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

**Board of Directors Meeting November 21, 2023**

President Pat Reilly called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Those calling in: Cynthia Chambliss, Janet Gorn, Carol Proven, Carol Noggle, Trish Freed, Laura Feld-Mushaw, Donna Anstee, Cheryl Saggers, Jane Touchet, Miriam Anver, Cathy Ring and Barbara Greiling.

**Minutes:** Minutes for the September board meeting and for a special board meeting on Nov. 1 were approved by unanimous votes. Minutes for the October board meeting were tabled. Trish Freed will submit corrections.

**Treasurer’s report:** Trish Freed reported that, as of Nov. 14, there was $2,196.60 in the Education Fund and $13,382.28 in the checking account for a total of $15,578.88. Trish also reported our current insurance coverage does not include Directors and Officers Insurance. She is exploring options for coverage and will get two estimates and report back to the board.

Trish continues to attend LWV-VA meetings about the LWVUS transformation plan, which will affect the income local Leagues receive from dues. Currently, our League receives $22 from each $70 membership fee, with $16 going to LWV-VA and $22 to LWVUS. Under the transformation plan, we would receive only 20% for all memberships. The plan recommends a $75 membership fee, of which our League would get $15; LWV-VA, $35.25; and LWVUS, $24.75. Champion of Suffrage memberships ($100) now provide our League with $50 each, but under the new rules our share would be capped at $20. The transformation plan is not finalized and is projected to take effect in 2025.

While the LWV-VA has pledged to make up losses for the first two years, Trish pointed out the need to plan ahead to supplement our income. She suggested dropping the Champion of Suffrage membership category, and encouraging members to make a donation to our League instead. Fund-raising and grant applications were also discussed.

The board will revisit the issue at our January meeting.

**President’s report:** Pat thanked board members forattending the Nov. 1 about the Get-Out-the-Vote grant.   
Thanks to Trish Freed’s efforts and the cooperation of board members, our League was able to collect the full $1,000 reimbursement allowed under the grant. She reminded board members about the types of activities and expenses that qualify for GOTV reimbursement and urged them to keep receipts and send them to Trish Freed.

Pat thanked Sheila Arrington and Cynthia Chambliss for their efforts in planning a successful Tea for Democracy on Nov. 19. Speaker Jared Calfee, AARP’s state director for advocacy and outreach, answered every question about drug prices, nursing home conditions, home sales frauds and advocacy around these issues. More than 25 people attended and two new members joined. A basket raffle raised $176 for the Education Fund. The League recognized Janet Gorn for her leadership.

**Events coordinators**: Cynthia Chambliss recounted the problem she and Sheila Arrington faced with the Tea for Democracy. She had reserved space at the Bull Run Library for the event, but when she stopped by to doublecheck on Nov. 17, the library had reserved the room for the wrong date. After consulting with Pat and calling multiple other venues, Cynthia reserved space at Heritage Hunt Country Club in her own name. She and Pat covered the cost. There was discussion of the possibility of reimbursing them. It will be added to the January agenda.

**Book club:** Pat Reilly and Barbara Greiling were the only members to attend the book discussion of *Necessary Trouble: Growing Up at Midcentury* by Drew Gilpen Faust, which both recommended. Cathy Ring suggested that in-person meetings alternate with Zoom meetings to allow more people to participate. Barbara asked the meetings be put on SignUp Genius.

**Membership report:** Cathy Ring reported three people have joined.

**Voter** **Services:** Laura Feld-Mushaw reported that voter registration at the high schools will no longer be paired with the Bar Association’s *So You’re 18* presentations. She is working with the high schools to set up a new format.

**Advocacy:** Looking ahead to the 2024 General Assembly, Carol Noggle sent out information on navigating the General Assembly website and tracking legislation.

**Possible study group:** Joan Porte of LWV-VA recently held a Zoom meeting at which the Washington State League presented the findings from its study group on the loss of local news outlets and the damage to democracy. Pat Reilly suggested former journalists and other members of our League who may be interested hold a preliminary to discuss the report and the possibility of forming a study group. She will then report back to the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by

Barbara Greiling

Recording secretary