



League of Women Voters of the Prince William Fauquier Area

Board of Directors Meeting August 20, 2024

President Pat Reilly, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Those calling in: Carol Proven, Carol Noggle, Laura Feld-Mushaw, Judy Hingle, Grace White, Sheila Arrington, Cythnia Chambliss, Lorraine Schooner, Kim McCusker, Cheryl Sagers, Jane Touchet and Barbara Greiling.

Minutes: Minutes for the July board meeting were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Grace White received six membership renewals in July. The checking account balance as of July 31 was \$16,314.97. Our League needs a new treasurer as Grace will be moving soon. President Pat Reilly asked will consult the Nominating Committee. She also asked for any suggestions from board members.

President's report: Pat Reilly pointed out that the race for president has changed dramatically in the last month, but the League's mission remains the same. We want to take advantage of the enthusiasm on all sides and remind people to vote, she said. A major part of that effort is National Voter Registration Day on Sept. 17. On that day, our League will staff tables at seven Prince William Libraries. Judy Hingle has posted the schedule on SignUp Genius. As both Laura Feld-Mushaw and Carol Proven will be out of town, coordinators are needed to distribute and collect materials for the libraries in the East and West areas of the county. Barbara Greiling has volunteered to handle the eastern libraries, but a coordinator is needed for the western libraries. Each site will need one member per shift who has completed state voter registration training. Twenty-two members are certified. Other volunteers can help with distributing voting information. Fauquier Unit chief Barbara Amster has made arrangements for our League to have a table at the Main Library in Warrenton.

As one of our priorities is registering new voters, Laura is working with the Prince William County high schools to register students. We will no longer be able share the So You Are 18 Program with the Bar Association, but we will be allowed to set up tables in the back of the auditorium at those events. We are hoping the lawyers will allow us a few minutes to distribute and explain the forms so students can drop them off on their way out.

Sept.17 is also the date for a combined debate for the 7th and 10th Congressional Districts. We are partnering with the NAACP for the debate and will contact those in charge to determine what help is needed. When we have that information, Judy Hingle will post it on SignUp Genius.

Meeting Co-Directors: Sheila Arrington and Cynthia Chambliss are looking at the African-American Museum in The Plains as a possible venue for an upcoming meeting.

The Kick Off meeting, Tea of Democracy, is Sept. 8 at the McCoart Building. The speaker will be Deb Wake, chair of the Voting Rights Study and former president of LWV VA. Members have volunteered to bring desserts, and several board members volunteered to take care of tea, water, paper goods, paper goods and more.

Membership: Jane Touchet reported 30 membership renewals and 4 new members.

Advocacy: Carol Noggle outlined areas that under the advocacy director's responsibility, including:

Re-Entry Council: There are issues that may need some influence on certain bodies;

Re-Entry Connections: Our advocacy needs to ensure that those being released have full information and that the process follows proper information;

PW Jail Board: Monitoring the management is important to learn if League Positions are being supported;

Electoral Boards and Registrars: Monitor procedures to assess compliance with election laws and voting rights;

County Boards of Supervisors: Monitor to assess management of certain issues -- housing land use, protection of environment;

School Boards: Monitor and address boards on items related to Positions of LWV-VA.

Carol reported she is working on Vote411 and asked for suggestions for questions for candidates. Carol and several volunteers will be going to Harper's Station retirement community on Aug. 21 to assist with absentee ballot requests and voter registration.

Pat called board members' attention to a letter to Governor Youngkin from LWV VA and more than two dozen other concerned organizations regarding Executive Order 35, which would drop 6,000 voters from the rolls, ostensibly because they are not eligible to vote. Among other things, the letter requests the names of those dropped, information on what procedures and sources were used to identify these individuals, what opportunities were given to targeted individuals to contest their removal, what safeguards are in place to prevent disenfranchisement of eligible voters, and what steps were taken to ensure that naturalized citizens were not erroneously removed.

Voter Services: Laura Feld-Mushaw reported the League has been contacted by the Top Ladies of Distinction offering their help with National Voter Registration Day. The consensus among board members was a League member with voter registration training should be present at each shift, but additional help would be welcomed. In the past, we have received help from members of Delta Sigma Theta and Alpha Kappa Alpha sororities, thanks to League members active with those groups. It was moved and seconded that help from members of Top Ladies of Distinction as well as our former sorority partners, be welcomed as long as they have received state voter registration and that a VR-certified League member is present on each shift. The motion passed without opposition. Laura will contact the groups and send them a link to SignUp Genius.

Judy Hingle reported that a voter information event will be held Sept. 16 from 4 to 5 p.m. at Westminster retirement community. Keith Scarborough, a member of the Prince William Board of Elections, will speak on voting integrity. Only a couple of volunteers are needed but interested members are welcome to attend. On Sept. 23 voter registration and help with absentee ballot requests will be offered for residents from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m. On Oct. 7, voter registration and assistance with absentee ballots will be offered for residents of the assisted living facility. Judy will post the schedule on SignUp Genius.

Carol Proven reminded the board that the Dale City Christian Church event originally scheduled for July had been rescheduled for Sept. 21. Because of the number of volunteers needed for National Voter Registration Day and the debate that week, it was moved and seconded that we decline the invitation. The motion passed unanimously. Cathy Ring has also received a request for voter registration at NVCC's Manassas campus for Sept. 19.

Judy Hingle asked about the possibility of a posted electronic calendar that would include only those events that the board has agreed to staff. Carol Proven will look at what calendaring capabilities are available to us.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m. The next board meeting will Wednesday, Sept. 18.

Submitted by

Barbara Greiling

Recording secretary

