



Minutes

LWVCC Steering Committee Meeting

20 July 2021

Attending: Sara Bresler, Laura Brown, Cindy Hahn, Jan Koch, Sue Sargo, Sue Werner

Call to Order – Jan Koch called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm.

Minutes - The minutes from the May 25th Steering Committee Meeting and June 15th Annual Meeting were presented. Cindy Hahn made a motion to accept both sets of minutes; Sara Bresler seconded. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Sue Floyd, absent but provided the budget in advance. Jan reviewed and there were no questions. Laura Brown reported that Sharon Manno had done a preliminary audit as requested previously. She found no issues but will do a more in depth audit soon. Sue Werner made a motion to accept; Cindy Hahn seconded. The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously.

Committee Reports

Membership - Cindy Hahn

Cindy reported there have been two new members since our last meeting, bringing the total membership to 70. Deanna Behring is set to phone the eight new members so far this year to welcome them and engage them with the organization. She will report back to Cindy.

Voter's Guide - Sara Bresler

Sara reported that Vote411 will be updated with a simplified platform in the near future. Until that is done, the process is cumbersome and complicated. She does not see a need to train anyone else on this outdated system until the update is completed. She also reported that Julie Gittings is not available. There was discussion about the voters guide that the CDT published online for the Primary election. It might be confusing for the public to have two versions. We discussed possibly partnering with the CDT to publish only one joint version. Sara will contact Jessica McAllister to discuss.

Candidate's Night - Sue Werner

Cindy Hahn reported that the current ruling on use of the SC Borough Building is that there will not be any outside in-person meeting held there for the remainder of 2021. Borough meetings are being held in a hybrid fashion: in-person and virtual for both staff and the public.

Sue Werner reported that Lydia Vandenberg has agreed to assist her with Candidates' Night preparations. She also reported that Candidates' Night will need to be over two nights due to the number of candidates. Discussion was held re whether to ask the borough if Candidates' Night could be held there without an audience, just the candidates, CNET and LWVCC staff present. The advantage would be fewer technical issues; the disadvantage would be that if candidates are not comfortable meeting in-person, there is no way to hold a hybrid meeting like the borough does without borough staff. Cindy Hahn and Sue Werner will discuss further and reserve the room, if allowed, for two nights in October. Questions from the public will continue to be sent to LWVCC virtually.

Voter Education

High School - Sara Bresler and Marion Sheridan will distribute voter registration forms to all Centre High schools for seniors. They have also volunteered to staff the LWVCC table at Lion Bash on 9/8/21 from 5pm-8pm and will need forms there along with applications for absentee ballots and mail-in-ballots and LWVCC membership forms. CNET will broadcast and stream Lion bash.

Campus - Laura Brown reported that she has meetings scheduled with Sarabeth Bowmaster, President of the PSU-LWVCC chapter, and with UPUA (University Park Undergraduate Association). After those meetings, she plans to request a meeting with Tim Balliett, Director, Center for Character, Conscience and Public Purpose, who manages all voting related information on campus.

Senior Outreach - Sue Sargo reported that she will begin scheduling informational sessions at senior living facilities in August. Jean Dietrich has said she would help. Sue will reach out to members who previously indicated they would help with voter registration events throughout the county to get those setup and staffed. Sue and Jan Koch will evaluate and repack the outreach boxes for those events and Lion Bash.

Website - Laura Brown reported that she had updated our homepage. She requested that members of the steering committee review their bios and let her know of any changes they want. Laura also reported that she has not identified a webmaster trainee and will continue to work with Lori Weider.

Old Business:

Annual Meeting - Everyone enjoyed our speaker, Christopher Baxter, of SpotlightPA, who gave an insightful look at their nonpartisan reporting of PA legislators and legislation. The business portion of the meeting ran smoothly.

National Convention - Jan Koch attended virtually and reported that DEI and open primaries are active areas of advocacy. Both state and national are forming speakers bureaus and the LWVPA will be conducting quarterly calls with local leagues.

Internship - Local and CEEP (Campus Election Engagement Project) - Jan Koch and Laura Brown are meeting with CEEP representatives this week and will report back.

New Business:

Review of Candidates' Night and Voter's Guide Coverage Policy - After lengthy discussion of how best to determine which candidates to invite to participate in Candidates' Night and the Voter's Guide, it was decided to keep the current policy but to better advertise and explain that policy to the public.

Change to By-Laws - Jan Koch reported that neither state nor national have changed their by-laws yet regarding associate membership; therefore, we cannot change our by-laws yet .

PA District 12 LWV - Jan Koch reported that Lewisburg and Lycoming leagues would like us to join them in writing a joint letter to Rep. Fred Keller to invite him to dialogue with the League chapters in his district. .

November Election Outreach Plan - 1)Banners - Laura Brown is researching if Bellefonte will allow us to hang add-on banners to advertise centrecountyvotes.com. She has already submitted the request to hang banners in SC. 2)Brochure - Laura Brown will work with Lori Weider to draft a LWVCC brochure for distribution. 3) Postcards - Laura Brown suggested that we hold off on postcards this fall and use the funds for the 2022 election cycle.

Future Speakers - Laura Brown suggested that since former Rep. Charlie Dent is on campus this year, it would be great to have him speak at one of our meetings and record it.

Adjourn - Jan Koch adjourned the meeting at 1:15pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 17, 2021