



**Minutes**  
**LWVCC Steering Committee Meeting**  
Via Zoom

19 April 2022

**Attending:** Rachel Avila, Marsha Bierly, Sara Bresler, Laura Brown, Peg Dobrinska, Sue Floyd, Cindy Hahn, Bonnie Goble, Jan Koch, Jenna Lugo, Sue Sargo

**Call to Order:** 12:03 pm by Jan Koch

**Minutes:** Minutes were sent with the agenda prior to the meeting. Sue Sargo called for changes needed. Hearing none, Sue Floyd made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Laura Brown seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sue Floyd presented the month report. A duplicate member payment through PayPal was returned to the member. Sue reported that this sometimes happens with PayPal for no apparent reason. Sue Floyd called for questions/changes. Sara Bresler made a motion to accept the report and Laura Brown seconded. The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously. Jan asked Sue F. to prepare the Annual Budget for the May meeting so that it could be discussed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Cindy Hahn reported a total of 86 members: 59 Voting; 3 Lifetime; and 24 student members with three new student members since the last meeting. Since student members do not pay dues at this time, they will not be included in the PMP but will be considered voting members.

**Voter's Guide:** Sara Bresler reported that Vote411 has been updated and is now completely populated. The Guide has been submitted to both the CDT and Gazette for publication May 1, May 5 and May 12 respectively. The Gazette will publish two editions, Federal and State candidates. Sue Sargo requested 350 extra copies of each Gazette edition to provide to the 6 senior facilities who requested an in person voter registration event. Jenna Lugo, PSU-LWV, does not need copies of either paper but would prefer something with a QR code for student use. Laura Brown found that Vote411 does already have that.

**Candidates' Night:** Sue Werner absent. Jan Koch reported that there would not be a Candidates' Night for the primary election as there are no contested local races. The prior opponent of G.T. Thompson has been disqualified.

**Voter Education:**

**High School:** Sara Bresler reported that voter registration forms will be distributed to county high schools this week.

**PSU:** Jenna Lugo reported their meeting was yesterday. They are holding an external event with other women-forward groups at the HUB called Empowering Women in Law. The groups are meeting to design a poster for display in the HUB. Sydney Smichnick, Internal President of PSU-LWV, submitted an introductory letter to the new PSU incoming President, Neeli Bendapuli. A pottery making event will be held at 1000 Degrees on 4/24/22 and all LWVCC members are invited to join the group. Another event the group will host is a virtual poster making contest with Starbucks gift cards as prizes. Tee shirts will be sold during fall semester. Jenna has accepted an internship with the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.. Giselle Concepcion, External President of PSU-LWV, has accepted an internship with the LWVPA. Laura Brown reported on the wonderful and extensive Collegian article regarding PSU-LWV.

**Senior Outreach and Voter Registration:** Sue Sargo reported that 6 in-person events were held at senior centers plus 3 events at mixed-age communities. Results: checked 25 voter registration status, completed 6 new registrations, updated 3 registrations, completed 16 mail-in ballot applications and answered at least 50 voting questions. Held a Voter Registration Training session with LWV-PSU for 9 members plus their advisor. Sue also reported that our Voter Deadline Flyer and mail-in ballot and absentee ballot applications have been distributed electronically to 39 community partner organizations and 17 senior living facilities. Flyers have also been delivered to all 10 area food banks (1,450 clients) and 24 of 26 county post offices. Sue expressed appreciation to the 8 volunteer members who assisted with all of these events: Rachel Avila, Laura Brown, Jean Dietrich, Jim, Dietrich, Cindy Hahn, Sharon Hyde, Sharon Manno, and Rick Sargo.

**LWVPA Liaison:** Peg Dobrinski reported that the meeting will be tonight at 7pm and she will attend. Peg will provide a summary and call to action to Jan to share with membership. Peg reported that the LWVPA supports continuation of mail-in ballots and countywide drop boxes. She will check whether LWVPA supports satellite voting places, such as the BJC, which was heavily used for early voting in 2020.

**Website:** Laura Brown reported that she has added the Spotlight article on the gubernatorial candidates to our website. She asked for additional input on the website front page. She and Jenna will encourage students to utilize Vote411 to search out their own sample ballots. Laura reported that there are still address errors sometimes for students living in the dorms.

**Social Media:** Jan Koch reported that our Voter Deadlines flyer has been posted on Facebook and Instagram. The GOP gubernatorial candidates are having a debate tonight with coverage by Spotlight and YouTube. There will also be Senate candidates' debates on April 24 and 25.

**Letter to the Editors:** Sue Sargo reported that an Op-Ed was sent to both the CDT and Gazette regarding Get Out the Vote information covered on our flyer. CDT printed the letter last week and the Gazette will print May 5 and 12 with our Guide. Jan and Sue asked for ideas for future LTEs or Op-Ed pieces: how to research candidates was suggested.

### **Old Business:**

**Banners:** Laura Brown reported that our add-on banners have been put up by State College Borough; they will be removed after the primary election. Sue Sargo will draft a thank you letter to the borough who does not charge for this service. Discussion was held on future banners. The following proposals were voted on: a large cross-street banner for use in Bellefonte, cost approx \$640, in fiscal year 2023; 9 replacement add-on or corrected banners, cost approx \$23 per banner, for fiscal year 2022; and a pop-up banner for use at PSU, cost approx \$100, for fiscal year 2022. Additional cross street banners will be considered beginning in fiscal year 2024 for Millheim, Centre Hall, Philipsburg, and perhaps the Bald Eagle area. Sue Sargo made a motion to accept these proposals and Bonnie Goble seconded. The proposals were approved unanimously.

**WPSU-FM Telethon:** Jan Koch thanked fellow volunteers Rachel Avila, Peg Dobrinski and Alice Richardson. Jan plans to participate again and would like to encourage LWVCC members to call in.

**Postcards:** Laura Brown provided her 250 GOTV postcards to LWV-PSU group to use for students. Sue Sargo will provide 250 GOTV postcards to any willing members to distribute to area businesses and realtors for their customers. Rachel Avila and Jan Koch volunteered to help.

### **New Business:**

Jan Koch proposed the next month's meeting be changed to May 24 since May 17 is the primary election. The proposed change was approved unanimously. Sara Rafeez, Director of State College Spotlight branch, will be invited to speak at the Annual Meeting. Carol Kuniholm will be considered for a fall presentation. Jan and Bonnie Goble are planning to send out a Doodle Poll to our membership next week regarding their preferred dates, times, locations or in-person v. virtual Annual Meeting.

Jan Koch will attend the LWVUS National Convention June 23-26. LWVCC will also pay for a student league member to attend virtually, approx cost \$300.

Jan Koch and Sue Sargo have been invited to meet with representatives of the State College NAACP organization to discuss possible outreach events. They will meet April 26 at 1:00.

**Adjourn:** 1:13 pm

**Next meeting:** May 24 at noon via Zoom