

**LEAGUE LINES
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE BRAINERD LAKES AREA**

DECEMBER 2018

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 4



MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

SUBJECT: BRAINERD LAKES REGIONAL AIRPORT

SPEAKER: STEVEN WRIGHT, AIRPORT DIRECTOR

**LOCATION: BRAINERD LAKES REGIONAL AIRPORT
CONFERENCE ROOM
16384 AIRPORT ROAD, BRAINERD**

**DATE AND TIME: THURSDAY, DEC. 13
PROGRAM AT NOON
11:30 SOCIAL**

The Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport which is located just north of Brainerd off of Highway 210. The airport has served the community and lakes area with commercial flights since the late 1940s. Along with daily flights to the Minneapolis-St. Paul International airport, the airport is home to Brainerd Helicopter Service, North Memorial Air Care, and the Brainerd DNR Air Tanker Base. Travelers can also enjoy the Wings Café, free wi-fi and rental car agencies. (Source: Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport Website)

We are very pleased to invite you and guests to join us for our December monthly membership program. The Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport director, Steven Wright, will present an overview of the airport and the benefits it provides our community. Please arrive as closely to 11:30 a.m. as possible and proceed directly to the airport conference room. We will be ordering from the menu of the Wings Café. Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you there.

Rebecca Timmins, Secretary

NOV. 8 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by Rebecca Timmins

Present: Mike Edmunds, Jean Prickett, Rebecca Timmins, Becky LaPlante, Sally Jacobsen, Mary Jo Ahlgren

Treasurer's report: There was no formal treasurer's report.

Previous Business: The group briefly reviewed the October candidate forums. The consensus was that the forums went very smoothly and were well attended including the School Board and city council forums. Becky and Sally reported that a large number of people watched the forums live on the Brainerd Dispatch Facebook page. Becky also posted this to the LWV Facebook page.

There was some discussion about holding a debriefing meeting with Matt Erickson of the Brainerd Dispatch, Matt Killian of the Chamber and the three LWV representatives who attended the planning meetings: Becky LaPlante, Sally Jacobsen and Rebecca Timmins. This would allow the group to review what worked and what did not work for the forums for future planning.

Some topics for that discussion:

- There was some feeling that some audience questions during the MN State Legislature forum were not presented to the moderator, and going forward, the LWV group wants to make certain the forum processes remain authentic and transparent.

- Marketing for the forums also appeared without including all the sponsors.

- All expenses should be approved prior to purchase or rental.

Becky LaPlante will write a response to a Letter to the Editor that appeared in the Brainerd Dispatch criticizing the role of the LWV in the forums. She will also thank our forum sponsoring partners.

New Business: Upcoming meetings - Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings will be at The Skillet December 13, 2018 Rebecca Timmins will contact Steven Wright at the airport to explore the possibility of holding our December meeting at the airport. They have a conference room for rent. We will ask Mr. Wright to be our speaker and to address airport issues and the future of the airport. Rebecca will contact the manager of the Wings Café at the airport for lunch arrangements.

Next meeting board meeting will be held December 18 at 10:30 at the StoneHouse Coffee at the RiverWood Bank.

MINNESOTA VOTER TURNOUT

Source MPR

More than 2.6 million Minnesotans cast ballots in last month's election, short of the 2.9 million who voted two years ago, but still good enough to hit 64.25 percent of eligible voters and once again lead the nation. It's the highest percentage turnout in a non-presidential election in Minnesota since 2002, and the highest total number of midterm voters ever.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TENTATIVE DATES

January 10, 2019 Essentia Health person speak to us at one of the Essentia facilities?

February No meeting

March 14, 2019 TBD Toxic Tater expert

April 12, 2019 Representative from the Crosslake National Loon Center

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: Christmas is not a date. It is a state of mind.--Mary Ellen Chase

LEAGUE PRINCIPLES

- *The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that all powers of the U.S. government should be exercised within the constitutional framework of a balance among the three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial.*
- *The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.*
- *The League of Women Voters believes that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; that every person should have access to free public education that provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination.*
- *The League of Women Voters believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.*
- *The League of Women Voters believes that responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; that government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems that affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.*
- *The League of Women Voters believes that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems and that development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace.*

DIVERSITY MISSION - The League affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of Minnesota in its membership and strives to overcome barriers of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability in the activities of the organization. The League Lines is a publication of the League of Women Voters of the Brainerd Lakes Area. If you have comments or would prefer a hard copy mailed to you, please email the editor at mbeutz@brainerd.net or call [218-820-4622](tel:218-820-4622) in the evenings. If you would like to know more about the League of Women Voters of the Brainerd Lakes Area, visit our website at <http://www.lwvbrainerdlakesarea.org> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-Brainerd-Lakes-Area/120427464679302>, or the Minnesota League of Women Voters website <http://www.lwvmn.org>. The LWVBLA is very fortunate to work with Donna Evans of Gizmo Creations, LLC on our web page. Check the web page for updates and also visit her web designing site www.gizmocreations.com