

LWVAB Board Meeting – Zoom, August 3, 2022
Submitted by Patricia Hearron, Board Secretary

In Attendance: Suzanne Fisher, President; Nicole Wheeler-Schumacher, Vice- President; Board members: Kelly Carlson, Nadine Hamby, Linda Kinsinger, Donna Mann, Carol Moulton, Ruth Planey and Sharon Withrow; guest: Ruth O'Donnell.

Meeting was called to order by President Suzanne Fisher at 6:00.

Minutes of June 16, 2022 meeting were approved as distributed (motion: Ruth P.; second: Sharon).

Finance and Budget Update: Suzanne noted that Lynn had added \$150.00 for Zoom to the communications line in the budget distributed prior to the meeting. Members present had no further comments or additions.

Membership Committee: Sharon noted that we had 3 new members, including one WCU student. Some members have still not renewed, so she plans to send a final reminder in the next few weeks.

HealthCare for All WNC (<https://healthcareforallwnc.wordpress.com/contact-us/>) has asked to make a presentation on future changes to Medicare at one of our general membership meetings. Suzanne will respond to the request with copies to Sharon and Nicole so they can make arrangements to schedule this after the November midterm election.

LWVUS: Suzanne called attention to the report on the LWVUS Convention she had distributed prior to the meeting. She noted that one contentious issue that “squeaked by” the vote was the adoption of a unified membership system over the next few years. Dues for all leagues would become \$75 (a significant increase from our current \$50). In response to concern that this might deter some potential members, Suzanne mentioned that some leagues offer a “pay what you can” option and create a fund to make up the shortfall. It was also noted that individuals can volunteer for league projects (e.g., voter registration tables) without becoming members.

LWVUS will hold a “council” in 2023; the 2024 convention will be held in Washington, D.C..

LWVNC: Nadine reported that the Environmental Group had held a rally in Asheville on July 27, opposing Duke Energy’s carbon plan. The group will reconvene in the fall

Voter Services Committee Update

- Donna shared a proposal to create stickers for distribution during a voter registration event at the Riveter (a climbing gym). The proposed design was approved with one caveat: that it include a reference to LWVAB or VOTE411.org. The cost would be \$60 for 200 stickers; an expense already in the budget so no further approval needed.
- Suzanne mentioned that AAUW would like us to cosponsor and help publicize a virtual event on how ballots are counted; they are contacting the BOE who would be responsible for the content. This was approved following a motion (Nicole) and second (Linda).
- Suzanne suggested that we offer to do a presentation on VOTE411 at an AAUW membership meeting on September 27 or October 3. Kelly will let Suzanne know which date(s) are possible.
- **Volunteers are needed for voter registration events** scheduled for the following dates:
- Candidate forums sponsored by the Asheville Arts Council at 4 pm **September 28, October 12** (Ruth P. and Suzanne will cover September 7)

- Voter Registration Day – September 20 (19-23 High School Registration Week) Sharon will check with groups on UNCA campus that we might support.
- October 3-7 National Voter Education Week
- **Volunteers are needed** to cover Board of Election meetings and provide reports to be posted on our website.
 - 8/16 (Suzanne)
 - 9/13 (Carol)
 - 10/4 (Suzanne)
 - 10/11 (Linda)
 - **10/18**
 - **10/25**

There may be additional meetings scheduled.

- **Vote 411**
 - Kelly called attention to the advertising plan spreadsheet distributed prior to the meeting. She agreed to contact LWVNC and complete a grant application to fund the creation and distribution of bookmarks advertising VOTE411, and media ads targeting Hispanic populations. Donna and Carol volunteered to help Kelly with this.
 - Suzanne mentioned that LWVUS deemed it appropriate to publicly identify candidates who have and have not responded to repeated invitations to submit information to VOTE411. Ruth O. and Carol argued that it would be preferable to publicly acknowledge those who **have** responded.

National Popular Vote Action Team Update: Suzanne said that she had contacted all candidates running for General Assembly about the issue and had received a response from only one.

We are invited to host a table on August 18, 2022 at the Chamber of Commerce **Woman Up** event; need to determine who has the banner, VOTE 411 cards, etc.

Communications Update

- Nadine has updated the website for the coming election and asked that anyone with additions or edits let her know. She particularly emphasized the need for photographs of league activities like voter registration events.
- Newsletter deadline for submissions is August 7.

Old Business: The discussion regarding rental of a storage facility was deferred to the September meeting.

New Business: A communications focus group will be convened after the general election in November.

Next Meeting will be September 29 at 6:00 via Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 7:00.