discussion including a clarification of changes in state and federal voting districts, as well as a description of proposed amendments to Article 39 Accessory Dwelling Units to be considered at Town Meeting.

5. Calendar and Programs – Irene Flint & Marguerite Chatelier

6. Special Projects

The co-presidents suggested that discussion of LWVW participation in the LWVMA civics project as well as of the high school book awards be postponed to the April 2022 board meeting.

7. Newsletter & Website – Ann Rappaport

Ann reported that the deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is Friday March 11, 2022. The newsletter is scheduled to go out early next week.

8. Co-Presidents' Closing – Laura Brown MacKinnon & Wendy Garber

Laura thanked all LWVW members who worked at the recent town election polls. She also reminded attendees of the upcoming LWV convention June 23-26, 2022. She reported that progress is being made on the project to have our voter resources translated, in particular into Chinese.

The next Board Meeting on April 12, 2022 12:30-2:30 P.M. will be in person at Marguerite Chatelier's house.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonny Nothern, Secretary