League of Women Voters-Prince William Area

Executive Board Meeting Feb.18, 2020, at Manassas City Hall

President Carol Proven called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.,

In attendance: Carol Proven, Connie Gilman, Cheryl Saggers and Barbara Greiling

Minutes: Minutes of the Jan.21 board meeting were approved.

Treasurer’s report: Lorraine Schooner reported there is $9,784/01 in the General Fund and $4,227.94 in the Education Fund.

The League has received a $750 grant for new citizen voter registration for our work in the high schools and at naturalization ceremonies. The money can be used for postage and printing.

Connie Gilman is looking into other businesses and groups that might be approached for donations to help cover expenses.

Programs: About 50 people attended the Feb. 16 general meeting in Warrento. Karen Hughes White of the Afro-American Historical Association and Keith Scarborough, secretary of the Prince William County Electoral Board, spoke about the history of voter suppression. The board expressed its thanks to Barbara Amster for providing home-baked cookies for the event.

To aid in planning future events, Connie Gilman is assembling a list of possible venues in the area. Carol Proven suggested that lists of possible speakers and topic also be assembled.

Membership report: Johnette Fisk submitted a report showing 73 members.

Voter Registration: Upcoming registration dates at area high schools are as follows: March 11, 12: Patriot; March 24, 25: Potomac; April 1, 2: Forest Park; April 14,15: Stonewall; May 19, 20: Woodbridge.

Correspondence: Cheryl Saggers said she does not receive newsletters from Rep. Rob Wittman. Carol Proven will contact Jessie Barringer to ask her to send legislators’ newsletters to all members.

League Day: On Feb. 12 and 13, Carol Proven, Carol Noggle and Janet Gorn attended League Day in Richmond, celebrating the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage.

Postcard Party: Members met in Warrenton to send postcards to urge people in Virginia and throughout the U.S. to contact lawmakers about congressional action on the ERA.

Book Discussion: Connie Gilman announced the schedule for the book discussion group as follows:

April 28, “Evicted,” by Matthew Desond, Olive Garden, 7501 Broken Branch Lane, Manassas, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Miggy Strano will be the moderator.

July 13, “The Boy Crisis: Why Our Boys Are Struggling and What We Can Do About It,” by Warren Farrell, Effingham Manor Winery, 14325 Trotters Ridge Place, Nokesville, 11-1. Cheri Saggers will be the moderator.

Oct. 13, “All the President’s Men,“ by Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, Jukebox Diner, 8637 Sudley Road, Manassas, 12:30 -2:30. Barbara Amster will be the moderator.

Jan. 26, 2021, “When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present,” by Gail Collins, Brittany’s Restaurant, 12449 Dillingham Square. Woodbridge, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

The League is partnering with the Prince William Library System on civic engagement programs. Book discussions on “Votes for Women: American Suffragists and the Battle for the Ballot” by Winifred Conkling will be held at several library branches. The schedule has not been released, but members are encouraged to read the book and participate at their local library.

March General Meeting: The meeting, at the Bull Run Regional Library from 2 to 4 p.m., will be held in cooperation with the Library System. The topic will be The Census, Then and Now. Speakers from the Census Bureau and the Prince William Historical Department will be contacted.

TRY Update: The TRYs have been printed and are available for distribution.

Newsletter: Bonnie Fahy plans a spring newsletter and is looking for contributions and reports.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Submitted by Barbara Greiling