



Board Briefings June 21st, 2022

The meeting of the LWVCO Board of Directors was called to order at 6:06pm by Board President Karen Sheek and quorum was established.

Present were Board President Karen Sheek, Vice President Barbara Whinery, Treasurer Bonnie Seals, Toni Larson, Kathy Wilson, Anne McGihon, Connie Fox, Cameron Manning, Venice Miller, Sharon Davis, Irene Tynes, Beth Malmskog, Lena Brown, Executive Director Beth Hendrix (non-voting), and DevComms Manager Lynsey Georgen, who recorded minutes (non-voting).

A quick introduction was done of new Board members:

- Kathy Wilson (incoming Board member) is from Larimer County and has been a League member since 2018. She loves doing advocacy work and has a background in teaching. She has worked for the University of Nebraska.
- Incoming Board member Cameron Manning is honored and excited to be on the Board and excited to see where the Board will go. He recapped that he was the Operations Manager and is now with Denver Kids. He is excited to be working with data, program evaluation, and public policy.
- Another incoming Board member, Anne McGihon, a lawyer and former Colorado State legislator, provided voter protection work in Florida in 2020, and enjoys gardening.
- Barb Whinery, a generational League member and member for 30 years will move from Vice President to Co-Director of Voter Service.
- Sharon Davis has been a League member since 2018 when she came back to the US after living abroad, she is an artist and interested in public policy. She'll serve as Board Vice President.
- Bonnie Seals will remain as treasurer, as she has been for 5+ years. She lives in Estes Park.
- Chris Humphries loves "our LWV" and her passion is voting. She'll remain as Co-Director of Voter Services.
- Lena Brown has been with the League since 2017, she has two young children and works full time, she is chairing the Nominating Committee this year and is excited to take on more as she can.
- Outgoing Board member Connie Fox feels honored to have known everyone and is looking forward to doing more local work and working with the LAC on mental health issues.
- Beth Malmskog has been a Board member since 2020 and is stepping off due to her completed term. She is a math professor at Colorado College who recently went on sabbatical; she has enjoyed her time on the Board working on redistricting issues.
- Toni Larson was on the National Board for 4 years and the State Board for the last four; she will 'retire' off of the Board and Action & Advocacy to relax and help out with special projects.

- Veniece Miller is the incoming Board Secretary, she just graduated from CU Boulder summa cum laude and just started a new position with Harvard Law Election Law Clinic. Civic Education and Election Law are two of her greatest passions.
- Irene Tynes will miss the outgoing Board members and has enjoyed how the Board, staff, and policies have evolved. She acknowledges she has tremendously large shoes to fill as the new Board President.
- Karen Sheek will be stepping out of the Board President role and into the Local League Support role.

Bonnie Seals requested that we pull Policy 208.00-IT Usage and Training from the consent agenda for review.

Karen Sheek reviewed the agenda. Barb Whinery moved to approve the consent agenda; Sharon Davis seconded, and it unanimously passed.

Per Bonnie Seals request, Policy 208.00 was reviewed. Clarifications were noted for page two, as well as several paragraphs on page one. Karen Sheek suggested that this policy be corrected and sent to the Governance Committee before action is taken. Beth Hendrix clarified this process for new Board members. All agreed.

6:39pm LWVUS Convention/Bylaw changes

Proposed National bylaw changes were recapped by Karen Sheek including transformation of the League and how they collect dues, as well as the Nominating Committee. Karen Sheek feels like this is an effort to take some of the administrative responsibility off of the Local Leagues, and theoretically dues will be divided equally to National, State, and Local. This will have to be passed by membership before it moves forward. Beth Hendrix reminded everyone that Local Leagues set their own membership rates, but the average is \$60. She also feels it's time to move past the membership model as it is "exclusive and not inclusive".

Beth was asked to share her opinions about the Nominating Committee; she opposes removing the CEO from the nominating committee. She doesn't feel they should have a vote but doesn't feel they should be excluded. Connie was asked to weigh in and she supports having the executive director and president on the committee, but not as voting members. Sharon Davis raised her hand and offered that standard practices suggests that they are both on the committee and it's not useful to the org to not have them on and it's backwards to remove them. Barb Whinery asked to comment on the dues; one of the biggest impacts will be if there is a sliding scale, it will take 2-3 years for the Local Leagues to know what their budgets are.

Karen Sheek reminded everyone the details of LWVUS Convention, including the Whitepaper Committee and Election Security Committee having tables in the front of the convention.

Beth Hendrix added that she is grateful to all participating for their energy and time and is looking forward to seeing everyone. Mentioned that there will be an open house on Saturday, all are welcome. Kathy Wilson asked that everyone come on Friday at 10am to vote for the News Access & Literacy Resolution. Karen reminded everyone about the Election Security position at 8:30am.

(6:44pm Anne McGihon excused herself from the meeting.)

Toni Larson and Beth Whinery both shared their opinions about new studies and the resources it takes from both Local Leagues, Staff, and National.

7:02pm Beth requested to talk about the "Mesa County Situation"

Beth said we were alerted this morning by LWV Boulder's Gun Safety Committee. Last week a shooting range in Mesa County had a contest involving large magazines, which have been illegal in Colorado since

2013. This happened on land that is owned by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. The Sheriffs Dept said that they would not look for large magazines because a "crime is not being committed". Rionda Osman wrote a letter to Parks & Wildlife and Mesa County Sheriff asking that they follow the law. Rionda and LWV Boulder would like LWVCO to sign the letter as well. Ceasefire Colorado is sponsoring. LWV Mesa County is pleased that we may take action. Beth says we need a bit more information that we may have by tomorrow. Sharon Davis asked if the Board would be permitted to see the letter first, and if the writer of the letter knows the Leagues position. Irene Tynes asked if this was something we needed to vote on. Toni Larson said no after being asked by Beth Hendrix who also said no, as this falls under notification and information.

7:09pm Toni Larson asked if the Board would be providing further information or recommendations to delegates on how to vote. Beth Hendrix said all delegates will be provided with each others' contact information but no additional Board positions or recommendations will be given. Karen Sheek requested that an email that was sent as a follow-up to all delegates after a virtual meeting last Friday, be sent to the Board as well. Karen Sheek reminded everyone that they would be voting with their cell phones and to have them charged.

7:12pm Beth Hendrix announced that it was decided that for the next fiscal year, Board meetings will remain on the third Tuesday of the month but will shift back to 6:30pm-8:30pm. The Board packet is in Club Express and Board members are asked to access it there. Beth Hendrix offered business cards and name tags to incoming Board members.

Please be advised that July 9th 9am-noon will be a strategic planning meeting.

LWVCO has statewide task forces in housing, healthcare, climate emergency, and news access & literacy and is creating new task forces in alternative voting methods, gun safety, and reproductive rights. These task forces allow people at the Local level to come together, as well as allowing Leagues that don't have those local committees to send their members.

There will be an event on August 8th featuring current League member Lisa Forbes, with her new book dealing with her healing and transformation after her time in prison.

7:15pm Karen asked Lynsey Georgen to introduce herself.

7:18pm Karen Sheek and Beth Hendrix both had closing remarks of congratulations and thanks for the outgoing Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.