

LWVAB Board Meeting – Zoom, June 16, 2022
Submitted by Patricia Hearnon, Board Secretary

In Attendance: Suzanne Fisher, President; Patricia Hearnon, Secretary; Board members: Sue Casey, Julia Coward, Kelly Fowler, Nadine Hamby, Ruth Planey, Ruth O'Donnell, and Sharon Withrow; incoming Board member: Linda Kinsinger..

Meeting was called to order at 5:03. Suzanne noted that this was the last meeting of the 2021-2022 year.

Minutes from May 19, 2022 Meeting were approved with a motion by Ruth P, seconded by Julia.

Finance and Budget Update: Lynn is out of state, so there was no report other than to note that we are in good financial shape.

Membership Committee (Julia, Nicole, Sharon)

Annual Meeting: All four issues submitted for voting by the membership (new Board members, both budgets, and program planning) received 100% approval from the 33 persons (less than 25% of our membership) who voted.

Sharon reported that we now have 59 paid members. A renewal reminder sent 6/15 had already netted 4 more renewals with another 2 forthcoming in the mail.

LWVUS

Suzanne reported that proposed by-law changes on the agenda for the national convention include 1) centralizing membership at the national level and establishing \$75.00 as standard dues; 2) allowing the board to meet electronically.

LWVNC

LWVNC Advocates (Suzanne): A mailing has gone out requesting that members weigh in about proposed Board of Election changes; another regarding Medicaid expansion will be coming soon.

LWVNC Environment Group: Nadine attended the meeting focused on plastic pollution and will share the slide presentation with board members. Two recommended resources are www.beyondplastics.org and www.litterati.org. The next meeting is scheduled for fall.

Voter Services Committee Update (Kelly; Ruth O'D)

Kelly reported that the Voter Services Action Group is still on hiatus after the primary and will be picking back up in July. At this point there are no specific plans for candidate "meet and greet" or other events. Vote totals are available on the Board of Elections website under "vote results."

Ruth O reported that the Buncombe County Vote 411 was assigned to follow up with 56 candidates and 46 responded. The Buncombe site had 2483 sessions (compared with about 53000 statewide), which made it the fourth most visited site, behind Wake, Piedmont-Triad, Orange-Durham-Chatham, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

Sue Casey reported that she had received a query from the local AAUW president regarding the possibility of collaborating on events around the upcoming election. We have collaborated with them in the past and the consensus was that it would be good to do more. **Sue will follow up and report back.**

ERA Action Team (Equal Rights Amendment and Gender Equity after July 1) update: Suzanne reported that the team is taking a break for the month of June. She said they had established good connections at the Chamber of Commerce "Woman Up" event and she would like to explore other ways to collaborate with that group.

National Popular Vote Action Team Update: Suzanne is working with women from Florida and Illinois leagues to advocate at the national convention for inclusion of this effort in the LWVUS priorities.

Communications Update

Website and Instagram: Nadine reported that the QR code is on our website. Patricia volunteered to explore creating stickers with the QR code and LWVAB contact information.

Newsletter: June 20 is deadline for submitting contributions.

Twitter and Facebook: Suzanne reported that we have 1108 followers on Facebook and 86 followers on Twitter where some of our tweets get thousands of “likes.”

Old Business: None

New Business

Suzanne distributed a draft inventory of equipment and raised the issue of how/where these items should be stored. Sharon will explore centrally located storage units for rent. In the meantime, materials are stored at Julia’s home, to be picked up and returned to Kelly for voter registration events.

Archive awareness: Juanita Carrier has agreed to collect materials from the May 22 event as well as the three events celebrating the League’s 100th anniversary in 2019. Suzanne will ask in her next newsletter column whether members have additional items of historical significance. These materials will be archived at the UNC Asheville library.

Suzanne shared an email from a representative of actblue.com, offering to consult with us regarding fundraising. She will follow up to learn more about it.

We received a request from Indivisible Asheville to help with a voter registration event on June 24. Nadine and Linda will attend and report. Suzanne will respond to the email invitation.

Next Meeting (a Retreat and first meeting with new board members): Suzanne asked that we save the dates August 2 and August 3. She will poll members again over the weekend to arrive at a final decision.

Meeting adjourned at 5:56