

**League of Women Voters – Orange, Durham, Chatham
Board Meeting
Saturday, September 9, 2017**

Attendees: Pam Oxendine, Tara Fikes, Amy Jeroloman, Cynthia LaMaster, Pat McDaniels, Krishna Mondal, Jennifer Rubin, Cynthia Wertz, Leona Whichard and Kathy Wright.

The meeting was called to order by the President Pam Oxendine. The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of Establishing Relationship with the Republican Party under New Business and the addition of Chamber Membership Follow-up under Old Business.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 19, 2017 board meeting were approved unanimously with a motion by Amy Jeroloman seconded by Jennifer Rubin.

Reports

President

Pam Oxendine reported that a conference call was held recently with League Presidents across the State. She shared that a LWVNC Satellite Council Meeting for Central NC will be held in Durham at the NC School of Science and Math on Saturday, October 21st from 9 am – 5 pm. Pam also reported that she, Eva Rogers and Marsha Harris participated in the Women’s Equality Day march in Durham on Saturday, August 26th. It was a good event. Also on that day, the Women in Office event was held at the Sheraton Chapel Hill. Pam thanked Kathy Wright for her work in planning this successful event.

Treasurer

Cynthia LaMaster provided the Financial Report as of August 31, 2017 to board members. The Operations Fund has a balance of \$29,701.46, the Grant fund - \$25.00 and the Education Fund - \$4,041.05. She reported that the funds for Vote411 has been transferred from Operations to Education. The report was accepted as presented.

Membership

Amy Jeroloman reported that the Unit currently has 322 members – 76 new members since February 1. Their focus will now be on following-up with renewals.

Communication/Media Team Update

Jennifer Rubin shared with board members the responsibilities and activities of the Communication Team. She discussed each team member’s responsibility.

- Jennifer Rubin – Chair
- Nancy Ratan - Newsletter
- Cynthia Wertz – Website
- Terry Landers – Press Releases, Signups

It was decided that all communication for distribution should sent to Jennifer who will disseminate it to her team members according to their responsibilities. She noted that there was a need to monitor the League calendar on the website and remove event information after it has been completed. She also noted that they had received lots of emails regarding the need for press releases for planned Candidate Forums this election season. Perhaps next year the League should talk to local reporters to understand how best to handle press releases.

Action Team Reports

Voter Services

Krishna Mondal provided the following report.

Voter Education and Information Events:

- UNC Children's Hospital, Fridays 11-1pm.
- Downtown Pittsboro First Sunday in Sept. and Oct.
- Siler City Hispanic Heritage Festival. Sept. 16
- Durham CenterFest Sept. 16

Vote411: Goes live tonight, I hope! Need to publicize: Vote411 cards, lawn signs, our website and Facebook page.

Board of Elections Panel Discussion: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 from Noon-2pm.
Thank you Kathy Wright and Communications Team. Forty (40) people attended. Brown bagging worked nicely. Gave a chance for speakers to meet members/socialize.

Forums: Facebook Live and Twitter#

Forums: Orange County

Monday Oct. 2nd, 7-9pm: Carrboro Mayor and Alderman Candidate Forums

Location: Carrboro Town Hall Main Meeting Room.

Address: 301 W Main St, Carrboro, NC 27510.

Partners: PTA Council and UNC-GPSF (Graduate and Professional Student Federation).

Moderator Aaron Keck, Twitter: *#carrvote2017*

Monday, Oct. 9th: 6-8:30pm: Chapel Hill Mayor and Councilmen Candidate Forums

Location: Chapel Hill Town Council Chamber

Address: Chapel Hill Town Hall. 405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd *Chapel Hill*, NC 27514.

Partners: PTA Council and NAACP; Twitter *#CHvote2017*

Monday, Oct. 16: 7-9pm CHCC Board of Education Candidate Forum

Location: Chapel Hill Town Council Chamber

Address: Chapel Hill Town Hall. 405 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd *Chapel Hill*, NC 27514. Free parking is available on site.

Partner with PTA Council and NAACP

Moderator Aaron Keck, Twitter: *#BoEdvote2017*

Forums: Durham County

Sunday, October 15, 2017 from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm: Candidate Forum for Durham Mayor and City Council.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1200 W Cornwallis Rd., Durham, NC 27705

Forums: Chatham County

October 17, 2017 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm: Candidates Forum for Pittsboro Mayor and Town Commissioners.

Chatham Community Library, 197 Hwy 87 N, Pittsboro, NC 27312

October 5, 2017, from 6:00-8:00 PM: Candidates running for the Siler City Mayor and Board of Commissioners. The reception will be held on in Rooms 230-232 at the Siler City Center of Central Carolina Community, 400 Progress Boulevard, Siler City, NC 27344-3032.

She plans to consult the state regarding using Facebook Live but will encourage tweeting during the Forums.

Fair Elections/Redistricting

Bev Kawalec sent the following report. Since the last Board meeting on August 9, 2017, the Fair Elections Action Team has been preparing for the League-wide meeting to be held Sunday, September 10. Dr. Jennifer Bremer will speak at that meeting and provide a review of the legislation and court action in our state on redistricting reform. She will bring us up to date on all of the activity which has taken place over the summer. She will give suggestions on how we all can talk about the issue in effective ways. In addition, participants will have the chance to hear more about our Action Team's plans for a speaker's bureau and will have the chance to join those efforts.

Jennifer Bremer also spoke to a political salon on the subject of redistricting reform. Vicki Boyer was instrumental in securing this invitation. Approximately 25 people were present at this occasion on August 27. Jennifer generated widespread interest and lively discussion.

Public Education

Ruth Ann Groh sent the following report. Our team met most recently on Tuesday, September 5th. Five team members were present.

- We completed edits to a flyer for the Durham CenterFest and other recruitment opportunities. This flyer has been sent to Becky Winders.
- We prepared to respond to the request for a record of our activities, their costs and benefits. Lisa Kaylie has set up a spreadsheet in Google Drive to do this.

On August 7th we hosted the superintendents of our four districts at an informal box lunch in a meeting room at the Chapel Hill Public Library. Our purpose was to learn from them how we can effectively inform the public about issues facing our public schools. The informal discussions at this meeting increased our understanding of problems facing our districts and NC public schools. We hope to plan an evening meeting for the public with a speaker from the Governor's staff or advisors. Mary Kolek is following up on this plan. Our next monthly meeting will be on Monday, October 2 at 1 pm in a meeting room at University Place. The room is across from Alfredo's Pizza.

Environment

This team is looking for a new team lead. It was suggested that we discuss this at the next meeting to determine if should have this team or perhaps redefine its purpose. It was announced that the Haw River Assembly will hold a Stream Walk and Watershed Talk at Umstead Park in Chapel Hill on Sept. 23rd at 11 am.

The Violence Against Women Team is meeting today and the Transportation Group plans a Lunch and Learn on Sept. 20th at Saladelia Café. It was suggested that the Immigration group plan a Lunch and Learn also.

New Business

Future Events

1. Volunteers are needed for CenterFest on Sat at 1 and 3 pm.
2. Holiday Event

3. A Lunch and Learn is planned for the 3rd Wednesday in November on the topic Judicial Changes/Reforms.

Chamber of Commerce Membership

Cynthia reported that she has contacted the local Chambers of Commerce and found that the Chatham Chamber does not accept political groups as members. The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber has dues ranging from \$385 to \$30,000. She needs to get more information from them.

Fundraising Proposal Follow-up

As a follow-up to the prior month discussion Pat McDaniel asked if board members should donate to the organization. It is recommended by NC-LWV that all members donate to the organization. Amy Jeroloman made a motion that all board members should contribute to the Unit each calendar year at the level they are comfortable contributing. The motion was seconded by Pat McDaniel and approved unanimously. It was also decided that a donation basket should be available at all League events to collect donations as well.

Establish Relationship with the Republican Party

The National Office recommends that all chapters reach out to the local Republican parties. There needs to be more discussion regarding how to do this but we might consider planning a debate around an issue and invite all political parties to participate.

Open Discussion

Signs are ready and will be delivered on Tuesday. **Magnetic name tags** are still needed.

The October Board Meeting is scheduled for October 14th since the Council meeting is scheduled for October 21st our regular meeting date.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:
Tara L. Fikes, Secretary