

**League of Women Voters – Orange, Durham, Chatham
Board Meeting
Saturday, October 14, 2017**

Attendees: Pam Oxendine, Tara Fikes, Amy Jeroloman, Pat McDaniels, Cynthia LaMaster, Krishna Mondal, Jennifer Rubin 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 unanimously on a motion by Jennifer Rubin seconded by Krishna Modal.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 9, 2017 board meeting were approved unanimously with the addition under the Communication/Media Team Update to include Joy Spencer as responsible for Social Media and Carole Breckinridge as responsible for the Calendar.

Reports

President

Pam Oxendine encouraged members to attend the upcoming 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. She also attended a Duke Alumni Association event with Eva Rogers where they had a LWV booth that generated lots of interest in membership.

Treasurer

Cynthia LaMaster provided the Financial Report as of September 30, 2017 to board members. The Operations Fund has a balance of \$21,535.81, the Grant fund - \$25.00 and the Education Fund - \$4,041.25. The report was accepted as presented. She also shared a prototype for donation boxes that could be used for donations at League events. The board unanimously approved the purchase of 10 boxes (three per county and one extra) on a motion by Jennifer Rubin seconded by Pat McDaniels.

Additionally, there was additional discussion regarding Chamber of Commerce membership and the Board decided that given the imbalance of costs to benefits not to pursue membership in any chamber at this time. A motion to this effect was approved on a motion by Pat McDaniels seconded by Cynthia McMaster.

Membership

Amy Jeroloman reported that membership renewals have been slow. Currently, 170 memberships are up for renewal. She will coordinate with Eva Rogers to contact these members by email and phone. There was some discussion of other ways to encourage renewals including personal letters.

Communication/Media Team Update

Jennifer Rubin shared that the team has been busy given the number of Candidate Forums on the calendar. Josh Mayo, a graduate student, is willing to help us with Facebook.

Action Team Reports

Voter Services

Krishna Mondal provided the following report.

Vote411: Went live on schedule! We have publicized and people are looking: Vote411 cards, lawn signs, our website and Facebook page.

Forums: Facebook Live: *not a good idea because can lose connection miss some candidates. Twitter, worked really well at 2 forums in OC because we had people constantly tweeting. Facebook Live is not an option.*

Forums: Orange County

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

Partners: PTA Council and UNC-GPSF.

Moderator Aaron Keck,

Twitter: #carrvote2017 **Great turn out (~50).**

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

Partners: PTA Council and NAACP;

Twitter #CHvote2017 **Super turn out (>100) one no**

show candidate.

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

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/Meet Greet: Chatham County

October 5, 2017, from 6:00-8:00 PM: Siler City Candidate Reception. A reception will be held for the candidates running for the offices of Mayor and Board of Commissioners.

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

Moving forward:

- Please update your County page with the forums and photos.
- Please keep track of expenses for forums, number of volunteers, number of attendees, etc.
- Facebook needs help. We need to be faster with our posts and updates.
- Schedule a Voter Services meeting in November after the election to get feedback from this year and plan for next.

Fair Elections/Redistricting

Bev Kawalec sent the following report.

On September 10, 2017 the Redistricting Reform Action Team held a general meeting for League members and the public. Jennifer Bremer gave an informative talk on the recent history and present status of redistricting reform in the NC General Assembly and the courts. We also explained our plans to have a speakers bureau and we got some new volunteers. Approximately 25 people attended, including non-League members.

Speakers Bureau. We have at least 5 people who are ready to give presentations. We have 2 Power Point presentations ready to go. We are looking for a leader who will coordinate opportunities to speak and the presenters.

NC FEAT (LWVNC Fair Elections Action Team. ODC member Jennifer Bremer is heading the state League's Fair Elections Action Team. She has recruited 6 Chapel Hill area women to help with this effort. Some of these women were not previously League members but have now joined to be part of this effort. The goal of this group is to influence legislators (particularly Republicans) to support fair redistricting. The group members will contact former Republican legislators, former judges and business leaders to ask for their help in this effort. The group is looking for a person who has expert ability with data analysis to assist this group.

Individual members efforts. We believe that many League members are following the news about fair redistricting, including the NC House and Senate, the NC courts and the US congressional districts. Next week, the week of October 15th, two court cases will be heard on the NC redistricting. On October 16, in Greensboro, a three judge panel will hear LWVNC v. Rucho. This suit challenges the North Carolina congressional map. Simultaneously the three judge panel will hear Common Cause v. Rucho. LWVODC members are planning to attend these hearings.

Gun Violence

Marsha Harris sent the following report. Two weeks ago on a Sunday night in Las Vegas at a country music show at least 59 people lost their lives at such a uniquely American scene, and more than 500 were injured. Thousands more will fight emotional scars, and tens of thousands will grieve and question along with them. The phenomenon of the mass shooting -- and the political paralysis that follows us -- is sad.

We have participated in supporting other groups to fight gun violence. We need your help. We want to put more pressure on our representatives while the most recent shootings are still fresh. Consider joining our team to make a difference in the lives of all Americans.

A Lunch and Learn on Gun Violence is scheduled for November 15th at 12 noon at Raaga Indian Restaurant in Chapel Hill.

Violence Against Women

We had our first meeting of the fall on September 9th. At that meeting we discussed our plans for a January program. We are considering examining how immigration issues relate to violence against women, specifically thinking about how being undocumented impacts how someone deals with domestic violence. We are looking into different speakers, specifically someone who is an immigration law expert. We are hoping to perhaps partner with the immigration team on this. We are looking at the week of January 22nd for a program We are thinking about doing a drive for feminine hygiene products at that event: <https://www.thedailybeast.com/the-fight-to-give-homeless-women-a-dignified-period>.

The Compass Center invited us to have a table at their upcoming Domestic Violence Short Film Screening and Panel Discussion on October 23rd: <http://compassctr.org/community-education/domestic-violence-awareness-month-2017/> We plan to have information about our team and about the League in general at this event. We have also advertised this event on our webpage.

Our next team meeting is October 14th at 10:00 am at the Chapel Hill Public Library.

Immigration Study Group

Ashley Nissler sent the following report. The ODC Immigration Study Group (ISG) has narrowed the focus of our first fact sheet to a comparison of the DREAM Act and of Tillis's proposed SUCCEED act, so that we can

provide a thorough briefing on both. LWV US has taken a position on the DREAM Act, which is that it should be passed with no amendments. LWV US has not taken a position on the SUCCEED Act, and at the state level we are discussing how to approach it.

The ODC ISG also agreed on a process for moving forward with our fact sheets. We will first ask someone from another LWV NC chapter who is on the LWV NC Immigration Action Team to double check our facts and then send to someone at the state-level who has volunteered both to provide editing services as well as checking that League-produced literature is non-partisan in its statements.

Our next meeting will be on November 7 at 12:00 p.m. at Chopt in Chapel Hill.

Transportation Study Group

Pam Oxendine reported that there was good attendance at a recent lunch meeting to discuss Transportation in the Triangle. Natalie Murdock was the presenter.

New Business

Future Events

1. Follow-up is needed with contacts made at CenterFest in September.
2. Our Holiday Event is being planned for a Wednesday in December from 4 pm – 6 pm at either Hope Valley Diner or Maggianos.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:
Tara L. Fikes, Secretary