

**League of Women Voters of Queen Anne's County
Board Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2020**



Attending: Patricia Jamison, President, Lorie Andersen-Petrie, Secretary, Liz Hammond, V.P., Barbara Sharkey, Treasurer, and: board members Mary Campbell, Gina Crook, Jinny Guy, Courtney Leigh, Theresa Morgan, and Pat Sommers. New LWVQAC member Elizabeth Morgan also participated in the meeting.

Call to Order: The online meeting was called to order by the President, Patricia Jamison, at 6:42 p.m.

Minutes: Jinny Guy moved to approve the minutes of the September meeting, seconded by Courtney Leigh, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report and Audit: Barbara Sharkey reported that Skip Moore and Pat Sommers have completed their audit of the books for the last two years and that everything is in order. She then presented the Treasurer's Report. Since the last report there has been no activity in the Education Fund. The figure for the Operating Fund includes income from membership dues and an expenditure of \$116.52 for a table and chairs to be used at voter information/registration events. As of October 5, 2020, the Education Fund has a balance of \$8,106.44, and the Operating Fund has a balance of \$5,832.62, for a total balance of \$13,939.06. This compares to a balance of \$13,646.09 on September 30, 2019. Barbara also provided a quarterly report comparing the budget for the year with actual year-to-date figures. Barbara feels such reports will give the Board a clearer picture of where we stand financially, and she intends to continue providing them every quarter.

Elizabeth Morgan asked how the LWVQAC goes about fundraising. Barbara mentioned the annual appeal letter that is sent to the membership and our expanded list of supporters. Donations go to the Education Fund. It was also noted that in the past we have sponsored various fundraising events, but those efforts have been suspended this year due to the pandemic. Patricia Jamison encouraged Elizabeth to provide any ideas she might have in this respect.

Liz Hammond made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for audit, seconded by Mary Campbell, and the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Database and Calendar:** Lorie Andersen-Petrie reported that she has sent the calendar and the mailing list to all Board Members. She asked that they provide any comments, additions, or corrections.
- **Social Media (Facebook and Webpage):** Courtney Leigh said she is gearing up for a busy week of Facebook posts. She will post a reminder about the upcoming Board of Education Forum, along with the flyer for the forum. She asked for ideas on how to showcase the various candidates. Liz Hammond and Patricia Jamison mentioned that the Voters' Guide contains useful information in this regard. Mary Campbell said that since all the candidates for the Board of Education are write-ins, it would be helpful to post information about the procedure for write-in voting, and Patricia said that the Voter's Guide contains useful information on this as well.

Jinny Guy asked why none of the candidates filed in time for their names to appear on the ballot. Mary Campbell replied that the deadline is in January, which is very early for prospective candidates to make a decision.

This was followed by a general discussion of the kind of information to be posted on social media. It was agreed that this year there is a particular need for information about mail-in voting procedures, drop boxes, in-person voting, and polling places. Gina Crook mentioned that Pat Sommers has prepared a sheet containing most of this information, which has proven very helpful at voter information/registration events. Pat will send the sheet to Courtney to be posted on the web.

- **Vote 411, Voters' Guide and Elected Officials Guide:** Patricia Jamison thanked Liz Hammond for her work on the Voters' Guide and Vote 411. Liz expressed her appreciation to all the Board Members who helped to proofread and distribute the Guide. She noted that there is a new candidate, Sean Foley, for the Board of Education in District 4. His name is listed on Vote 411, but he has not yet responded to the questions. Liz also noted that she will start work on the Elected Officials' Guide in December or January.
- **Voter Information/Registration:** Patricia Jamison thanked Pat Sommers for the excellent job she has done in organizing and holding these events. Pat Sommers noted that there have been five events thus far (two at the Kent Island Farmers' Market, two at the Food Lion, and one in downtown Centreville), with two more events planned in the upcoming weeks. There has been a good response from the public, particularly at the Farmers' Market. Patricia Jamison asked Pat to send her a complete list of events. Pat asked for any other ideas and Barbara Sharkey suggested holding an event in the Courthouse Square in Centreville.
- **Member Renewal Letters:** Barbara Sharkey reported that she sent fifteen reminder letters on September 22 and has received several responses. The number of paid members now stands at 36, with six having been added since the last meeting. She mentioned that some people have registered on the website to volunteer, without actually joining the League. We need to find ways to involve them, and Courtney offered to contact them about helping with one of the upcoming voter information events.
- **Revised By-Laws:** Patricia Jamison mentioned that she had forwarded comments on the revised by-laws to Liz Hammond. Liz said that she had some questions about the changes and suggested holding another meeting of the committee to review all the changes so that they can then be submitted to the Board. She offered to host the meeting at her house and will send committee members the proposed date.
- **Annual Meeting and Workbook:** Discussion on the Annual Meeting has been postponed until after the New Year.
- **Archiving Records:** Patricia Jamison said we need to decide how we want to proceed regarding the records. Elizabeth Morgan strongly advocated digitizing them and said she has experience in this area and offered to help. She joined the Standing Committee working on this issue. Patricia will set up a meeting of the committee at her home sometime after the New Year.

- **Student League:** For Elizabeth’s benefit, Patricia Jamison explained LWVQAC’s work on establishing the Student League at Chesapeake College. There was a general discussion of how to approach and engage young people. Barbara Sharkey noted that we have a new student member from Kent Island High School, and Patricia offered to contact her.
- **Women’s Museum:** Patricia Jamison has spoken with the Museum’s founder, Mary Margaret Revell Goodwin. Mary Margaret suffered a setback since she broke her hip, but she is nonetheless continuing to work on the project. Patricia will send information on the Museum to Elizabeth Morgan, who was not familiar with this project.
- **Holiday Party and Meeting:** After some discussion of restrictions due to the current pandemic, it was unanimously decided that the holiday party would be postponed until next spring. The Board will decide in November whether to hold a regular meeting in December.
- **Centreville Town Council Forum:** Patricia Jamison commended Mary Campbell for her work on organizing this forum. She noted that QACTV had been surprised at the number of viewers and that the response to the event had been uniformly positive. Mary praised Barbara Sharkey for her skill as moderator and noted that we are fortunate to have QACTV as an excellent resource for our county.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Board of Education Forum:** Mary Campbell said this event will be held on October 20 and there will be two sessions: one for District 3 candidates at 6 p.m., and one for District 4 candidates at 7 p.m. All candidates, including the new candidate for District 4, have agreed to participate. This will once again be a virtual forum, and the format and procedure for submitting questions will be the same as for previous events. After some discussion, it was decided that each candidate will have one minute for an introductory statement. All the candidates will then have 1½ minutes to answer the following question, which LWVQAC will provide to them in advance: “what is the most important issue facing the School Board going forward and how would you hope to address and resolve that issue?” This will be followed by questions from the public. All candidates may answer each question if they so desire. Answers will not exceed 1½ minutes. The forum will again be broadcast on QACTV and live-streamed on Facebook. QACTV will post a YouTube video on the QACTV YouTube site after the event, and Courtney will post the link on LWVQAC’s Facebook page. Mary will send information on the forum to the candidates tomorrow.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be an online meeting on Monday, November 9, at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Barbara Sharkey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mary Campbell seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.