

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

**Board of Directors Meeting Oct. 15, 2024**

President Pat Reilly called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Those calling in: Carol Proven, Laura Feld-Mushaw, Catherine Ring, Carol Noggle, Judy Hingle, Grace White, Cythnia Chambliss, Kim McCusker, Jane Touchet, Cheryl Saggers and Barbara Greiling.

**Minutes:** Minutes for the September board meeting were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer’s report:** Treasurer Grace White received a new family household membership plus a $100 donation to the Education Fund. As of Sept. 30, 32 members had not renewed. Shari Oley, who has agreed to take over as treasurer, has had some health challenges and Grace agreed to continue as treasurer for the next few weeks. Pat and Shari will meet later this month to change over the accounts.

Carol Proven looked into the stamp to be used on the voter registration receipts. It must include the name of our League as well as a contact person, email and phone number. The cost would be about $25. Carol Proven or Laura Feld-Mushaw will be named on the stamp. Pat suggested that we also have a stamp to be used for Fauquier County registration with a Fauquier resident as the contact. She offered to be that contact.

Pat reminded board members to get receipts for Get Out the Vote efforts to Grace as soon as possible so that we can apply for a state grant for reimbursement. She reported we took in $260 in tee shirt sales at the Warrenton Fall Festival.

**President’s report:** Pat Reilly thanked Carol Proven for getting attractive and relevant messages to our members, Connie Gilman for the informative Fall Newsletter, and Judy Hingle for all her work on SignUp Genius, which allows members to participate in our many activities. She reminded members the consensus meeting for *The Inalienable Right to Vote* report will be Nov. 12 at 6 p.m. via Zoom. Slides from Deb Wake’s presentation as well as the report itself are available on our website. At the meeting, members are encouraged to express their feelings about the study’s findings and recommendations. Carol Proven has agreed to take notes, which will form a report back to the study group.

**Meeting Co-Chairs**: Cynthia Chambliss reported that she and Sheila Arrington have been looking to possible venues for upcoming meetings. She checked on the African-American Museum in the Plains but found that it is open only on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The board agreed to schedule a Sips and Civility social event in December. Cynthia will check the availability of sites for Dee. 8.

**Membership Records**: Jane Touchet reported that as of Oct. 15, we have 81 people listed on the membership database. Of these: nine are new members this year, 42 are members who have renewed, and 30 have not renewed. This gives us a total of 51 current active members. Thirteen are Champions for Suffrage, eight are household members. The breakdown by area: 19 members in Eastern PWC, 16 members in Western PWC, eight members in Manassas/Manassas Park, seven members in Fauquier/Culpeper County, and one member in Stafford County. A letter has been sent to those members who have not renewed, and Membership Outreach Director Catherine Ring will follow up with phone calls.

**Membership Outreach**: Catherine Ring offered to get in touch with NVCC Manassas offering to explain same-day registration on Election Day to students who missed the deadline for registration.

**Advocacy**: Carol Noggle brought members’ attention to the U.S. Department of Justice suit regarding Gov. Glenn Youngkin’s executive order removing suspected noncitizens from the voter rolls. She commended LWVVA’s work on the issue and its role in a second lawsuit challenging the removal as a violation of the National Voter Registration Act.

Carol also reported she will attend the Re-Entry Connections event on Oct. 17. The event, which is arranged by probation and parole officers and the Adult Detention Center staff, brings together community service groups to provide information to those recently released from incarceration about services available to them. The League offers restoration of rights information for those with felony convictions and voter registration for those with misdemeanor convictions. She urged board members to join her at such events.

**Voter** **Services**: In her president’s report, Pat noted the many events our League has participated in this month. She commended a Woodbridge High School student who analyzed her class to find out who was eligible to vote, encouraged them to register and, with her teacher, registered 70 new voters. Laura Feld-Mushaw heard about Penny while registering students at Woodbridge and asked to meet her. Laura will contact her teacher and get permission to contact the Prince William Times about a possible article on this enterprising young lady. Pat also noted FauquierNow.com has a photo of our booth, designed by Ruthann Litchfield, in a story about the Warrenton Fall Festival. There were four registrations at the festival, but volunteers handed out about 200 buttons and answered dozens of questions. Four volunteers staffed the booth all day because of a shortage of volunteers. There was a similar situation at the Manassas Fall Festival on the same day. Registration also continued this month at Laurel Ridge Community College in Fauquier.

Laura reported on our participation in a Prince William Social Services and NAMI event on Oct. 9 as well as Woodbridge High School voter registration on Oct. 10 and 11, followed by the Manassas Fall Festival on Oct. 12. Carol Proven reported on forums at Osbourn High School in Manassas on Oct. 14 and 15. On the first day, students heard from candidates for Manassas mayor, City Council and School Board. The next day featured candidates for the 10th Congressional District race and representatives from the Republican Party and the Party for Socialism and Liberation. A student served and moderator, and students submitted questions in advance and read them aloud at the event. There was one online registration each day.

**Volunteer Director**: Judy Hingle reported on five voter registration and information events held at Westminster retirement community in Woodbridge.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next board meeting will Nov.19. The November board meeting will be devoted to after-action reports and lessons learned from our many activities leading up to the election.

Submitted by

Barbara Greiling

Recording secretary