LWV-Prince William-Fauquier Area Annual Meeting Minutes—May 16, 2021

The annual meeting of the League of Women Voters-Prince William-Fauquier Area was held May 16, 2021, via Zoom. President Carol Proven called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. Annual reports and copies of the 2020 annual meeting minutes and the proposed budget for 2021-22 were sent to members ahead of the meeting.

Minutes of the 2020 annual meeting were approved.

Delegate Suhas Subramanyam joined the meeting to present a resolution that he introduced and which was passed by the 2020 General Assembly commending our League for its efforts in voter education and voter registration. A full copy of the resolution, which cites efforts such as the They Represent You brochures, voter information cards in six languages, and Top Ten cards, as well as candidate debates and high school and other voter registration programs, will be sent to the League.

Maria Burgos, Equity and Inclusion Officer for Prince William County, spoke about her newly created position, its goals and its place within county government. Following her informative presentation, she answered members’ questions.

Officers then gave annual reports.

In a written report, Membership Chairman Jessie Barringer, said the League has 94 members, including 4 household memberships. Two members live in Stafford County and 13 love in Fauquier County.

Voter Services Director Carol Noggle referred members to the extensive report on voter services and advocacy that was emailed to the membership.

Volunteer Director Judy HIngle announced that online voter registration training is scheduled for June 26. More details will be announced soon. She listed the following opportunities for in-person voter registration: July 3, Dale City Independence Day Parade; Oct. 2, Manassas Fall Jubilee; Oct. 9, Manassas Latino Festival; Oct. 16, Haymarket Days. SignUp Genius announcements will be posted as details become available.

First Vice President Barbara Amster reported that an information sheet about our League was developed this year for distribution at events. A Top Ten for Fauquier was also developed.

Second Vice President Connie Gilman submitted written reports on general membership meetings, Sips and Civility sessions and book discussions held during the past year. Although we miss meeting in person, Zoom meetings have offered the advantage of greater participation and the availability of more speakers, she said.

President Carol Proven urged members to check out the League’s new website at *princewilliamlwv.org* and offer suggestions for improvement.

**Items Voting for Biennial**

Budget: Treasurer Lorraine Schooner reported that the budget remained largely unchanged from last year’s except for an increase for Internet costs and advertising. Outside funding also may be available for postcard projects. She pointed out that, while the 2021-22 budget shows a shortfall of income versus planned spending, the League is starting the year with $12,000 in its checking account before membership renewals. The budget passed on a show-of-hands vote.

Bylaws: Janet Gorn discussed the revision of bylaws sent to members. She explained the revision tightened language and added elements that are commonly part of LWV bylaws. The revision was approved by a show-of-hands vote.

2021-2022 Officers and Directors: Nomination Committee Chair Judy Hingle explained changes to the executive board proposed for the coming year. One new position, Action and Advocacy Director, remains unfilled.

The following slate of officers was proposed and elected by a show-of-hands vote:

President, Janet Gorn; Vice President, Constance Gilman; Meeting Co-Directors, Miriam Anver and Laura Feld-Mushaw; Secretary, Barbara Stokes; Treasurer, Patricia Freed; Membership Director, Jessie Barringer; Voter Services Director, Carol Noggle; Website Director, Carol Proven; Volunteer Director, Judy Hingle; Member Outreach Director, Cathy Ring.

President Carol Proven thanked the members of the new board for stepping forward to lead the League and thanked her team for their work on behalf of the League. Incoming President Janet Gorn cited accomplishments of the League in the past year, including increasing its footprint in the state League by its participation in affordable housing and election law studies and increasing its geographic area by changing its designation to Prince William-Fauquier area. She also cited of the need for active line members as well as leaders and urged members to set aside a few hours to volunteer at League events.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Submitted by Barbara Greiling