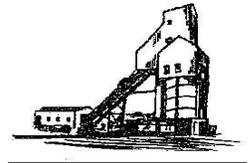




Copper Country Voter

Published by the
Copper Country League of Women Voters
Houghton County, Michigan



LWVCC Calendar

- May 14** Net Neutrality by Martha Sloan
Wednesday, 7:00PM Hardee's lower level, Houghton
- July 6-10** National Convention, Dallas, TX
- Aug. 19** Summer Board Meeting
Tuesday, 5:00pm Mary Marchaterre's home
1216 E. Lakeshore Dr, Houghton
Potluck. All members are welcome!

What is Net Neutrality?

'Net neutrality (also network neutrality or Internet neutrality) is the principle that Internet service providers and governments should treat all data on the Internet equally, not discriminating or charging differentially by user, content, site, platform, application, type of attached equipment, and modes of communication.' [1]

Dr. Martha Sloan, Professor Emerita MTU, Electrical and Computer Engineering, LWVCC member, has been researching this topic and will give a presentation at Hardees meeting room, lower level (ground level entrance from parking lot will be open) on Wednesday, May 14 at 7pm. She will cover the background of net neutrality and will focus on recent Federal Communications Commission (FCC) efforts on net neutrality.

Please join us. Invite a friend.

[1] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Net_neutrality

Action at LWVUS

Check out recent action at national at LWVUS

<http://lww.org/our-work>

- Protecting Voters: Voting Rights, Improving Elections, DC Voting Rights
- Engaging Voters: Registering and Education
- Reforming Money in Politics: Money in Elections, Ethics and Lobbying
- Defending the Environment: Clean Air Defense, Global Climate Change, Clean Energy

LWVCC Board for 2013- 2014

Shared Governance Model

**Acting President/
Social Policy**
Mary Jane Hatton 523-5368

**1st Vice President/
Children and Youth**
Carol Kreher 487-6778

**2nd Vice President/
Natural Resources**
Kristine Bradof 482-0446

Treasurer
Mary Marchaterre 483-2291

Secretary
Barry Fink 482-4632

Health Care
Ellen Varney 524-7845

Voter Service
Kathy Flagstadt 399-0721

Off Board

Finance Drive
Faith Morrison 487-9703

International Relations
Carol Kurz 337-2920

Voter Editor
Linda Ott 487-2315

Website
Shellie Crisman 523-6299
Dale Yeo

www.lwvccmi.org

<http://www.facebook.com/coppercountrylwv>

**Minutes - Annual Meeting of Members
League of Women Voters of the Copper Country
Ramada Inn, Hancock, MI
April 12, 2014**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by second VP Mary Jane Hatton at 11:08a.m.

Quorum: Secretary Fink, confirmed that a quorum of the membership was present.

Appointment of Parliamentarian:

V.P. Hatton appointed Lisa Dunnebacke to serve as Parliamentarian for the meeting.

Appointment of Committee to Approve 2014

Minutes :

V.P. Hatton appointed Sherry Zoars, Bradof and Flagstadt as the Committee to review and approve the Minutes from the 2014 Annual Meeting. The Committee to review the Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting of Membership had read and approved the Minutes and those were previously reviewed and accepted by the board and published in the Voter.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report was presented by Mary Marchaterre. The report was accepted and placed on file.

Financial Reviewer's Report:

Stacey Froese conducted a review and submitted her report (found at the bottom of the budget page) that the financial records for the fiscal year 2013 -2014 were in good order.

Budget Committee Report:

The Budget Committee, represented by Marchaterre, presented its recommended Budget for fiscal year 2014-2015. It was moved by Tony Zoars and seconded by Faith Morrison that the proposed Budget be adopted. Motioned passed.

Proposed amendments to the by-laws

Proposed amendments to articles 3; 4; 5; 9 and 10 are printed in the program booklet. Ellen Varney moved and Flagstadt seconded the adoption of the amendments as proposed. Motion passed.

Adoption of Program:

It was moved by Marchaterre and seconded by Kreher that the LWVCC current positions as printed in the meeting booklet on Houghton County Government, Education, Keweenaw Waterway, Fluoridation, Land Use and Election Procedures and Houghton County Jail Facility be retained. Motion passed

Nominations and Elections:

Report of Nominating Committee: Flagstadt presented

the Nominating Committee report, as follows:

Nominees for two-year terms (2014-2016) are:

President	Remains Open – Nominations from the floor will be accepted
President	Mary Jane Hatton
1 st Vice President	Carol Kreher
2 nd Vice President	Kristine Bradof
Treasurer	Mary Marchaterre
Directors	Ellen Varney

Nominating Committee for 2015

2015 Nominating Committee are: Barry Fink; Mary Marchaterre and Martha Sloan

Report of the Nominating Committee was accepted by VP Hatton.

There were no nominations from the floor.

Election of Officers and Directors:

It was moved by Morrison and seconded by Nanno Rose and passed unanimously that the slate of nominees for Officers and Directors be elected. Motion passed.

Note: By-laws amendment means 2nd VP will need to be elected again in 2015 (odd year.)

Continuing members (2013-2015)

Secretary	Barry Fink
Directors	Kathy Flagstadt

Note: Fredi DeYampert has resigned from the board effective this date.

Other Business

There will be a meeting in May on Internet Neutrality presented by Sloane.

The national convention will be in Dallas in June. Any member interested in attending as our voting delegate should let a board member know by May 1st. Marchaterre reminds members to speak to a board member about any candidate forum they believe we should conduct in the upcoming election season.

Directions to the Board from the Membership:

1. Dunnebacke encourages use of the Chamber of Commerce bulk mailing permit to contain costs.
- 2.
3. Ruthann Ruehr wants a note sent to Dale Yeo acknowledging her contributions.
4. Dunnebacke suggests Education as a focus for educational activities in the fall before the election. She is concerned about several new laws enacted in MI creating rapid changes in education in the last two years. She notes that our local position may need new language.

5. Morrison requests that minutes reflect support among those present for the concerns raised by Dunnebacke.
6. Bradof suggests Healthcare will continue to need attention in the next program year. In particular a program to call attention to consumers getting cost information for what they will be billed for tests, procedures, etc. is needed. We could ask LWVUS to address this situation.
7. Varney remarks that she is pleased with hearing of U.P. legislators acting collaboratively regarding issues impacting the UP.

Adjournment:

Hatton adjourned the meeting at 12:12pm.
 Minutes respectfully submitted by, Secretary Fink

LWV-MI Regional Meeting

Mary Marchaterre and Kathy Flagstadt attended the LWV-MI Regional Workshop held in Dearborn on Saturday, April 27. Mary attended the President and Membership workshops and Kathy attended the Vote 411 and Candidate Forum How To workshops. Both learned new ideas from other downstate League members and shared our ideas from the Copper Country with other League members. Some of those shared ideas from downstate Leagues will be implemented into our Copper Country LWV 2014-15 program year, such as:

using digital recording of sponsored LWV events, which will then be posted on our website via a link for you to view at a later time

- updating our website to include many of our printed items such as minutes, annual meeting booklet, our positions, etc.
- how to increase membership by doing more outreach at the universities and other public meetings; including information about voting, registering to vote, and absentee voting on our "Know Your Government Officials"
- and using helpful printed candidate & audience rules & guidelines during our candidate forums, all of which will help make forums and the public better informed.

Mary and Kathy also had dinner with State LWV-MI President, Susan Smith, on Saturday night and invited her

Tap into that one fear that drives greatness - the fear of regret."
Betty Liu

to come back to the Copper Country this fall.

Highlights from Annual Meeting Speaker Presentation

Submitted by Barry Fink

The well received speaker at the annual meeting of the Copper Country League of Women Voters, Marilyn Clark, CEO of the MTEC Smart Zone, included in her comments many interesting facts. Houghton county is one of three rural counties to have population growth even while MI was the only state to lose population in the last census. Fifty-four percent of MTU students would like to stay in the community if work were available. The Smart Zone goal is to expand the job base, especially technical jobs, available in the area. Clark has seen an increase in good will between the city governments of Houghton and Hancock, which together with MTU, are advisors to the Smart Zone.

The Smart Zone is looking for job creators with the potential for rapid growth. There are many high tech companies here now. Most of their clients are not here but are, in fact, global. Our students are equipped with good skills for cross communication, using phone, email, internet programs. Our Smart Zone is second of the 18 in the state in creating start-ups. It provides structure for start ups, most of which are self-funded, boot-strap operations. About one-third have so far failed. They are challenged to find out early if their idea will succeed.

The MTEC Smart Zone is starting, or "spinning off" a new Smart Zone in Marquette. Houghton is one of three out of the eighteen in the state allowed to do this. This new funding and initiative will allow the MTEC Zone to be extended for another fifteen years. Had it not been awarded, the project would end in 2017. The Marquette Zone is expected to add "thing" start ups to the "idea" start ups that are typical of the Houghton Smart Zone. Marquette benefits from access to MTU expertise.

A friendly reminder

Our League membership year runs from April to March. If you haven't yet renewed your membership this year, now is time.

With the 2014 election year approaching and the issues facing us all, the community will again be looking to the League for interesting events.

Volunteers are always welcomed!



The League of Women Voters
of the Copper Country
PO Box 815
Houghton, MI 49931

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Join or make a donation to the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country!

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone _____ (home) _____ (work)

Check here if you would like to receive your LWVCC
Voter by e-mail.

Contributions to the annual finance drive and Kay LaRue Scholarship
are NOT tax deductible. Checks should be made out to: LWVCC.

Contributions to the Educational Fund are tax deductible.
Checks should be made out to: LWV Educational Fund

Membership

Individual Dues (\$55)

Household Dues (\$80)

Student Dues (\$30)

Donation

Finance Drive (\$____)

Kay LaRue Scholarship (\$____)

Education Fund {\$____}