League of Women Voters -Prince William Area

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2019, at Manassas City Hall

In attendance were Barbara Amster, Connie Gilman, Grace White, Jane Touchet, Carol Noggle, Barbara Greiling and Janet Gorn.

First Vice President Barbara Amster called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Membership: Jane Touchet reported that we have 84 members. Our T-shirt inventory is 39. It was decided to hold off on ordering more shirts.

Minutes: The February minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Grace White reported that there is $5,344.10 in the General Fund and $2,825.03 in the Education Fund. The printing bill for the TRYs was paid out of the General Fund because there was not enough in the Ed Fund to cover it. Connie Gilman received a check from NOVEC for $800, which will go to the Ed Fund for TRYs, and additional funds for TRYs are expected from the NOVA LWV grant.

*Action: Follow up with on NOVA LWV grant request*.

Voter Registration: Members were to assist with voter registration at a March 20 naturalization ceremony at the Hylton Performing Arts center. There is a one-day voter registration session at Forest Park High School on March 26 and registration at Patriot High School and Woodbridge High School in April.

Resource Fair: Jane Touchet received the names of several prospective members from sign-ups at the Feb. 23 Resource Fair at Central Library.

Sips and Civility: About 10 to 12 members participated in Sips and Civility at JukeBox Diner in Manassas on March 5.

General Meeting/ Interest Surveys: Nineteen people attended the General Meeting on March 10 at the McCoart Building. Judy Hingle submitted a report on the results of ranked-choice voting on issues at the meeting and the online survey sent to members. Issues that ranked the highest were voting issues; redistricting; firearm safety; environmental issues; campaign finance and lobbying reform; and human trafficking. Connie Gilman made a motion that we send out another survey asking members to rank those six issues.

Barbara Amster proposed an amendment to the motion. The survey should ask: In addition to the League’s clear interest and mission in voter services and voting issues, what other issues interest us most for the League to pursue. The survey would list redistricting; firearm safety; environmental issues; campaign finance and lobbying reform; and human trafficking. Connie Gilman seconded the amendment.

The motion was passed as amended.

*Action: A second survey should be prepared and sent to members.*

State Board of Elections and PWC Board of Elections: Carol Noggle reported that a new state board has been named. The county Board of Elections will meet March 30 in advance of the special election to replace Supervisor John Jenkins.

Communications: Barbara Amster said she had worked on an article on the League with a local reporter in connection with the March 28 program at the Haymarket Library. The library will publicize the event and place notices in community calendars. Jane Touchet will contact the Lifelong Learning Institute about the program.

Book Discussion: The next book discussion will be April 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Olive Garden, 7501 Broken Branch Lane, Manassas. The book is*The Slave Next Door: Human Trafficking and Slavery in America Today* by Kevin Bales and RPM Soodalter. Barbara Amster will lead the discussion.

*Action: Event should be added to Signup Genius*.

Convention nominees: Carol Proven, Janet Gorn, Barbara Amster and Connie Gilman will be chapter delegates to the state convention May 18 and 19 in Norfok. Carol Noggle will attend as a state delegate. Two slots are yet to be filled. In February, Carol Proven said an email would be sent to members to see if anyone was interested in attending.

*Action: Follow up on email response*.

Annual Meeting: Janet Gorn reported on plans for a program focusing on the Centennial of the 19th Amendment. Seven people signed up for her committee to plan the annual meeting this year and in 2020. The Workhouse in Lorton is the preferred venue for both meetings, but time is short for this year’s meeting. Carol Proven proposed June 15 or 16 as possible dates. Last month we discussed June 8 or 9. There were no objections to any of the dates, but it was noted that June 16 is Father’s Day.

*Action: Select venue and date*.

Climate Change program: Because of conflicts in April and May, it was decided that program with Dr. Underwood be postponed until the September kickoff meeting.

Candidate Forums: We received a request from the National Pan Hellenic Council to support two May forums for candidates for the Board of County Supervisors, Commonwealth’s Attorney and School Board. The first on May 16 at 6 p.m., at Chinn Park Library, includes candidates from the Neabsco, Occoquan, Potomac and Woodbridge districts. The second on May 21, at 6 p.m. at Bull Run Library, would include Brentsville, Coles and Gainesville districts. The League was asked to encourage members as well as the general public to attend. Connie Gilman moved that we support these forums. The motion was seconded and approved.

*Action: Notify Dr. Jackson that the League will support these events*.

Dar al-Noor is interested in organizing a forum for candidates in countywide and magisterial elections and has asked the League to partner with Dar al-Noor to host the forum. Barbara Amster moved the League partner in this event. It was seconded and approved.

*Action: Reply to Nathan Mowery at Dar al-Noor.*

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.