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Description automatically generated  **Meeting Tomorrow’s Challenges Today**

**Empowering Voters Defending Democracy**

               L**eague of Women Voters of the Prince William Fauquier Area**

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Description automatically generated **Board of Directors Written Procedure Meeting**

**Agenda June 20**, 2023

**Each One Bring One – The name of a prospective New Member and a proposed recruiting venue.** M**embership renewals and recruiting new members is the Number One Priority for the Board.**

**Business Session**

1. President’s Report (Attached)
2. Announcements

* LWVUS Lobby Corps Appointment

President Jane Gorn was appointed to the LWVUS Lobby Corps and is participating

In the full range of LWVUS legislative advocacy activities with the US Congress

1. Minutes May 23, 2023

**Move to Approve by Written Procedure** Minutes of May 23, 2023

1. Treasurers Report

* Audit Report (Attached)

1. Correspondence

* President’s Thank You Letter: Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn (Attached)
* President’s Response Letter: Colgan High School Young Democrats President (Attached)

1. Action Items

Request of Jacob Skufca, President, Young Democrats, Colgin High School – Deferred to the July Board of Directors Meeting. NOTE: The “*LWV-PWFA Policy on Cooperation with Other Organizations*” requires a specific Board decision/vote for each request. Although the LWV is supportive of outreach to students, a careful in-depth discussion is warranted because the Young Democrats are a partisan organization.

1. Reports

LWV-PWFA Delegation to the 2023 LWV-VA Convention – Deferred to the July Board of Directors Meeting

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L**eague of Women Voters of the Prince William Fauquier Area**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**June 20**,2023

**President’s Report**

Janet M. Gorn

Clearly the LWV-PWFA Board of Directors reached beyond its grasp and accomplish much in the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year to achieve a robust, successful program. The Board also strengthened its administrative Toolbox, by updating its *Bylaws* and adopting *Standing Rules*, as well as adopting and updating various Policy Guides, and revising the *Board of Directors Handbook*.

Having expanded its membership in the 2021-2023 Biennium to include two (2) counties, increasing its political footprint, in both Prince William County and Fauquier County, by encouraging active citizen participation in government, working to increase understanding of major political issues, and influencing public policy through education and advocacy activities, the League of Women Voters of the Prince Wiliam-Fauquier Area, provided much added value to the LWV Mission.

To increase the League’s membership, the League developed a recruitment program, “*Each One Bring One*,” including a promotion plan, with something to fit every member’s calendar and every member’s interests. The plan includes flyer distribution, news media ads, a color trifold brochure about our activities, and “*Why Join the LWV* ”palm cards and recruitment posters at community events participation and Community Colleges and universities. The year ended with a total membership of eighty (80).

The League expanded and developed a more robust media coverage of the LWV-PWFA League through Photos, Fact sheets, Press Releases, etc. throughout the community, the monthly *Constant Contact*, and the website. The League highlighted the importance of its founding with a quarter page color birthday ad in the *Prince William Times* on its February 14th Birthday.

The League believes “Informed Citizens are Engaged Voters.” To that end, in the Voter Education area, the LWV-PWFA league partnered with the *Committee of 100* by cohosting candidate fora. In 2022, the league cohosted a candidate forum for the 10th Congressional District, and in 2023 for the Gainesville District Prince William Board of Supervisors Special Election. In addition, the League engaged citizens through distribution of the “*VOTE411”* pre-election guide, “*Top Ten*” government information; and ”*Facts for Voters*.”

Member Education benefited from joining the Book Review Group and broadening views on issues of interest through reading both contemporary and previously published books. Meeting speakers and monthly webinars expanded member issue education e.g., *PWC Plastic Recycling, Elected Representative Experience in the Virginia General Assembly, PWC Environment and Energy Sustainability; Piedmont Environment Council and Land Use Data Bank activities; Responsibility of the new* PWC Environment and Sustainability Office;and *Book Banning and Censorship. The* League also benefitted as a member of the National Capital Area League (NCA) on broader regional issues of interest in Virginia, Maryland, and D.C.

The League conducted its “Know your Local Government” activities, through the LWV-PWFA Government Observer Corps, tracking agenda, attending meetings, etc. The League also organized two local Issue Study Committees to review and develop a proposed LWV-PWFA Policy Position: 1) the *Prince William County 2040 Comprehensive Plan and the Prince William County Racial and 2) Social Justice Commission Report*. In addition, the LW-PWFA has a volunteer participant on all four of the LWV-VA State Level Issue Study Committees [Money in Politics, Environmental Justice, Education Equity, Child Care]. The LWV-PWFA League similarly left its footprint at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, CSW-67 Meeting; President Janet Gorn was appointed as a member of the LWVUS Delegation to the CSW-67. The President was also appointed to the LWVUS Lobby Corps and is participating in the full range of League advocacy activities with the US Congress.

The LWV-PWFA continued conducting its long-standing robust Voter Registration Program throughout the Prince William and Fauquier community. During the school year, the League organized high school voter registration and tandem partnered with the Prince William and Fauquier Bar Association “*So You’re 19: Legal Rights and Responsibilities*” presentation, for all county high schools, conducted by State certified League volunteers. This resulted, in more than 2000+ registered students by the end of the school academic year. The voter registration program has expanded to NOVA Community Colleges, Senior facilities, National Voter Registration Day in selected libraries, and participation at 10 Community Events.

The League’s Community Outreach Program included: Sponsoring the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Martin Luther King, Jr. annual Oratorical Contest by presenting each of the six finalist with a book; coalition sponsorship in the Black Lives Matter Warrenton, Virginia weekly vigil; and sponsorship of the Prince William-County Re-Entry Council. The League also partners with the Prince William and Fauquier libraries with author and book signing events*, Campaign for Woman Suffrage* in Virginia, and a Sips and Civility Interactive Traveling Exhibit Event and presentation “*We Demand Women Suffrage in Virginia*.”

Last but not lease the League President submitted and it was accepted, to “Letters to the Editor” of the *Washington Post* and a Guest Column to *the Prince William Times,* on Governor Younkin lack of transparency in a change in Virginia policy on restoring civil rights to felons. The League ended the Fiscal Year on a high note at its Biennium Meeting with a presentation by the Keynote Speaker Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn, which greatly increased our knowledge of General Assembly activities on policy issues of interest, and the “Glass Ceiling” challenges to women leadership.

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L**eague of Women Voters of the Prince William Fauquier Area**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**May 23, 2023**

President Janet Gorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**President’s Report**:

The President congratulated the new 2023-2025 Board of Directors on accepting the leadership baton to dash to the to the next chapter in the League’s future, building on success of the past 16 years. To provide continuity from one Board to the next, the President reminded Board Members to carry out transition homework.

The President also complimented the Meeting Co-Directors, Miriam Anver and Laura Feld-Mushaw, the Membership Outreach Director Cathy Ring, and the Meeting Team for a very, very successful Biennium Meting.

The President reminded Board members to renew their membership and recruit a prospective new member. Membership is the responsibility of all Board members. A membership renewal drive letter is pending distribution to the full membership.

The President reported on the acceptance letter to participate in the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Health Expo Invitation; receipt of a NOVEC $500 donation; C-100 open invitation to co-host candidate fora; delay status to resubmit application for the LWV-USLWV Education Fund grant program until 2024; the LWV National Capital Area May 6, 2023 Convention; the LWV-VA Jue 2-4, 2023 Biennium Convention; the status of the Dominion Energy “Prince William Energy Engagement Group”; Re-energizing the LWV-PWFA Book Discussion Group for a summer reading program; and the status of the LWVUS 21st Century Transformation Roadmap that is on the LWVUS June Council Meeting agenda.

The President reminded the Board that there are “New LWVUS Policies on *League Responsibilities* and *Members Rights and Responsibilities“.* The LWVUS Governance Committee recently reviewed the League’s need for developing policies and educating leagues and its members and drafted proposed policies. To that end, the LWVUS Board of Directors approved (April 29, 2023) and issued policies (May 9, 2023) on “League Responsibilities” and “Members Rights and Responsibilities. “Board members were requested to become familiar with them. Both policies are included in the LWV-PWFA Board of Directors Handbook and were distributed to Board members in the “*From the Desk of the President*” email.

**Minutes**:

A motion was offered by Carol Proven and seconded by Trish Freed, to approve the March 21, 2023 Minutes, as amended, and the April 18, 2023 Minutes. Motion approved.

**Actions Items**:

* *Facts for Voters* trifold printing.

A Motion was offered by Cynthia Chambliss and seconded by Judy Hingle, to approve transfer $280 from the Checking Account to the 2022-2023 Operating Fund. The current Budget has only $120 allotted for the printing of the *Facts for Voters* trifold. Motion approved with the abstention of Carol Noggle.

A Motion was offered by Judy Hingle and seconded by Carol Proven, to approve the printing of 500 copies of the *Facts for Voters* Trifold by the Deem Printing Company not to exceed $400. Motion approved.

* Palm Card *Why Join the League of Women Vote printing.*

The Board tabled the Motion to print the *Why Join the Legue of Women Voters* Palm Cards to be deferred until the July Board Meeting. Board consensus supported Carol Proven reviewing text for updating and editing.

* Tent Banners purchase

The Board tabled the Motion to print new tent banners deferred until the July Board Meeting. Estimated cost ranged between $50-$140. NOTE: The new tent has arrived ($148) and is ready for use. Two other League members offered unused tents to be used so that both ends of the county can be covered.

**Reports:**

* Distribution of League Membership Roster

The Board discussed the option to distribute the Membership Roster (without contact information) to the full membership. Consensus supported deferring further discussion until the July meeting.

* Board of Directors Toolkit

Carol Proven reported that all of the documents in the Board of Directors Toolkit are now uploaded to the website. The Membership Roster is not included; because the website is accessible by the public.

**June 2023 Board of Directors Meeting**:

The regularly schedule third Tuesday is Primary Election Day. June is a busy month. After a discussion of alternative dates, consensus supported Sunday, June 25 in- person meeting at an appropriate venue. Cathy Ring volunteered to research a venue.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

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Treasurers Report

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**Auditors Report**

Grace F. White

AUDITORS’ OPINION STATEMENT

I have examined the accounts of the LWV-PWFA as of 30 June 2022 and the related Treasurer’s report, budget, and Quicken ledger for income and expenses for the period 1 July 2021 through 30 June 2022. My examination included such tests of the accounting records and other such audit procedures as I considered necessary. In my opinion, the Treasurer’s report and accompanying budget and Quicken ledger report present fairly the financial position of the LWV-PWFA as of 30 June 2022 and its revenues collected and expenses paid for the period then ended. I also reviewed reports of income and expenses for the period 1 July 2022 through 12 April 2023, although this was not a full fiscal year period, and the review was limited to confirming acceptable accounting practices. Grace F White Auditor

AUDITOR COMMENTS: I noted one reimbursement check - #1283 - issued by the Treasurer to herself without specific written approval of the president. The expenditure was appropriate, and a receipt was provided to me. Only the lack of express approval of the president for reimbursement by the Treasurer to herself was questioned as a violation of sound accounting practices. This has been pointed out to the Treasurer and she concurs such approval will be obtained for any such self-reimbursements in the future. I also noted the change in the treatment of PayPal expenses between the FY22 budget and the FY23 budget - from recording the full membership amount received in one line item and noting the PayPal processing fees in a second line item to recording only the amount received from PayPal. This appears to be a sound decision, since the processing fee is deducted by PayPal prior to funds being made available for transfer to the bank, thus never actually being received into the LWV-PWFA bank account. Should any question arise, reports are available from PayPal detailing processing charges collected over a specified period of time.

I certify that I am a LWV-PWFA member in good standing and held no office during the period 1 July 2021 through 12 April 2023.



**League of Women Voters® of Virginia**

**Prince William – Fauquier Area**

**www.princewilliamlwv.org**

May 24, 2023

Eileen Filler-Corn

**Board of Directors**

**2021-2023**

***President***

*Janet M. Gorn*

***Vice President***

*Connie Gilman*

***Recording Secretary***

*Cynthia Chambliss*

***Treasurer***

*Patricia Freed*

***Membership Outreach Director***

*Catherine Ring*

***Membership Director***

*Lisa Grant*

***Voter Services Director***

*Carol Noggle*

***Volunteer Director***

*Judy Hingle*

***Meeting Co-Directors***

*Miriam Anver*

*Laura Feld-Mushaw*

***Media Relations Director***

*Patricia Reilly*

***Communications Director***

*Carol Proven*

***Fauquier Unit Director***

*Ruthann Litchford*

[lwvpwfa@gmail.com](mailto:lwvpwfa@gmail.com)

[*www.princewilliamlwv.org*](http://www.princewilliamlwv.org)

41st District

Virginia House of Delegates

RE: LWV-PWFA Biennium Meeting Invitation

Dear Delegate Filler-Corn,

On behalf of the League of Women Voters of the Prince William-Fauquier Area I again thank you for your presentation at our May 21st Biennium Meeting at the Manassas Park Community Center. It was most informative and greatly increased our members’ knowledge of the League Policy Positions on issues of interest.

The League’s Advocacy and Education Mission is well known. We advocate fair elections, and open and accessible government. The League believes informed educated citizen involvement makes a visible difference. As part of a network of dedicated League women serving as community leaders, our members use their experience, skills, and education, in making Democracy work, and creating lasting positive change in ensuring our community governments are fair, vibrant, and strong.

As you are aware to influence public policy, on a local, State, and National level, the Leagues engages in advocacy and educational activity through dissemination of information to Government officials, the public and League members as well as advocacy. The LWV-VA Policy Positions (legislative priorities), the official statement setting forth the League point view, are available in “*Positions for Actions*.” For this biennium, the LWV-VA State League is conducting additional four Studies*: Environmental Justice*, *Child Care*, *Education Equity*, and *Money in Politics,* which will be added to the current Positions for Actions after the State Convention in June. The League’s advocacy can only include those issues the League has studied and adopted a position. I am inclosing a copy for your information.

Our advocacy influence also includes representing LWV policy positions through public media. A recent example is the LWV-PWFA *Washington Post* Letter-to-the Edior on “*Transparency on voting Rights*” regarding felon re-entry published March 30, 2023 (See attached).

Local Leagues likewise carry on public policy advocacy in their geographic

areas, conducting studies and adopting Local League or Regional policy

positions. The LWV-PWFA is conducting two Studies: *2040 Comprehensive*

*Plan Study* and *Racial Justice Report Study.*

Thank you again for your presentation, I am sincerely yours,

**Janet M. Gorn**, President

The League of Women Voters of the Prince William Fauquier Area

Attachment

***Washington Post***

**Letter to the Editor**

Published March 30, 2023

[Editorial Page A-22]

**“Transparency in Voting Rights”**

It was very troubling to learn in the March 24 Metro Article “VA Tightened Policy on Restoring Right to Vote” of the absence of transparency in the change by Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) in restoring civil rights to Virginians who have served time for a felony conviction. It is more troubling to learn that the revised process lacks specific criteria and has resulted in greatly reduced numbers of people having their rights restored. This disenfranchises those who have paid for their crime.

Secretary of the Commonwealth Kay Coles James (R), on a March 22, responded to Senator Lionel Spruill, Sr. (D-Chesapeake), chairman of the Virginia Senate Privileges and Elections Committee, who asked on behalf of a constituent whether Mr. Youngkin changed state policy for restoring rights to felons who had served their time: Former inmates “are informed upon release the recommendation of applying and given a paper application.”

The governor did not provide even minimal transparency. It should not take a letter from an elected representative to bring to light a major change in an important government policy that affects thousands of Virginians.

The League of Women Voters supports the automatic restoration of civil rights of felons, regardless of the nature of their crime, on their release from incarceration or on completion of probation or parole. The process should be easy to understand, accessible, transparent, and fair with information about the criteria made available to all. The process should be identical for all felons, regardless of the nature of their crime.

The governor has said that he believes in second chances. Perhaps he could give us all the first chance to know how the surreptitiously changed process works.

Janet M. Gorn, President

League of Women Voters of the Prince William-Fauquier Area



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**Meeting Tomorrow’s Challenges Today**

**Empowering Voters Defending Democracy**

Jacob Skufca, President

Young Democrats

Colgan High School

Thank you for your interest in the Prince William-Fauquier Area League of Women Voters (LWV-PWFA) and our Student Voter Registration Program at Colgan High School. The League’s Prince William County and Fauquier County high school Voter Registration Program is a well-established successful activity, that resulted in more than 2000 student registrations in the 2022-2023 school academic year.

**Board of Directors**

**2021-2023**

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The LWV-PWFA Voter Registration Program is conducted in tandem with the Prince William County Bar Association’s “*So You’re 18”Program;* in cooperation with each high school coordinator, for the government curriculum on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and the political culture; and consistent with each high school and Prince William County School Board policies. The Date(s) for conducting Voter Registration for each high school is coordinated by the PWC Bar Association with the high schools. Once the schedule is confirmed, the League’s Co-Voter Service Directors send out a *SignUpGeius* volunteer request. All League Voter Service Third Party volunteers are required to be certified by the State of Virginia.

Your Colgan High School Young Democrats Chapter’s planned fall nonpartisan educational activities will be a valuable contribution to get out the vote for the fall General Election. Although students register to vote, it is important to provide follow-up nonpartisan voting information and assist students in getting to the polls. The LWV-PWFA League has an assortment of nonpartisan educational materials that we can assist with this Chapter effort.

The LWV-PWFA *Policy on Cooperation with Other Organizations*  requires a specific Board decision for each request. Your request is on the July 2023 Board of Directors agenda for discussion. The 2023-2025 Biennium LWV-PWFA President, Pat Reilly [reillypat18@gmail.com], will assume the Office of President on July 1, 2023. She will provide further LWV-PWFA response to your interest.

Sincerely,

**Janet M. Gorn**

President

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From: Jacob Skufca <[jacobskufca@gmail.com](mailto:jacobskufca@gmail.com)>   
Subject: Voter Registration at PWC Public Schools   
  
Message Body:   
Hello, my name is Jacob, and I am the president of the Young Democrats chapter at Colgan High School. It is my understanding that every year, your organization joins high school students who will be eligible to vote at lunch in order to help them register. My chapter will be doing a lot of non-partisan voting process education come this fall, in order to ensure our youth, turn up at the next election. I was wondering when you came into Prince William public schools, and if my chapter could help coordinate the date for our school specifically, as well as help work the event. Thanks.