

**League of Women Voters of Queen Anne's County  
Board Meeting Minutes  
January 11, 2021**



**Attending:** Patricia Jamison, President; Liz Hammond, Vice President; Lorie Andersen-Petrie, Secretary; Barbara Sharkey, Treasurer; and board members Gina Crook, Jinny Guy, Theresa Morgan, and Pat Sommers. LWVQAC member Elizabeth Morgan also participated.

**Call to Order:** The online meeting was called to order by the President, Patricia Jamison, at 6:35 p.m. She asked if anyone objected to having the meeting recorded. As there were no objections, the meeting was recorded.

**Minutes:** Barbara Sharkey made a motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting, seconded by Liz Hammond, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Barbara Sharkey reported that as of December 31, 2020, the Education Fund had a balance of \$8,351.84, which included deposits of \$730.00 in donations from the Annual Appeal and expenditures of \$359.60 and \$250.00 for the Voters' Guides. The Operating Fund had a balance of \$6,469.00, which included deposits of \$250.38 for membership renewals and \$340.00 in donations from the Annual Appeal. The total balance for both accounts was \$14,820.84, which compares to \$13,734.09 as of December 31, 2019.

Regarding the Annual Appeal, Barbara reported that letters were sent to approximately 100 supporters and as of December 31, 2020, fifteen responses had been received, with a total of \$1,055.00 in donations. Since then there have been additional donations and Barbara will include those in next month's report.

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

Barbara then reviewed the quarterly report, which had been emailed to Board members prior to the meeting. Comparing actual expenditures to budgeted amounts for 2020, she noted that, overall, we have met our budget, and our financial position is very good.

Barbara strongly recommended to the Board that we proceed with converting our League to a 501(c)(3) tax status. She outlined the advantages of such conversion, which would greatly simplify our accounting procedures while still allowing us to continue with all our current activities. Barbara moved that this recommendation be approved, Pat Sommers seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Database and Calendar:** Lorie Andersen-Petrie reported that she has been working with Barbara Sharkey to finalize the membership list and will be sending a copy to all Board members in the very near future. She noted that work on the Calendar has been suspended since no events have been scheduled during the pandemic.
- **Social Media (Facebook and Webpage):** Theresa Morgan will now be assisting with some of the social media responsibilities. She will be reaching out to Courtney Leigh about assisting with Facebook and will also be helping Barbara Sharkey with the web page.

Barbara reported that she has been working to update the webpage, posting copies of the minutes as well as links to items of interest on the LWVUS and LWVMD websites. She asked members to let her know of any other items they might want to see posted on the website.

- **Membership Meeting on Legislative Priorities for 2021 MD General Assembly:**  
Theresa Morgan will also be organizing the online forum for the entire LWVQAC membership on legislative priorities of the LWVMD. She proposed changing the date from January to February, and the Board agreed. She envisions an informational session on current legislative issues, after which members will be encouraged to participate virtually in advocacy meetings between the LWVMD and state legislators. She will coordinate with the LWVMD and report back to the Board.
- **Elected Officials Guide:** Liz Hammond said the Guide is ready to go to the printer. The cost is \$28.00 per 100 copies. She asked how many copies are needed and when they should be printed. Barbara Sharkey suggested waiting until after the inauguration on January 20 and printing 100 copies. Liz agreed and will coordinate with Barbara regarding payment.
- **Purchase of Items for Information/Registration Events:** At the last meeting the Board agreed to purchase a cart to transport items at registration events. Liz Hammond provided a demonstration of the cart she is proposing, which can be purchased for approximately \$65.00. Pat Sommers raised the issue of storage. Items for voter information events and other League materials are currently stored with various Board members. After a lengthy discussion, the Board decided to postpone buying the cart until the relevant materials have been consolidated.
- **Update on Finding a Consistent Logo to Use:** Barbara Sharkey said she had nothing to report at this time. There are currently several variations of the logo, and she will look into this matter further and report at next month's meeting.
- **Membership (updates due Jan. 31):** Barbara Sharkey reported that there are currently 46 active members, including two student members.

Note: Due to problems with internet connectivity, discussion of the remaining agenda items was somewhat abbreviated.

- **Revised By-Laws:** Liz Hammond said that she has made all the changes and will send the edited version to all Committee members.
- **Annual Meeting:** Discussion of this issue was deferred.
- **Archiving Records:** Discussion of this issue was deferred.
- **Student League:** Discussion of this issue was deferred.
- **Final Diversity Survey:** Patricia Jamison briefly reviewed the results of the survey of the LWVQAC board (age 30-40 – 16%; 40-50 – 8%; 50-60 – 8%; over 60 – 67%). She has submitted the figures to Richard Willson of the LWVMD.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **LWVMD Position on Vote by Mail has an implication for voter education:** Patricia Jamison noted that the LWVMD has taken a position in support of vote by mail, which will have an impact on our voter education/registration activities. Patricia will send the relevant information to all Board members, along with information on LWVMD's upcoming Winter Workshop.
- **Replacement of Report from State Circle by Action Blog:** Patricia Jamison noted that the Report from State Circle, LWVMD's legislative update, has now been retired and replaced by an online blog

called the “Action Blog.” Theresa Morgan has been reviewing and synthesizing the contents of the blog and offered to provide monthly summaries to the Board. The Board agreed that this would be very useful. Theresa asked whether we, as a local league, are allowed to have local legislative priorities independent of the state league. The Board did not have an answer, so Theresa will clarify this with LWVMD.

- **Program Planning Suggestions for 2021-2023 Due April 16, 2021:** Discussion was deferred to a later meeting. Patricia Jamison will provide the relevant materials to Theresa Morgan, and Theresa will decide how best to disseminate them to the Board.

Patricia also pointed out that the LWVMD is strongly emphasizing diversity and has prepared a number of webinars and videos on this subject. She will be sending the links to all Board members and urged that members take a close look at them. She noted that these positions have been reflected in our revised by-laws.

**OTHER:**

- **Comments/Ideas:** Gina Crook reported that in response to recent insensitive remarks by members of the QAC Board of Education, the Sunday Supper organization is calling for sensitivity training for those individuals and may wish to enlist the support of other local organizations, such as LWVQAC, in these efforts. Patricia Jamison will follow up with Gina on this issue.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be an online meeting on Monday, February 8, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

**Adjournment:** Jinny Guy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Liz Hammond seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.