League of Women Voters-Prince William Area

Executive Board Meeting April 20, 2021, via Zoom

President Carol Proven called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Calling in: Barbara Amster, Connie Gilman, Lorraine Schooner, Judy Hingle, Carol Noggle, Janet Gorn, Judy Hingle, Barbara Greiling, and Catherine Ring.

Minutes: Minutes of the March board meeting were approved.

Membership: Jessie Barringer submitted a report that the League has a new member, Nigel Ogilvie of The Plains in Fauquier County. We now have a total of 94 members, 13 live in Fauquier. Cathy Ring has made corrections to the roster, which she will send to Jessie Barringer and Carol Proven. There was a discussion of sharing the roster, which is now available only to the board, with all members. Barbara Amster will draft a notice that we plan to share the roster, including names, addresses, email addresses and phone numbers with all members. Members will have the opportunity to opt out, and will be given a deadline by which to do so. Carol Proven will send the notice to all members.

April General Meeting: The April 18 meeting was an orientation for old and new members about the League, its history, its activities and resources available to members. Those who participated agreed that the chat feature on Zoom was conducive to a productive question and answer period. Lorraine Schooner congratulated the presenters on an extremely informative program.

Book Discussion: Author Mindy Greiling joined members April 12 for a discussion of “Fix What You Can: Schizophrenia and a Lawmaker’s Fight for Her Son.” Barbara Greiling reported that Mindy was impressed with the questions that she received from the group.

Voter Services and Advocacy: Carol Noggle attended an emergency meeting of the Prince William Electoral Board on March 29. It was announced that the General Registrar has resigned and an interim registrar will be named. The State Board of Elections met March 31 and established the qualification of candidates for the June 8 primary election. The board decided not to certify candidates who missed the filing deadline. This included Cyndy Neville for the 52nd House District.

Following the certification of candidates, Carol set up the VOTE411.org Voter Guide with candidates for the 2nd, 31st, 50th and 51st House Districts for the June 8 Democratic Primary, and the 50th House District for the Republican Convention on May 1. Carol also recommended that references to VOTE411 include *.org* since some people were not aware that it is a website. She also pointed out that our VOTE411.org information cards advise voters to bring a *photo* ID to the polls, which is no longer required. The word *photo* can be blacked out on the cards we have and eliminated on future printings.

Carol is exploring the possibility of distributing Top Tens and voter information cards at the Haymarket Farmers Market.

BLM Vigil: Barbara Amster reported that limits on attendees at the Saturday vigils in Warrenton have been lifted. She also reported there is a possibility of a donation from vigil sponsors toward the printing of voter information.

They Represent You: Connie Gilman reported updates on the primaries have been sent to the printers and will be posted on the League website.

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

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. Maria Burgos, the new equity and inclusion officer for Prince William County, will speak. The election of officers also will be held.

The next book discussion will be **July 13** at Effingham Winery at 11:30 a.m. The book will be “Say What You Mean: A Mindful Approach to Nonviolent Communication,” by Oren Jay Sofer and Joseph Goldstein.

Nominating Committee Report: Judy Hingle presented the following slate of candidates for the 2021-23 board:

President – Janet Gorn

First Vice President – Connie Gilman

Meeting Co-Directors – Laura Feld-Mushaw and Miriam Anver , sharing the position

Treasurer- Trish Freed

Secretary- Barbara Stokes

Membership Director – Jessie Barringer

Voter Services Director- Carol Noggle

Website Director- Carol Proven

Volunteer Director - Judy Hingle

Member Outreach Director – Cathy Ring

On Judy’s recommendation, Carol Proven made a motion that those positions, as well as an Action and Advocacy Director, all be voting members of the executive board. Connie Gilman seconded the motion and it was approved.

Treasurer’s report and budget: Lorraine Schooner reported the General Fund balance stands at $13,126.99 and the Education Fund balance at $1568.46. She presented the proposed budget for 2021-2022 to the board for approval. The budget shows a deficit, but Lorraine pointed out that unspent funds from this fiscal year will more that cover the shortfall. Connie Gilman made a motion that the proposed budget be approved, and Barbara Amster seconded the motion. The board voted in favor, and the proposed budget will be sent to members and voted on at the May annual meeting.

Bylaws: Janet Gorn presented a draft of a bylaws revision to be presented to members for a vote at the annual meeting. The board approved the revision, including a provision that the immediate past president be an ex-officio member of the executive board with the all privileges of board membership, including the right to make motions and to vote.

Newsletter: The was a discussion of the need for a League newsletter in addition to the website and Constant Contact notifications. It was suggested that the newsletter be published once a year and Connie Gilman will explore that option.

The next board meeting will be May 18 from 7 to 9 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Barbara Greiling