

Minutes LWVCC Steering Committee Meeting

Via Zoom

16 November 2021

Attending: Rachel Avila, Sara Bressler, Laura Brown, Sue Floyd, Bonnie Goble, Cindy Hahn, Jan Koch, Sue Sargo, Sue Werner

Call to Order - 12:01 pm by Jan Koch

Treasurer's Report - Sue Floyd presented the monthly report. A donation of \$1,000 was received from Ruth Hollender via Ameritrade. Despite attempts to locate Ms. Hollender in order to send a thank you, Ameritrade would not disclose information about the donor. Jan will include in the monthly update to see if any members have information on Ms. Hollender. Laura Brown made a motion to accept. Cindy Hahn seconded. The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

Minutes - Jan Koch has provided copies of the minutes to committee members prior to the meeting. No changes were made. Sue Werner made a motion to accept. Cindy Hahn seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Membership - Cindy Hahn reported that current membership stands at 92, including 4 new members: 76 voting members with two "additional or associate" members; 3 lifetime members and 13 students.. A dues reminder for 2022 will be sent December 1 as the staggered dates of memberships and use of PapPal pose challenges to tracking.

Voter's Guide - Sara Bresler reported that the publisher of the Gazette did not include a write-in candidate who met LWVCC criteria to be included because the Gazette's policy is not to include anyone not printed on the ballot. Going forward, Sara will inform candidates of the Gazette's policy and that write-in candidates who meet LWVCC criteria will be included in the CDT version of the Guide. Some discussion was held as to how other leagues publish their guides. Sara will research that and report back. Laura Brown suggested placing an ad in both the CDT and Gazette to thank the papers for their partnership in printing the Guides as a public service. Sara will draft an ad. Sue Sargo will get price quotes from both papers and report back.

Candidates' Night - Sue Werner reported on a meeting that she, Laura Brown and Sara Bresler had with Kris Eng, chair of the CC Republican party. Kris reported that she and the Republican candidates felt that neither the LWVCC nor the candidate questions were nonpartisan. However, neither she nor the candidates submitted any questions themselves. Discussion was held regarding possible ways to encourage Republican participation in Candidates' Night. One possibility suggested was to invite the chair of both the Democrat and Republican parties to each choose 3 members to meet with LWVCC screeners to review and choose questions for each race. Further discussion is needed. Sue Werner will send a thank you to Kris.

Voter Education

High School - Sara Bresler reported that voter registration forms were delivered to all CC high schools. Schools are nor permitting in-person contact.

Campus - Laura Brown reported that PSUwas involved in a study by Tufts University and received recognition for increased voter registrations and voter turnout. PSU is planning to implement a program that allows students to register to vote or to make changes to their registration when they register for classes. There are currently 2 students interested in working on reactivating LwV PSU. Laura has received requests from other state leagues who are interested in starting campus groups.

Senior Outreach and Voter Registration - Sue Sargo reported that all eight of the fall in-person voter registration events were well received. Plans for the spring voter registration events will begin in March. Multiple volunteers assisted with these events and their help was invaluable. All of them expressed interest in future assistance. In terms of the Gazette distribution of the Voter's Guide, Sue will have discussion with Bernie Oravec to determine whether they currently deliver or would be willing to deliver to: all senior housing facilities, both MOW organizations, all 6 Senior Centers and all 10 food banks in the county. If so, we may not need additional copies.

Website - Laura Brown reported that the Republican URL was updated. Our banners have been removed and stored until next spring. Laura will request stats on website usage from Lori. Sara Bresler will request analytics on usage of VOTE411.

Old Business: Jan Koch reported that the December 14 meeting via Zoom at noon will have Beth Lechman as guest speaker. Beth is the new Centre County Director of Elections. This meeting will replace the 12/21 monthly board meeting.

New Business: Jan Koch attended a state league meeting of the Government Policy Committee, chair Susan Gobreski. Jan will invite a member to attend the monthly meeting.

Adjourn: Jan adjourned the meeting at 1:29pm.