

**League of Women Voters – Orange, Durham, Chatham  
Board Meeting  
Saturday, April 27, 2019**

**Attendees:** Krishna Mondal, Amy Jeroloman, Pat McDaniels, and Tara Fikes.

The meeting was called to order by the President Krishna Mondal at 10:00 am. The meeting agenda was approved unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes** - The February March 2019 board minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Pat McDaniels seconded by Amy Jeroloman.

**Progress on Previous Goals:**

**Transfer of Assets:** A motion was made by Amy Jeroloman, seconded by Tara Fikes to transfer all assets of LWV-ODC to LWV-ODC, Incorporated. The motion was approved unanimously. It was noted that an inventory of materials will need to be developed to include asking all board members if they have any of the organization's materials in their possession.

**LWV-ODC Bylaws:** A motion was made by Amy Jeroloman seconded by Tara Fikes to approve the draft Bylaws for LWV-ODC, Inc. and present them to the membership at the Annual Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Both votes must be ratified at the Annual Meeting.

**President's Report**

**State Convention:** Krishna reported that plans are being finalized for the State Convention in May. Given our membership (244) we are entitled to 19 delegates. Additionally, hostesses are need for the Taste of ODC on Friday evening.

**Annual Meeting:** The agenda for the Annual Meeting scheduled for May 8, 2019 was reviewed and finalized by the Board.

**Treasurer's Update**

Cynthia LaMaster submitted her report prior to the meeting. As of March 31, 2019, the Operations account balance is \$19,648.89, for the Grant Fund - \$16.00 and the ending balance for the Education Fund \$8,400.74. The report was accepted as presented. It was noted that Cynthia should be asked about LWV pins.

**Membership**

Amy Jeroloman submitted her report prior to the meeting. There are 259 paid members as of April 15, 2019. She noted the need to recruit a replacement for Eva Rogers and someone to help maintain the membership roster.

**Communication** – Jennifer Rubin submitted the following report prior to the meeting. We are continuing to look for a webmaster for the ODC website. I have contacted everyone who has expressed interest on the latest interest survey and am hearing back regarding both website

management and help with social media. In the interim, Cynthia Wertz is graciously helping out with the website and several members (Kathy Wright, Brenda Rogers and myself) are keeping up with social media posts. Filling the website management position is a high priority.

The issue of logo use and conformity has been raised. We will evaluate our logo use and make a recommendation to the board regarding whether changes are needed on various publications/letterhead.

### **Action Team Reports**

Voter Services – Krishna reported that plans are underway to partner with the organization - **You Can Vote** – to engage in voter registration in our three counties. Vikki Shea will explain/discuss this partnership at the Annual Meeting.

Public Education – Co-leaders Zena Alman and Ruth Ann Groh submitted the following report. On April 9 at the Chapel Hill Public Library, Bonnie Bechard, author of the LWV of Lower Cape Fear voucher study, *NC Private Schools Receiving Vouchers: A Study of the Curriculum* spoke about her findings. The study showed that public money is going to private schools whose curriculum does not meet state standards. Her talk was titled **School Vouchers and Accountability: Does a lack of standards fail our students?**

The results were startling in that **Ms. Bechard's research found that more than three-fourths of schools receiving vouchers in North Carolina use a curriculum in the Sciences, History, Government, and Literature, that is not accepted by major universities and which educators criticize as lacking academic rigor and critical thinking.** A major difference is in teaching critical thinking skills. The North Carolina Standard Course of Study (NCCOS) textbooks have a special section for teaching critical thinking skills. But the Abeka curriculum used by about 75% of private schools receiving voucher funds does not contain instructions for teaching critical thinking skills.

FEAT Team – Jennifer Bremer submitted the following report.

Our report is pretty much the same as last month! We participated in the Supreme Court rally and oral arguments in Washington. The group here made lots of signs, one of which has been featured in two national publications. The group is continuing to meet bi-weekly (Monday evenings at the Seymour Center) and to use the meetings to work on concrete tasks to advance redistricting reform, generally postcarding. Our record so far is 450 postcards completed in one meeting. We also discuss the progress of legislation and the court cases.

Civil Discourse – It was noted that LWV-US has webinars related to Civil Discourse available.

A Board Retreat will be scheduled for June and the board will not meet in July. The next board meeting will be in August. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted: Tara L. Fikes, Secretary