League of Women Voters-Prince William Area

Executive Board Meeting March 16, 2021, via Zoom

President Carol Proven called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Calling in: Barbara Amster, Connie Gilman, Lorraine Schooner, Judy Hingle, Carol Noggle, Janet Gorn, Barbara Greiling, Millicent Stackhouse, Sandra Roszel, Charlie Grymes and Catherine Ring.

Minutes: Minutes of the February board meeting were approved.

Treasurer’s report: Lorraine Schooner reported there was no activity on the League accounts in February. The General Fund balance remains at $13,026.99 and the Education Fund balance at $1568.46. Lorraine, Carol Proven and Trish Freed met to work on the budget for 2021-2022. The proposed budget will be sent to the board for approval. It will then be sent to members and voted on at the May annual meeting.

Membership: There were no new members in February. Cathy Ring reported that she and Connie Gilman have planned a program for the April general meeting aimed at informing old and new members about the League and its activities. Among the topics will be the history of the League, how the League works and its relationship to the state and national Leagues, how to navigate the Virginia websites for the General Assembly, and more. Members who have experience with other Leagues will also share their insights.

Election Law Study Group: Barbara Amster reported that the LWV-VA Board is reviewing the study group report. Once it is approved, it will be sent to all League presidents and presented at the state convention in May.

Affordable Housing: The State Board is also reviewing the Affordable Housing Study Group’s report. Janet Gorn has suggested to the State Board that LWV-VA explore the possibility of publishing the report for the general public. Charlie Grymes pointed out that Prince William County is in the process of developing its comprehensive plan. County data project a growth of 40,000 residents in the next decades and zoning decisions must be made to accommodate that growth. Among considerations is locating affordable housing near transportation.

Board of County Supervisors: Carol Noggle spoke in favor of early voting at three sites at the March 16 PWC supervisors meeting. There was some opposition to drop boxes among the supervisors and Carol suggested advocacy on that issue.

They Represent You: Connie Gilman reported that an electronic version of the TRY is now available. Updates on the primaries have been sent to the printers.

BLM: Black Lives Matter Vigils continue each Saturday from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Attendance is limited to 25 people.

Calendar Event Updates: Connie Gilman reported on the following calendar items:

The **March 21** general meeting will feature Elizabeth Ward from the Prince William Conservation Alliance, who will discuss the potential impacts of development in portions of the Rural Crescent on the sustainability of the Occoquan Watershed and the drinking water supply. The online meeting will be held from 2 to 4 p.m.

The April general meeting topic is What is Our League All About. A panel will discuss the history of the League, our place in the National and State structure, what we do, how we do it and why we do it. The online meeting will take place **April 18** from 2 to 4 p.m.

Sips and Civility will take place **May 4** from 7 to 9 p.m. We will hear about the newly created position of ombudsman for the Prince William County Schools.

The online annual meeting will be held **May 16** from 2 to 4 p.m.

The State Convention will be online **May 22-23**.

**New Business**

Resignations**:** Due to other commitments, Millicent Stackhouse resigned from the Observer Corps Committee and Janet Gorn resigned from the Suffragist Heritage Committee.

Nominations: Judy Hingle announced the following slate of candidates for the 2021-23 board:

President – Janet Gorn

First Vice President – Connie Gilman

Second Vice-President – Laura Feld-Mushaw and Miriam Anver , sharing the position

Treasurer- Trish Freed

Secretary- Vacant

Membership Chair – Jessie Barringer

Voter Services Chair- Carol Noggle

Members will vote on the slate of candidates at the May 16 annual meeting.

Judy Hingle has sent the results of the membership surveys to the board. Voter services activities drew the most interest.

The next board meeting will be April 20 from 7 to 9 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Submitted by Barbara Greiling