



Minutes

LWVCC Steering Committee Meeting

Via Zoom

24 May 2022

Attending: Rachel Avila, Sara Bresler, Laura Brown, Sue Floyd, Bonnie Goble, Jan Koch, Kathleen O'Connell, Sue Sargo, Sue Werner

Call to Order: 12:01 pm by Jan Koch

Minutes: Minutes were sent with the agenda prior to the meeting. Sue Sargo called for any changes needed. Hearing none, Sue Werner made a motion to accept the minutes and Bonnie Goble seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Sue Floyd presented the monthly report. Jan Koch noted that the fee for the virtual National LWV Convention had recently been reduced to \$100. Laura Brown reported that Jena Lugo would likely not be attending the convention. Sue F. noted that the three savings bonds will mature in January 2023. She had spoken with the bank about how best to handle those funds. The suggestion was to possibly put at least some of the money in a CD. Further discussion will be needed.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Cindy Hahn absent but reported no changes

Voter's Guide: Sara Bresler reported that the Guide had been published by the CDT and Gazette in Centre County and also in the Lock Haven paper. There was a discussion regarding a LTE in the CDT from a person who liked the Guide information but was upset about the format which broke up the information. The CDT has complete control of the format and Sara will talk with Jessica McCallister to see if the format could be changed to have the information be presented more cohesively.

Candidates' Night: Sue Werner reported that only one night for the fall will be needed as there are only a few local candidates. She hopes that we will be able to hold the event in person for the candidates; it is unclear at this time if there will be a live audience. Sue does not yet know who the new Centre County chair of Republican is. Usually, the precinct chairs meet and elect the county chair and it is unclear if that has happened yet.

Voter Education

High School: Sara Bresler reported that Marion Sheridan has been working with the SCASD sponsor of the Key Club which is interested in holding a competition with Bellefonte HS for the most voter registration by a high school. All forms have been distributed for this year and will begin again in fall.

LWV at PSU – Jenna Lugo absent. Laura Brown reported that the most recent meeting with Tim Baillet was cancelled by Tim due to illness. Laura reported an extremely low voter turnout at the HUB for the primary. Laura also reported that Sharon and Jeff Hyde are working with PSU administration to encourage voter education, registration and voting among students.

Voter Registration and Outreach – Sue Sargo reported that voter registration was completed prior to the primary election. LWVCC has received two new invitations to hold voter registration drives on Pride Day, June 11 and Juneteenth, June 18. There is no charge for a table for 6/18 but there is a charge of \$75 for 6/11. Sue had contacted Bill Vandenberg to see if we can share a table with Fair Districts but has not heard back from him. Rachel Avila will follow up with Fair Districts. There are 5 volunteers for 6/18: Patty Stephens, Alice Richardson, Jan Koch, Jean Deitrich and Jim Miller. They will work in teams of two for 2-hour shifts. NAACP is trying to recruit at least one of their members for each shift.

Communication

LWVPA: Peg Dobrinska absent. Jan Koch reported that the National and State leagues have issued a call to action regarding abortion rights and the ERA.

Website: Laura Brown reported that she is working with Lori to clean out the Primary election info but keep the boxes she had made including a new one for election results. Laura placed links to all of Spotlight PA's election and voting info on our website. Laura suggested that we approach Spotlight on partnering with them on our Voter's Guide.

Social media: Jan Koch reported that she had pushed voting information out to our social media platforms prior to the primary election.

Letters to the Editor: Sue Sargo reported that last month it was suggested that we submit an LTE regarding where people could find information about candidates. Sue requested nonpartisan suggestions from the committee. Committee of 70 and Spotlight PA were suggested as solid sources.

Old Business:

Banners: Laura Brown reported that she will work with Lori and hopefully another member on the content for the banners next month. The plan is to have 9 replacement/corrected small banners for State College, a large street wide banner for Bellefonte, and a pop-up banner for campus this fall.

Annual meeting: Jan Koch reported that the meeting is set for 5:30 PM on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 with guest speaker Carol Kuniholm on Fair Districts new program "Fix Harrisburg". Jan will ascertain whether Carol will agree to record her presentation.

New Business:

Nomination Committee Report: Sue Werner reported that Bonnie Goble will replace Laura Brown as Vice Presiding Officer otherwise the current slate of officers stands. Other members of the Steering Committee: Laura Brown, Liasson with PSU and website management; Cindy Hahn, stepped down as membership chair; Sara Bresler, Voter's Guide; Sue Werner, Candidates' Night chair; LWV at PSU liaison Jena Lugo; Sue Sargo, Voter Education and Outreach; At Large Members, Cindy Hahn, Peg Dobrinska and Rachel Avila who will also serve as liaison with Fair Districts.

Annual Budget: Sue Floyd presented the annual budget and requested input. Discussion was held regarding possible grants for educational programs, copying/printing fees, Spotlight PA membership dues increase to \$100 per year, and combining Forums and Local Programs in the budget. Sue Floyd stated she would make the changes and send to Jan. Jan will share with the Steering Committee and voting will be done via email. Sue Werner suggested that Colonial Press might be less expensive for printing. Sue Sargo will request our tax ID# from Sue Floyd for additional savings. Bonnie Goble suggested that Lemont Post Office mailboxes would be approximately half what we currently pay; however, the cost of changes all forms/banners/etc. might outweigh the savings.

Bylaws: Jan Koch had previously sent copies of the updated bylaws with changes to make ours more consistent with the state and national LWV. Jan requested any questions or additions. Hearing none, Sue Sargo made a motion to accept the updated bylaws and Bonnie Goble seconded the motion. The bylaws were unanimously approved.

DEI Policy: Jan Koch reformatted state policies to meet our county league needs. Laura Brown made a motion to accept the updated policy and Sue Sargo seconded. The updated DEI policy was unanimously approved.

Annual Plan: Jan Koch presented the plan and requested input. Hearing none, Laura Brown made a motion to accept the plan and Sue Werner seconded the motion. The Annual Plan was unanimously approved.

Joint Venture with NAACP chapter: Jan Koch reported discussion with NAACP President, Lorraine Taylor regarding holding an event in late summer or early fall at 3 Dots and offering voter registration at that time. Discussion was held regarding other groups that might be invited to join in that venture: CCL and Fair Districts. Sue Sargo reported that Voter Registration Training is scheduled for August 11 at 1:00 pm.

Adjourn: Jan Koch adjourned the meeting at 1:03 pm

Next Meeting: ANNUAL MEETING, Tuesday, June 21 at 5:30 pm via Zoom