|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |

**League of Women Voters - Prince William Area
Executive Committee Meeting October 15, 2019, at Manassas City Hall**

In attendance:  Barbara Amster, Judy Hingle, Connie Gilman, Carol Noggle, Lorraine Schooner, and Cheryl Saggers.

1st Vice President Barbara Amster called the meeting to order at 9:40 A.M.

Treasures Report: Lorraine Schooner reported there was $8000.48 in the General Fund and $3,407.94 in the Education Fund.
In addition, Lorraine presented the letter head she developed for use when corresponding on behalf of our League. She was asked to add the officers’ emails below their names.

Membership Report: Johnette Fisk sent a report to Barbara Amster. There are 88 registered members with only 46 current with their membership dues. An email was sent to all members reminding them to update their membership.

Calendar - Debate Reports: Carol Noggle gave an update on the debates that have occurred. The one at Regency was great, Jill Palermo moderated the PWC 100 debate, and this Committee plans on holding several more debates. There were about 50 people in attendance at the County Supervisors debate at Congregation Ner Shalom.
Fall 2019 has seen the Prince William Area, including Fauquier County, League members heavily involved in voter services to prepare residents for the November 5th election. A detailed report will be in the next newsletter.
Carol announced that future debates can be live streamed. There will be expenses associated with several debates which will be shared with the partnering groups.  Use of 411 incurs some expenses, as well as printing costs, and advertising the site.

Voter Registration:   Judy Hingle report that many last minute requests for Voter Information and Registration have been received by the League. A lack of members willing, or able, to volunteer meant some requests were not filled.
The Dar al Noor block party went well.  Voter registration was not offered, but many Top 10’s were distributed.

Carol Noggle returned to the Envoy [Senior Living] so a resident could update their information and Carol discovered she was a member of the Lynchburg League.

Judy Hingle went to Harbor Chase [Senior Living] to provide absentee ballots and update voting addresses for residents.
The League had a presence at the Manassas Fall Jubilee and handed out many Top 10s. Judy brought up the issues of our sign/banner and t-shirts making our organization look partisan when people see the word Democracy as “Democrats”. Discussion ensued about sending out a clearer message and the need to improve our banner and change our T-shirt’s. It was suggested that they be grey or white with purple lettering. Also use the term citizenship. Further discussion and planning needs to be done.
Judy also brought up the lack of volunteers signing up for events. Discussion ensued. It was suggested a phone tree be established so members can receive a personal reminder of events.

Judy shared a form she developed to be used by event planners. This will ensure she has correct information to post on Sign Up Genius.

Centennial Program: Connie Gilman reported on the program on Suffragists held at Chinn Park Regional Library on September 5th. The turnout was disappointing but those in attendance were inspired by the wonderful presentation of author Rebecca Boggs Roberts. Her book Suffragists in Washington, D.C.: The 1913 Parade and the Fight for the Vote was available for purchase.

Kickoff Meeting: Connie reported that the luncheon at City Tavern on September 10th was nicely attended and actually earned income for the League. Barbara Amster won the door prize (a basket of tea items). The guest speaker, Courtney Tierney, gave a marvelous presentation on Affordable Housing to 32 League members and guests.

LLI and League Program: Connie reported that Carol Proven’s presentation on the history-and purpose of the League was informative and well received by members of LLI.

Update on Virginia Crime Commission: Carol Noggle reported that she attended a two day Commission workshop and was impressed with the work the staff have done for the study. The next meeting is on November 12, 2019.  The commission plans on presenting the study to the General Assembly when the legislature meets on November 18, 2019.

Update on Census: Carol Noggel will be attending a meeting of Census 2020 this afternoon, October 15th, in Richmond. At a previous meeting including college students was discussed and a plan is being developed to make sure they are counted. Another issue is overcrowded living and how people need to be assured, by responding, they are not putting themselves in danger of being reported.  Plans are also underway to advertise the importance of being counted in the Census.

Book Discussion update:   Connie reported that the discussion of Cane River on Saturday, October 26, will be leaderless. The board felt that would not be a problem.

Affordable Housing Study update: Cheri Saggers attended a meeting and reported on both sides of the issues. Cheri wrote an article on Affordable Housing for the next newsletter and sent it to Carol Proven.

Communications: Barbara Amster reported work continues on developing an informational brochure on the Prince William Area League of Women Voters.

Website and FB: Lyssa White has been very helpful keeping the Website updated.

New Business: Cheri Saggers began a discussion on PWC schools when she informed the group that Dar al Noor is requesting permission to build a school on their property.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 A.M. The next meeting will be on November 19, 2019, 9:30 A.M. at Manassas City Hall.