

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

**Board of Directors Meeting February 20, 2024**

Carol Proven, substituting for President Pat Reilly, called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. Those calling in: Janet Gorn, Carol Noggle, Trish Freed, Laura Feld-Mushaw, Cheryl Saggers, Judy Hingle, Kim McCusker. Cathy Ring, Liz Boddye and Barbara Greiling.

**Treasurer’s report:** Trish Freed reported the Budget Committee (Trish, Kim McCusker, Grace White and Ruthanne Litchford) met Feb. 13 to prepare the first draft of the fiscal 2024-2025 budget. Trish thanked Kim McCusker, who offered to donate “Vote Like a Girl” tee shirts to be sold at events this summer and fall. Proceeds from the tee shirt sales will generate income for the operating fund. Another budget meeting is planned for March 7 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Plans are for the board to vote on the budget at the March meeting. The proposed budget will be sent to members on April 5 and be voted on at the annual meeting on May 5.

Trish has received a bylaws template from LWVUS, but it does not address the changes to membership fees and categories involved in the upcoming LWVUS-mandated transformation plan. She will bring up the matter at the next LWVVA transformation meeting.

Trish will also contact NOVEC about a donation. Last year NOVEC donated $500 to our education fund.

**Minutes:** Minutes for the January board meeting were approved with two abstentions.

**President’s report:** In her written report to the board, Pat Reilly thanked those board members who made contributions to the operating fund to help cover the costs of the November meeting and the board for authorizing funds to cover the balance. She also thanked Kim McCusker for her donation of tee shirts and Trish Freed for seeking a donation from NOVEC.

Pat reported that State League President Joan Porte is creating a fund-raising committee that will share its proceeds with those local leagues that contribute at least two members’ time to the effort. The committee would research and write grant applications to corporations and foundations and our league would share in the donations. Janet Gorn volunteered to serve on the committee with Pat.

**Meeting co-chairs**: Cynthia Chambliss and Sheila Arrington were not in attendance, but several board members offered suggestions for possible speakers. Among those mentioned were Thalia Simpson of the Prince William Election Office, state Sen. Russert Perry, and Jill Vogel.

**Membership report:** Cathy Ring has sent a request to Northern Virginia Community College for League members to come to the Woodbridge and Manassas campuses for voter registration. She will also request that reminders be placed on the school messaging system.

**Advocacy:** Carol Noggle reported that the Re-entry Council will meet March 18 and that a Re-Entry Connections event is planned April 18 at 5:30 p.m. at Manassas Baptist Church. Information on restoration of rights will be provided. She added that bills have passed both chambers to make certain that absentee voting is available for those who are incarcerated and eligible to vote.

Laura Feld-Mushaw, Carol Proven and Carol Noggle had a conversation with Thalia Simpson of the Election Office about high school voter registration. They confirmed that the Virginia Code requires opportunities for high school voter registration.

**League Day**: Pat Reilly, Carol Noggle, Carol Proven, Laura Feld-Mushaw and Ruthanne Litchford attend League Day in Richmond on Feb. 7 and reported that it was successful and informative.

**Voter** **Services:** Carol Proven andLaura Feld-Mushaw reported that voter registration has been held at Freedom and Hylton high schools. We will also had a table Feb. 24 at the HBCU fair.

Trish Freed has asked for a list of upcoming festivals and events for which the League has to pay a fee. Judy Hingle said she would forward the information as soon as it is available.

**Unfinished business:** Carol Proven and Pat Reilly have discussed managing programs in a way that more members can be involved. Carol has proposed a program from our study group on land use to make us more aware of issues and plans. Pat would like to invite speakers she has met through Roundtables to tell us about their work. Nancy Morgan of Big Money out of VA was a suggestion. Board members pointed out that George Mason University has a speakers bureau, and Carol Proven reminded the board that LWVVA will also provide speakers. Laura Feld-Mushaw proposed that we try to arrange a tour of a data center. Liz Boddye said she might be able to help with that.

At League Day, the Loudoun LWV Chapter invited us to join a Zoom presentation of candidates for the June primary. Janet Gorn made a motion that we approve the request. Judy Hingle seconded the motion and it passed.

**Other business:** Janet Gornsaid the recent newsletter and Constant Contact communications were superb and thanked Carol Proven and Connie Gillman.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. The next board meeting will be March 19.

Submitted by

Barbara Greiling

Recording secretary