

League of Women Voters Asheville-Buncombe County Board Meeting September 21, 2023; Zoom at 6 pm

In Attendance: Nicole Wheeler-Schumacher, Vice President; Patricia Hearn, Secretary; Board members: Kelly Carlson, Nadine Hamby, Donna Mann, Cheryl Williams and Sharon Withrow

Nicole called the meeting to order at 6:07.

Minutes from August 21, 2023 Meeting were approved (Motion: Cheryl; Second: Sharon)

Finance and Budget Update emailed to members by Lynn discussed; Cheryl suggested that we follow up with Lynn for clarity on new LWVUS membership system.

Membership Committee (Nicole, Sharon, Kelly): Plans are in place for all-member meeting at the YWCA on October 5 with arrival at 5:30 and program beginning at 6:00. Sharon will re-send the invitation for board members to sign up for narrating parts of the slide presentation. Nicole will follow up to ascertain that payment for the venue has been made. Donna will provide nametags.

Next big event will be in January; plans to be discussed at November meeting.

Voter Services Committee Update: Cheryl reported that we had received two grants (\$600 for recruiting volunteers to observe voting sites; \$120 to support high school registration efforts. Another grant of \$400 for general activities is available upon application. Nicole suggested that board approval for specific expenditures could be obtained via email.

The committee staffed registration tables at the Apple Festival, UNCA National Voter Registration Day, Comic Con and Vegan Fest. They will also have a table at the Common Cause Town Hall at UNCA on October 5. Ron Katz and Cheryl met with administrators from Harmony House to plan transportation to the polls for residents. Plans are in place for Meet-and-Greet events in Woodfin and Weaverville.

Nadine reported that a citizenship ceremony had been held in Asheville on September 15. She will follow up to determine whether LWVAB can be present if/when others are scheduled.

National Popular Vote Action Team met in September; they continue to seek opportunities for presentations to groups. Cheryl noted that Ron Katz is working on establishing a network with area universities (Non-partisan Voting Group Coalition) which might provide useful contacts in this effort.

Communications Update

Website and Instagram: Nadine reported that she is making a concerted effort to keep the webpage updated with current events and opportunities for involvement. Cheryl noted that the announcement of the UNCA event had been particularly effective in generating turnout.

Newsletter: Patricia requested submissions by September 30 for October publication. Kelly asked if there was a way of making the newsletter more easily identified when emailed.

New Business

Cheryl mentioned hearing about volunteer burnout at a non-partisan coalition meeting; Nicole suggested that we add a discussion of ways to support volunteers on the agenda for the November meeting. Kelly had questions about how to volunteer for specific events. Nicole will make sure to explain how to find out about (and volunteer for) events during the presentation at the October 5 meeting.

Next Meetings: November 16; no Board meeting in December 2024: January 18 (Zoom); February 15 (All member; presentation Zoom); March 21; April 18; May 16; June 20: propose meet in person in March and June

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.