League of Women Voters-Prince William Area

Executive Board Meeting March 17, 2020, via teleconference

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

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

Minutes: Minutes of the February board meeting were approved.

Treasurer’s report: Lorraine Schooner reported there was $9,820.52 in the General Fund and $4,227.94 in the Education Fund at the end of February. The bill for printing the TRYs was paid in March and will be reflected in next month’s report. 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.

The League’s application for sales tax exemption was denied; Lorraine and Carol Proven will work on a new application. They will also meet to plan next year’s budget. Interested members are encouraged to join them.

Fauquier County: Barbara Amster reported that a group of Fauquier County members has been meeting monthly to coordinate efforts there. They are working with Bar Association members to try to introduce the So You are 18 program in Fauquier schools, participating in a local consortium of volunteer associations, and representing the League at First Fridays.

Upcoming League events: The Virginia League Council will be June 6 in Lynchburg, preceded by a dinner on June 5. The national convention will be June 25-28 in Washington. D.C.

Voter Registration: Voter registration was held March 11 and 12 at Patriot High School. Members also registered voters at Little Union Baptist Church near Dumfries. James Jones, Lucia Anderson and Carol Noggle attended the event, which included excellent speakers and dancers celebrating Black History Month and a delicious lunch. One person who had recently moved updated her address for voting.

Vote 411: Carol Noggle reported it will cost $200-$300 to include town and city elections on the website. The board voted to send in payment for the local races.

Programs: The March meeting was canceled due to the corona virus. Connie Gilman proposed the program on the Census be carried over to the April 19 meeting. She is working to reserve rooms at the Manassas Park Community Center for the April and May meetings.

Book Discussion: The next book discussion will be April 28, at the Olive Garden, 7501 Broken Branch Lane, Manassas, 6:30-8:30 p.m. The book is “Evicted,” by Matthew Desond. Miggy Strano will be the moderator.

The League is partnering with the Prince William Library System on civic engagement programs. The library will screen “Iron-Jawed Angels” in August and “Suffragette” in November.

Centennial Committee: The Prince William Historical Committee has canceled the tea planned for April 25 at Ripon Lodge and is trying to reschedule for September. Janet Gorn suggested the League write an op-ed on League history and current programs for the local papers in August and that we approach the Board of County Supervisors about a proclamation recognizing the League.

Affordable Housing Study: Janet Gorn reported that the study group is drafting a report on its research and will send it to the state League in time for its April board meeting

New Business: Barbara Amster proposed that board meetings be held in the evenings so that more members could attend. Members will also be allowed to call in to the meetings. The board agreed, and Carol Proven will explore venues and get feedback on times.

Newsletter: Reports are needed for the spring newsletter.

The meeting was paused for about 40 minutes due to technical difficulties. It resumed at 10:30 was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Submitted by Barbara Greiling