

League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus
Board Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2021
6:30 PM

Present: Cheryl Roller, Barb Hykes, Lindsey Kauffman, Jackie Nielson, Carla Hicks, Rolnecia Carolina Albert, Kitty Burcsu, Ellen Rapkin, Andrea Nadolny, Sally Morgan, Mary Helen Hunt, Mary Austin-Palmer, Riham Ben Amer, Raya Cupler, Beth Strohl, Jill Lukshin-Hoff, Bridget McDaniel

Absent: Elizabeth Grieser, Ben Sullivan

Cheryl introduced new LWVMC Board Member, Jill Lukshin-Hoff. Jill specializes in financial advising for nonprofit organizations.

Approval of September Minutes:

Motion to approve, seconded, passed.

Treasurer's report: Cheryl read notes from Elizabeth and Ben:

- Line Item 1 - Membership dues. Membership renewal letters went out the first week of September and dues are coming in at a nice pace
- Line item 2 (Member Contributions) for September is mostly from members who rounded up their dues when renewing their memberships.
- Line item 7 - September Dinner Meeting came in under budget for both income and expenses due to the social distancing/reduced capacity for the event. This is not a fundraiser, so as long as income is not more than expenses for the event - things are good!
- Line 11 - VIB sales - currently only \$90, however most libraries pay after they receive the guides in October, so we are still on target to meet the budgeted income amount of \$1000
- State PMP was paid this month, Line item 27: There must have been a mistake in the amount of PMP we budgeted because the total due was \$8400 not the budgeted \$6700.
- Line item 38 - Restricted Grant Expenses of \$1500 includes cost of sending 1600 voter registration packets to people in the Franklin County Jails.

- Response to Kitty's question about the Holiday Brunch - The \$1500 income reflects the PROFIT we made in 2019 from the event. The 2021-2022 budget was drafted in February/March of last year when we were not expecting the Delta Variant! We'll have to make a decision in the next month about the possibility of an in person brunch.

Operations Manager Report

- Voter Guide to be published in Oct. 9 edition of Columbus Dispatch. Currently available online at Vote411.org
- 3 of 5 local candidate forums complete. We had to stop the Bexley Candidate forum part way through due to a power outage, so weren't able to complete the forum. We have had success reaching a fairly large audience with streaming the forums through Facebook Live. Upcoming forums: Oct. 5 – Worthington and Oct. 6 – Hilliard
- Organized a number of voter outreach events the week of National Voter Registration Day (Sept. 28) including low-income senior lunches, YMCA Homeless Shelters, Libraries, Hispanic Heritage Celebrations.
- 1600 voting packets mailed to persons incarcerated in the Franklin County Jails. We'll know more about the outcome and impact of the mailing in November.
- Fair Districts/Redistricting Update: LWVO is the plaintiff in a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the Ohio Redistricting Commission's state legislative maps. The ACLU is representing LWVO and oral arguments are scheduled for December in front of the Ohio Supreme Court. The Ohio Legislature missed the deadline to produce congressional maps on Sept. 30, so the 7 member Ohio Redistricting Commission now gets a chance to produce the congressional maps for Ohio. Fair Districts has announced [the winner of our congressional map drawing contest](#).
- LWVMC gained 12 new members in September. I will start announcing new members in the eVoter next week.
- Membership renewal letters went out the first week of Sept. 114 out of the 342 members who are due for renewal have renewed. This is about the same rate as in past years. I'll be sending an email reminder out to those who haven't renewed in mid-October.
- We are working on the final edits for the 2020-2021 LWVMC Annual Report and should have it complete by mid-October.

Development Committee:

- Kitty reported on the Development Committee's selection of honoring local journalism for the 2022 Democracy In Action. One organizational honoree has been selected and one individual journalist has been selected. The board discussed and approved these selections. The Development Committee will go forward with contacting the potential honorees.
- The idea of an in-person Holiday Brunch will be discussed at the next Development Committee meeting

Voter Service

- Ellen reported on voter service activities. The VIB will be available in the coming week in hard copy form – it is currently available online, including a pro/con statement on Columbus City Issue 7.

Education and Advocacy

- E&A has multiple activities planned for the upcoming months. One is a Source of Income Forum on Nov. 4. Another is a 21 Day Challenge to start at the end of October and lasting through the first several weeks of November.
- E&A is also working on a food insecurity subgroup and expect additional volunteer opportunities to come out of this group

Membership Committee

- The membership committee is planning a virtual New Member Orientation for Nov. 9.
- Membership renewals are coming in at about the same rate as usual

Communications

- The 2020-2021 LWVMC Annual Report is almost completed and should be available by mid-October

President's Report

- Cheryl gave an update on the Criminal Justice Study

New Business

None

Old Business

None

Motion to adjourn. Motion seconded. Motion passed.

Next meeting will be on November 1, 2021 at 6:30 PM.