



League of Women Voters of the Prince William Fauquier Area

Board of Directors Meeting July 17, 2023

President Pat Reilly called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Those calling in: Cynthia Chambliss, Judy Hingle, Carol Proven, Carol Noggle, Trish Freed, Janet Gorn, Sheila Arrington, Paula Patrick, Barbara Amster and Barbara Greiling.

Minutes of previous meetings: Janet Gorn moved that the minutes of the 2021-2023 Biennium Meeting be approved as submitted, and Judy Hingle seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Pat Reilly pointed out two typos in the minutes of the June 20 board meeting: In the fourth paragraph, Colgan High School was misspelled and as was LWV-PWA. Janet Gorn moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. Judy Hingle seconded the motion, and it passed.

Pat Reilly *welcomed* new officers and board members, extending special thanks to those returning in the same or different roles. She also thanked Carol Proven for hosting an informal lunch for incoming and outgoing board members that allowed members to get to know one another. She also expressed her thanks to longtime leaders who share their expertise with the board.

Treasurer's report: Trish Freed reported that, as of July 11, there was \$15,966.89 in the checking account and \$2,394.10 in the Education Fund. Forty-one members have paid their dues for 2023-24. Trish asking about the upcoming cost for our League's share in the cost for Vote 411: Will the State League cover the \$300 cost? Carol Proven said it didn't appear as if it would.

Cynthia Chambliss asked for clarification about the \$550 allotted for debates and meetings in the annual budget. Trish replied that was intended to cover costs for events such as debates and booths at events where the League conducts voter education and registration. Such expenses can also be supplemented from the Education Fund. General meetings have been held via Zoom or at venues where there is no cost, with members providing refreshments. At Sips and Civility events, members pay for their own orders. There was a \$123.95 charge for the use of the Manassas Park Community Center for the Biennium Meeting.

Action item: Pat Reilly suggested that the events budget be revisited at the August board meeting.

President's Report: Pat Reilly, Carol Proven and Carol Noggle attended the State Convention and their report appeared in both our League's newsletter and the state newsletter. Pat also reported the State League has set a "moonshot goal" of eliminating the electoral college within 50 years. State President Joan Porte wants to improve communications among the chapters and, to that end, new guidelines for events have been issued. The State League also has suggested that chapters send letters to the chairs of government entities informing them of our interest and that Observer Corps members will be present at their meetings.

Membership: The need for follow-up notices and phone calls to encourage member to renew the membership was pointed out. Barbara Amster said there has been a problem with some new members not receiving emails and newsletters. Membership packets also need to be sent to new members.

Advocacy: Carol Noggle reported the NAACP has scheduled a July 18 press conference urging the Youngkin administration to be more open and clearer about its criteria for the restoration of voting rights. The Jail Board meets July 19 and Carol will attend. She also will attend a family re-entry orientation on July 20.

Voter Services: Several members have completed online voter registration training and have been certified by the state. Judy Hingle asked for clarification about requiring certification for voter registration events signups. Members must be certified to handle registration forms, but others are welcome to observe or to help with set-up, etc.

The president of the Young Democrats at Colgan High School has contacted the League about assisting with voter registration. Questions were raised about having a partisan organization involved. Pat Reilly will contact him to find out more. Carol Noggle also will reach out to the teacher who coordinates our visits to Colgan.

Barbara Amster reported that the So You Are 18 program and voter registration is being planned at Fauquier County high schools.

The NAACP has asked to list the League as a sponsor for its upcoming candidate debates. Questions were raised about whether there would be a monetary obligation or a need for volunteers.

Action item: A vote was deferred until August when there will be more information available on the planned NAACP debates.

Volunteer director's report: Judy Hingle reported the Manassas African American Heritage group will hold its annual festival on Aug. 5. Judy has sent in our registration but has not heard back. On Aug. 9, there will be an orientation for new Prince William County teachers. Judy will add both events to SignUp Genius when there is more information available. Paula Patrick said she had received information about a Fauquier event for new teachers and will give Judy the contact information.

Meeting co-directors: Cynthia Chambliss and Sheila Arrington asked for suggestions for venues and program topics for upcoming meetings.

Fauquier coordinator: Barbara Amster reported that she and Miriam Anver will be sharing the coordinator duties. The Saturday morning Black Lives Matter vigils continue in Warrenton, although the site has been moved to a nearby park. Barbara and Miriam are looking into participating in the First Friday events in Warrenton, but there is a question about the cost.

Action item: Vote on First Fridays deferred to August.

Other business: Janet Gorn reported that she had received notice that Facts for Voters fliers were ready for pickup while she was out of town.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by

Barbara Greiling

Recording secretary

