

League of Women Voters of Frederick County, MD
Board Meeting Minutes, March 18, 2024

In attendance in person: Suzanne Beal, George Carroll, Jill Griffith, Lauri Gross, Margaret Hindman, Kate Jones, Claire Kondig, Sue Kunkel, Nancy Purinton, Ellen West.

In attendance virtually: Rosanne Roe, Nannette Hobson, Rosemary Orthmann, Jeneen Stewart, Mike Bunitsky, Eileen Spangler, Jan Goodman, Jessica El-Zeftawy.

Call to Order: 5:01 Lauri Gross called the meeting to order. The guest speaker for the meeting was postponed until the May meeting.

Minutes: Jill Griffith moved that the February 19, 2024 minutes be approved and Suzanne Beal seconded. The minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Claire Kondig reported about dues and an anonymous \$60 donation received, which a member donated to cover LWVFC dues for another member. Claire paid dues to the National Capital Area LWV. Current balance is \$6,263. Sue Kunkel and Claire have met to work on coordinating Sue's transition to Treasurer and Kate Jones has ensured that Sue has access to the Treasurer's digital records and PayPal. Sue mentioned that LWVMD has info on insurance against suits from sexual harassment, and EEOC. Future LWVFC leadership will discuss whether LWVFC needs this additional insurance. Jill moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and Lauri seconded.

Membership: Jill, Ellen and Kate discussed their efforts to better track new members who join LWVFC online, and their efforts to engage new members as soon as they join.

Voter Services Forums: Nannette Hobson noted the first 6th District Democratic forums are April 11, 16, and 23. The committee received good responses for the first Congressional forum, but not subsequent forums. The Republican 6th District forum will be held on April 18. All but two candidates responded for the first school board forum. The school board forums will be held on April 25 and 30. Nannette and Kate will make sure they can handle the needs of running virtual forums. Nannette is also working on the script for the forums, including opening remarks and a final list of questions. Lauri will review the script and Nannette will also send it to Betty Mayfield for review. Voter Services will hold a dry run 24 hours before each forum. Nannette introduced new member, Jeneen Stewart, who works for Frederick County Public Schools and plans to assist Nannette with the candidate forums. She is active in the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority chapter and is interested in coordinating efforts between Delta and LWVofFC.

Voters' Guide: Lauri updated the board on the Voters' Guide. Because there are so few elections and candidates and the Voters' Guide will not be printed for the primaries, the work on the Guide is nearly complete. [VOTE411.org](https://www.vote411.org) with the digital Voters' Guide goes live to the public April 1. Most school board and Congress District candidates have responded. Reminder calls and emails are being sent to convention delegates, who received their invitations last. A league member has translated the school board questions in the Voters' Guide into Spanish and Lauri has had another person check the translation. All candidates are responsible for translating their answers to the league's questions into Spanish. For the general election, the league must submit a final PDF of the Voters' Guide ready for printing to the Frederick News Post. Lauri has found a Frederick Community College student who will do the design and layout on the Guide for free in the fall.

Publicity: Lauri and Rosemary Orthmann will be working together on publicity. Lauri sent out a press release about the forums.

Website: Kate Jones and Sue Kunkel are working together on the website. They will hold a meeting every Friday at 10am to coordinate work on the website and be available to members with questions. Kate and Sue can now access PayPal and they and Nannette can now access Facebook, so new content will start appearing on FB. Members can now sign on to the website and determine whether they're up to date on their dues, review meeting minutes, and read the newsletter. Jill has started to monitor LWVUS and other messages on the website. Kate has also set up all the forum Zoom meetings.

Nominating Committee: Margaret again reported on the members nominated as officers for the 2024-25 board, which will become part of the Annual Report for the Annual Workbook presented at the 1pm April 27 Annual meeting.

LWVNCA: Sue Krause was not present but Lauri reminded everyone that the LWVNCA's National Convention will be in DC on May 4.

Ranked Choice Voting: Margaret Hindman noted that the league board has approved a statement on its position on RCV. On April 10, the Frederick City Board of Aldermen will meet to discuss recommendations from their Charter review. RCV is one of the issues that the Board of Aldermen will discuss. Margaret will be out of town that day, so she will find someone else to present the league's statement to the Board of Aldermen.

Annual Meeting: Lauri said that LWVofFC will hold its Annual Meeting at 12pm on April 27 at the C. Burr Artz Library BUT THIS HAS SINCE CHANGED TO A 1pm START TIME. Lauri sent the Workbook to the board on February 20. The Workbook is then due

to the membership on March 27. Sarah has lined up an affordable housing guest speaker for the meeting: Angie Lollar, Deputy Director for the Housing Authority of the City of Frederick. Lauri reminded everyone to bring their diaper donations (preferably larger diapers) for Centro Hispano to the meeting. Lauri will ask board members to retrieve Go Vote yard signs from Claire's garage and distribute them at the meeting for attendees to place in their yard and other locations.

Elections Board Voter Registration Volunteer Training: Esther Ziegler, Rosanne Roe, and Ellen West attended an Elections Board VR Volunteer training on March 8. They plan to host voter registration tables at Homewood on March 25 and 26.

Miscellaneous: On March 5, Jill and Kate attended a virtual meeting sponsored by LWVUS about their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion program, their plan to advocate for getting rid of the electoral college, and more. Kate noted that the LWVofFC has its DEI mission statement on the first page of its website and it will be presented at the LWVFC April 27 Annual Meeting for inclusion in the bylaws. George Carroll attended the March 4 Lobby Night in Annapolis. There was a brief discussion about the league's role as a nonpartisan organization with the mission of getting citizens registered to vote and then getting them to vote. In addition, the league is also a political organization that does sometimes advocate for certain political positions.

Adjourned: 6pm Lauri adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by Secretary Rosanne Roe.