League of Women Voters-Prince William Area

Executive Board Meeting August 18, 2020, via Zoom

President Carol Proven called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Calling in: Carol Proven, Connie Gilman, Barbara Amster, Lorraine Schooner, Carol Noggle, Judy Hingle, Ruthann Litchford, Janet Gorn and Barbara Greiling

Minutes: Minutes of the July board meeting were approved.

Treasurer’s report: Lorraine Schooner reported the General Fund balance was $14,193.35 at the end of July. The League spent $980 on postage and $21 on URL labels for the postcard voter registration project. Those expenses will be reflected in the August report.

Warrenton BLM vigil: Barbara Amster reported that members have been passing out voter information every Saturday.

League brochure: Barbara Amster reported that 250 copies of the brochure outlining LWV history and local League activities have been printed. The brochure will be offered to those interested in joining our League.

Postcard campaign: Ruthann Litchford reported that 2,800 postcards with voter registration information have been distributed to volunteers to be written and mailed. They are being sent to 18- to 25-year-olds in Fauquier County and 18- to 22-year-olds in Prince William County.

Sips and Civility: Nineteen people, including several new members, participated in Sips and Civility on Aug. 13. It was recommended that we continue the practice of asking participants to introduce themselves as it provides an opportunity to learn more about old and new members.

Voter Registration and Education: Carol Noggle conducted voter registration and assisted with absentee ballot requests at Wellington senior center in Manassas. The League has also been asked to conduct voter registration on Aug. 30 at an event in Occoquan, where the film “John Lewis: Good Trouble” will be screened.

Carol Noggle is also exploring the possibility of providing voter information at the Manassas Farmers Market.

She has sent information and teacher materials to the superintendent of Prince William schools and the supervisor for history and social studies regarding voter registration for students who are eligible to vote. The State League has sent power point presentations to the superintendents of all high schools in Virginia along a letter regarding the new law requiring voter registration in high schools. In addition, Carol Noggle will contact social studies teachers in the high schools where the League has done in-person registration in the past.

The TRYs have been updated and a PDF will be sent out.

Elections: Aug. 21 is the deadline for independent candidates to be added to the Nov. 3 ballot. Ballots are scheduled to be mailed out Sept. 18. The governor has recommended drop boxes for mail-in ballots be placed at election offices and polling places. The General Assembly is due to take up the matter at its special session.

Board of County Supervisors: Supervisor Yesli Vega will introduce a proclamation marking the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage and the 100th anniversary of LWV. It will likely be introduced at the Sept. 8 meeting. Barbara Amster will also send a letter to the editor of local papers regarding the anniversary.

Civics Lab: The Civics Lab held in conjunction with Montclair Library on Aug. 3 was recorded and is available for providing voter information.

Suffragists Heritage Committee: Janet Gorn and Connie Gilman have been working on lining up speakers for a roundtable at our Sept. 20 Kickoff meeting. Board of County Supervisors Chair Ann Wheeler and Pat Worth of Turning Points have agreed to participate.

Calendar Event Updates: Connie Gilman reported that Sips and Civility will be held Sept. 10 from 7 to 9 p.m., via Zoom. It will feature an update on new voting laws.

On Sept. 20, General Meeting will feature a panel discussion of 100 Years of Advances for Women. It will be held via Zoom from 2 to 4 p.m.

New Business:

Barbara Greiling requested an updated membership roster as several new members have joined. She will contact Jessie Barringer. It was agreed that, as has been the practice, the distribution of the roster be limited to the board.

Barbara Amster presented a request from the Fauquier members that League’s name be changed to reflect their participation. The League of Women Voters-Prince William and Fauquier Area was proposed. Carol Proven will contact the State League to explore the steps necessary to make such a change.

Judy Hingle will prepare a FAQ sheet about voting in the upcoming election that members can share on social media. She will prepare the questions to be checked by the Elections Office before they are distributed.

The next board meeting will be Sept. 15 at 7 p.m. via Zoom

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Submitted by Barbara Greiling