

League of Women Voters of St. Croix Valley

Board and Committee Chair Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2026, via Zoom

Board Members Present: Irene Bugge, Beth Wood, Kris Surbaugh, Evanne Hunt, Katrina Larsen

Also attending: Kathy Streitz, Vicki Harmon, Barb Katt, Edna Early, Member: Kay Brooks

4:00 Business Meeting called to Order

LWV Oath

Approve Agenda

Unanimous approval of agenda with one addition: Added fall gathering suggestion.

Approve Minutes

Unanimous approval of December 16, 2025, minutes with one correction: Correct spelling of Katrina Larsen's name.

Financials

Katrina Larsen submitted the report, FY26 FYD December 2025; it is attached to the end of the minutes. She also highlighted some items:

- We are completely paid up with central.
- They are sending us money as appropriate.

Unanimous approval of financial report.

Current Business

Reflection on Winter Gathering/survey results

- Katrina reviewed the Winter Gathering survey. See the end of these minutes for the survey results.
- Suggested including further discussion on a fall and a winter gathering at a later meeting.

Update on Lunch and Learn programs /Frederic Library

- Kris reported that the programs were well attended (20) and she received positive feedback.
- Fair Maps could be repeated.

Hub Leadership updates

- Kathy reported there is a coffee scheduled for Saturday, February 7; 10:30am.

- Irene reported that her hub wrote 100 postcards. One Coffee December 10 in Amery, one in St. Croix Falls, January 8, 10 participants.
- Kay has questions about initiatives her HUB is doing. She suggested a regular Zoom meeting of HUB leaders.
- Beth congratulated HUB leaders on their accomplishments and encouraged them to continue to be pro-active.

Candidate Meet & Greet planning

- Irene formed a five-member County Board of Supervisors Meet & Greet planning committee with representatives from all three counties. The planning committee met twice and agreed to coordinate overall development of Meet & Greet materials including candidate invitation letters, timelines and guidelines for all three counties to ensure consistency.
- Burnett will have no Meet & Greet before the election because there are no contested races and all candidates are incumbents.
- Irene reported that there are 11 candidates who are either new or running in contested races in Polk County. Meet & Greet will be held in the Village Hall, Osceola. Event date TBD -- week of March 9.
- Kathy reported there are 21 candidates that could come to the St. Croix County Meet & Greet on March 10 at the Hudson Methodist Church.

Los Amigos, Monarca training and DEIJ work

- Edna and Barb reported that they are changing the Los Amigos program to have two drops each month. She requested additional volunteers to assist with delivery.
- Edna reported they use the Signal app.
- Barb encouraged people to contact her and Edna directly for more information.
- Monarca training will be repeated in Amery.
- Next Zoom meeting 28 January at 6:30 pm. Contact Barb for the link.

Summer Picnic dates and Planning

- Vicki had questions for the board about the picnic:
 - Reserve the Heritage Center
 - Will be potluck
 - 16-28 June
 - When to put details in the newsletter

Annual Meeting planning on April 26

- Irene would like a small committee to help plan the meeting.

Recruiting leadership for league sustainability

- Kathy asked everyone who is leaving their position to recommend someone who may be interested.
- Irene reminded everyone that our bylaws allow us to add up to four additional at-large Directors onto the Board help carry the work load/take on specific tasks.

Nurturing your Nonprofit/Nonprofit Expo on April 9

- Kris reported she will be out of town April 9 and is looking for someone to take her place.

Unite Rise update

- Beth thanked everyone for their support.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm

Next Board Meeting

February 17, 2026, 4-5 p.m. via zoom.

PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF WINTER GATHERING SURVEY

31 surveys submitted as of January 15, 2026 including board members who were not at the Gathering.

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

The leadership of the LWV St. Croix Valley strives to improve the League and experiences of the members. Please take a few minutes to answer the following:

Winter Gathering Evaluation

1. How satisfied were you with the overall event experience?

Poor=0 Fair=1 Good=10 Excellent=18

2. What did you enjoy most about the event?

- a. The food & great information.
- b. Meeting
- c. Information, meeting people
- d. Visiting with others
- e. Hard to say-so many things-food, chance to visit...especially ice breaker
- f. Hearing the thoughts of League members
- g. All of it
- h. Presentation
- i. The speakers were ***** (5 star)
- j. Meeting with people
- k. Guest speaker
- l. Integrity presentation
- m. Well thought out information
- n. Mentor meet
- o. Voter information
- p. The feedback re: students' view
- q. Presentation by Karen
- r. Connecting with other members
- s. People and food
- t. Friends & good
- u. Speakers & honoring Rene Nicole Goode
- v. Meeting new members, reconnecting
- w. Interaction with audience
- x. Meeting people
- y. Social time, Ice breaker

- z. Socializing with new & long-term leaguers
 - aa. Socializing
 - bb. Speaker & gathering
3. What, if anything, did you dislike about the event?
- a. Nothing
 - b. Nothing
 - c. Nothing
 - d. Inability to read PowerPoint
 - e. Presentation-too long
 - f. Presentation was dry-could be more interesting
 - g. None
 - h. Tech visuals an issue
 - i. Speaker
 - j. Ice breaker
 - k. Nothing
 - l.
4. How likely are you to attend a future event?
- Unlikely=0 Likely=6 Definitely=23 Undecided=0
5. Would you recommend this event to a friend or colleague? Yes =27 No=1 ?=1
- Why?
- a. It's a good organization to become educated.
 - b. Work for democracy is important!
 - c. Good information
 - d. Empowering
 - e. Informative
 - f. Informative
 - g. Everyone needs to know
 - h. Would prefer more time to connect with others & learn more informally (this is the only person who said no to recommending to others)
 - i. Connections with like-minded women
 - j. Great people, great cause
 - k. This League is pro-active in insuring voting integrity.
 - l. Important voting issues discussed
 - m. To get them involved

6. Comments

- a. So welcoming
- b. So great to be together
- c. Inspiring!!
- d. The info re: the presentation is available online – I could learn it more quickly & easily on my own
- e. Perhaps share in advance what the program will be?
- f. I wish I had invited possible new members
- g. Good topic!-how to engage young voters. Great camaraderie
- h. Obviously, the slides were too small
- i. Karen was just not organized & to say “at a later time” just isn’t helpful when you run out of time!
- j. Projection failed

Yard Sign Survey

The LWVSCV Board is considering purchasing additional yard signs if the budget allows. Please check the signs/stakes you are interested in receiving if funded.

VOTE FROM HOME ___4___

THANK ELECTION WORKERS ___9___

Ojibwe language VOTE ___1___

Spanish language VOTA ___1___

Heavy duty H stakes __4___

Board Meeting Times

The LWVSCV Board of Directors meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 4-5:00 PM, usually by Zoom. We encourage League members to join us to learn more about our chapter.

Would you be more likely to attend if the meeting was moved to a later time? If so, please indicate your first and second choice times.

4:30-5:30 PM ___2___

5-6 PM ___1___

5:30-6:30 PM __4___

6-7 PM __4___

Stay with 4-5 PM ___12___

Comments

- a. Not interested in being on the board, will help as needed
- b. Third Tuesday never works for me—Always driving home from a 3rd Monday overnight meeting
- c. I indicated that the current meeting time works for me-however I would support moving it to a later time to accommodate those for whom this time does not work.

Timing of Gatherings

LWSCV has been holding an all member gathering in January. We encountered a weather issue last year causing us to move the gathering to a week later. (We will continue to have our annual meeting in April.)

1. We are considering moving from a winter to an autumn gathering. Would you support the change?
Yes=17 No=7
2. Would you prefer to continue with an all member winter gathering?
Yes=11 No=5
3. Would you be interested in a HUB area (1 for each hub) optional winter social gathering?
Yes=15 No=4
4. Would you be interested in north and south optional winter social gatherings?
Yes=5 No=7

Comments

- a. Too busy in fall – many events
- b. We live in WI & will always have winter. We can't let the weather determine when we do things.
- c. I am flexible about a winter meeting.
- d. Thank you for all your work.
- e. Weather issues with keeping winter gathering
- f. South-Baldwin
- g. If there are winter HUB gatherings have work to accomplish
- h. Did not support north & south winter gatherings because it is “important to maintain unity in our League chapter.”
- i. “Not sure” written by the questions. Actual comment “Since I am a new attender I don't think I can comment on these...”

- j. I like the idea of the fall group, not just hubs. Would support fall if others prefer that.
- k. Want to continue winter gathering because “It’s a time when we really need to be with people & be together as a league!” Did not support hub or location winter gathers.
- l. I answered that I prefer a winter gathering. Only if the majority wants to continue the winter gathering.
- m. I think it might make more sense to have Winter and Summer Gatherings be North and South, in-between the all member Fall Gathering and Annual Meetings. So: all members in the Fall, optional North and South meetings in the winter and summer (HUBz 1&2, 3&4), and all members for the Annual Meeting in the spring.