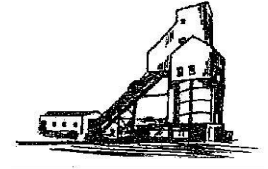


Copper Country Voter



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



<http://www.lwvccmi.org/>
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LWVCC Calendar

May Postponed	Local Transportation Informational Meeting	Aug 17 Wednesday, 4pm	Summer Board meeting Marchaterre's 1216 E Lakeshore Dr, Houghton,
June 16-18 Thursday-Saturday	National Convention Washington DC		

Report from the Annual Meeting

Thank you to Georgo Stockero for speaking at the Pilgrim River Steakhouse for hosting our 2016 Annual Meeting. Our meeting was well attended with approximately 20 members attending the talk and meeting. Mr. Stockero explained what an ISD does and how it is separate from the individual school districts; it is a resource. The Copper Country ISD is responsible for psych testing, regional IT, special education, career and technical education, truancy issues, teacher training across the school districts in Keweenaw, Houghton, and Baraga Counties.

Mr. Stockero then shared his goal of expanding career and technical Ed for our students. Currently there are few opportunities for our students to take career and technical classes. The classes available are limited to only a handful of students, limiting the number of students who can participate. In order to expand the program Mr. Stockero is talking to local businesses to find out what skills they need in future employees. In addition he is also talking to Michigan Tech, Finlandia, Keweenaw Bay Community College, KEDA, and more to provide classes. Mr. Stockero's talk was well received by the attending members with a lively discussion after.

Discussion over lunch revolved around the issues of the lack of preschool options for those of median income levels or higher and how to encourage more people to run for local office. To pursue these topics and more, feel free to attend the League's monthly board meetings (starting up again in August), or contact a board member via email or phone.

Transportation Presentation Postponed

After speaking with members of WUPPDR and MDOT, the LWVCC decided to postpone the transportation presentation. This delay will allow, interested student groups from Michigan Tech and Finlandia to attend as well as current transit providers to participate in the presentation. In addition the League learned that a new study is currently in a draft state and will hopefully be ready to be shared over the summer. We believe this delay will provide the community with an overall better experience when the presentation is finally given.



**Minutes - Annual Meeting of Members
League of Women Voters of the Copper Country
April 26, 2016**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by acting President Hatton at 12:30 p.m. at Pilgrim River Steakhouse. Board Member Flagstadt briefly outlined the activities of the Copper Country League of Women Voters since the 2015 Annual Meeting which included: Equal Pay Day, Teens for Tomorrow Workshop, "Money in Politics" at Portage Lake District Library and Finlandia University, Constitution Day at Finlandia and Michigan Tech, Voters registration at Baraga, Department of Health and Human Services, Houghton Department of Health and Human Services, and Michigan Tech Afternoon on the Town. Informational folded fans were given to high school students. She also pointed out that all current positions are in the Annual Meeting book.

Quorum: Board Member Morrison confirmed that a quorum of the membership was present.

Appointment of Parliamentarian: Acting President Hatton appointed Morrison to serve as Parliamentarian for the meeting.

Appointment of Committee to Approve Today's Minutes: Acting President Hatton appointed Bradof, Morrison, and Williams as the Committee to review and approve the minutes from today's Annual Meeting. Review of the minutes of last year's Annual Meeting of Membership had been read and approved by a committee. They were accepted by the board and printed in the Voter.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was presented by Morrison for treasurer Marchaterre. After discussion Varney moved, Rose seconded to accept the report and place on file. Motion carried.

Financial Reviewer's Report: Morrison reported that Travis Howard conducted a review of the LWVCC finances and submitted a report that the financial records for the fiscal year 2015-2016 were in good order.

Budget Committee Report: The Budget Committee represented by Morrison presented its recommended budget for fiscal year 2016-2017. Moved by Bradof, seconded by Flagstadt and passed that the proposed budget be adopted.

Adoption of Programs: Moved by Kreher, seconded by Morrison and passed that the League's current positions on Houghton County Government, Education, Keweenaw Waterway, Fluoridation, Land Use, Houghton County Jail Facility and Election Procedures be continued unchanged.

Proposed New Position: The Board recommends The League of Women Voters of the Copper Country supports: Adequate funding for coordinated regional and local public transportation, which provides access to area

education, employment, health care, mental healthcare, government, and food/shopping centers to population centers and rural residents alike. Morrison moved and seconded by Bradof that the position on public transportation in the counties be adopted. The motion passed.

Nominations and Elections: Respectfully submitted by the 2016 Nominating Committee made up of Flagstadt, Fink, and Sloan are the Nominations for 2016-2017. Flagstadt presented the report, as follows.

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

President: Rhianna Williams (one year term to put president back on odd year election cycle)

1st Vice President: Mary Jane Hatton

2nd Vice President: Kristine Bradof (one year term to put 2nd VP back on odd year election cycle)

Treasurer: Mary Marchaterre

Director: Ellen Varney

Continuing member (2015-2017)

Secretary: Barry Fink

Directors: Kathy Flagstadt and Faith Morrison

Serving Appointed off Board

Voter Editor: Linda Ott

Web Master: Shellie Crisman

Children and Youth: Carol Kreher

The 2017 Nominating Committee was constituted: Carol Kreher, Heather Bean, and the Board will appoint a third member from the board.

There were no officer nominations from the floor. Moved by Kreher, seconded by Varney passed unanimously that the slate of nominees for Officers and Director be elected. 2017 Board Members were introduced and received the appreciation of those assembled. The meeting was turned over to incoming President Williams.

Other Business: Rhianna Williams will be attending the National Convention in Washington D.C.

Directions to the Board:

1. Heather Bean- Have t-shirts made.
2. Katie Torrey- Look into challenges of finding pre-school openings in the community; these are in short supply, even for families who are willing to pay.
3. Candy Peterson- Encourage people to run for public offices. Also, educate people on the process of running for an office so more people will run.
4. Donna Cole- Cyber Bullying Prevention Education for all. Encourage people to treat candidates and office holders respectfully through Cyber Bullying Prevention Education.

Adjournment: President Williams adjourned the meeting at 1:27 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by, Secretary (pro tem) Carol Kreher

**League Opposes Chassell Millage Proposal –
Vote NO August 2nd**

Language to appear on August 2nd ballot:

“Shall Chassell Township, County of Houghton, State of Michigan, withdraw from membership in the Portage Lake District Library. If approved by a majority of electors, this withdrawal would take effect when the current seven (7) year term of participation expires on December 31, 2017. If the township withdraws, the current 2 mil tax levy, as reduced to 1.9727 as a result of Headlee, would no longer be collected after December 31, 2017, and residents of Chassell Township would be required to purchase a library card to access library services.”

LWVMI and your local league supports basic and stable funding for public libraries to insure basic services to all state residents. Currently, the Portage Lake District Library funding sources include local taxes from Chassell Township, Portage Township, and the City of Houghton. The August 2nd Chassell ballot proposal will terminate library funding from Chassell Township and negatively impact Chassell citizens as well as the Library’s ability to insure basic services to all residents. Vote NO on August 2nd.

Seafood Fest Volunteers Needed

Looking for volunteers for the local Rotary Club's annual Seafood Fest fundraiser. This year Seafood Fest is running Friday, June 16th through Sunday June 18th. Every year League members donate a few hours of time to help at the event as a way to thank the Rotary Club for its continued support of local League activities. Contact Rhianna at rlwillia@mtu.edu to get on the volunteer list.

Welcome to New Members

Patsy May
Kristina Sundstrom

Spring is a time of renewal.

Trees bud, tulips flower, birds sing, and we renew our
LWVCC memberships!
This year is still \$55 for an individual and \$80 for a
household.

If you have renewed, thank you!

LWVCC Board for 2016 - 2017

President/Resource Management Rhianna Williams	296-9539
1st Vice President/Shared Governance Model Mary Jane Hatton	523-5368
2nd Vice President/Natural Resources Kristine Bradof	482-0446
Treasurer Mary Marchaterre	483-2291
Secretary Barry Fink	482-4632
Electoral Process Faith Morrison	487-9703
Health Ellen Varney	524-7845
Voter Service Kathy Flagstadt	399-0721
<u>Off Board</u>	
Children and Youth Carol Kreher	523-4048
Education Martha Sloan	369-4184
Voter Editor Linda Ott	487-2315
Website Editor Shellie Crisman	523-6299

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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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 {\$_____}