League of Women Voters of Frederick County, MD
Board Meeting, May 19, 2025

Attending in Person: Kate Jones, Jill Griffith, George Carroll, Lauri Gross, Patti Connor, Sue Krause, Peggy Durbin, Ellen West, Sue Kunkel, Marilou Barrett.

Attending Virtually: Rosanne Roe, Barbara Schectman, Karen Paris, Margaret Hindman, Nannette Hobson.

Call to Order: 5:01pm Kate Jones called the meeting to order. Kate noted that the meeting would be recorded on AI, which would create a transcript of the discussion. Rosanne Roe would then use this document to double-check the minutes.

Minutes: March 17, 2025 Minutes were accepted at the 65th LWVFC Annual Meeting on April 19, 2025. Kate asked that board members review and provide Rosanne corrections to the Annual Meeting Minutes while they are still fresh in participants' minds.

Membership: Jill stated that the league has 108 members, some memberships have expired, and none have been renewed. After reviewing new member surveys, the committee has reached out to 12 new members on ways to volunteer. Kate encouraged all members to take the survey, whether they are new or current members.
Kate noted that the league has had two new member meetings in the last 12 months and that our bylaws require 4 full membership meetings per year. We will need to schedule 2 more, maybe 3, this year. Information on volunteering will be provided at these meetings. For those who would like to volunteer for the CASA bystander volunteer effort, Patti Connor said that she would check with the Frederick UUCF about availability of training. Board approval is not required to participate, because the national league supports the effort.

Events:

Patti reviewed the Events Calendar and requested that all volunteers staffing LWVFC events put their information on the calendar. Events are organized into four categories: Green for board-authorized events; Red for events that need a lead; Yellow for events that have just been added; and Gray for events that were under consideration, but the LWVFC has decided not to attend this year. Kate noted that the national league has requested that each local league use a form (see link in agenda) to track volunteer hours for tabling and voter registration events. The lead for each event will be responsible for submitting a completed tracking form for each volunteer.

Upcoming Events: Kate also noted that several tabling events are coming up in May and June. Sue Kunkel and Patti reviewed some of these events, including some still under consideration or not fully staffed, including Asian American Center's Asia on the Creek Festival (June 14, 2-7pm) and Immigrant Heritage Festival (June 6, 4-8pm, Hill Street Park).
Barbara Schectman volunteered to be the lead for the Immigrant Heritage Festival, but she will need tabling materials and three other volunteers. Sue Kunkel stated that she could provide Barbara with the materials and will pay the $25 registration fee. Other possible events include the Tidewater Festival (no date set), Teach Truth Day of Action 2025 (June 7), and First Saturdays.
Also under consideration is the Frederick Summer Concert Series (June-August 2025) at the Baker Park Bandshell, where volunteers sell raffle tickets in exchange for free social media advertising. Each concert will require four volunteers. Rather than trying to cover all the concerts, Jill suggested that the league cover one or two, which would require fewer volunteers. Sue Krause offered to volunteer for one of the concerts.
All Saints Episcopal Church is holding a Juneteenth Celebration on June 19 and Sue Krause also volunteered for that.
The league has missed the registration deadline for the Frederick July 4 event at Baker Park, but it will be added to the calendar for consideration next year. The registration fee for that event is $500, the deadline is April 18, 2026 and it requires five volunteers.
Sue Kunkel mentioned that, while the league is already registered and planning to table at the PRIDE Festival, a parade will also be held the evening before,

and it will cost $100 to march in the parade. Kate suggested that the league table at the festival, skip the parade this year and add it to the Events Calendar for consideration next year.
The league may also have a tabling opportunity at the Frederick "NO KINGS Nationwide Day of Defiance Rally" at Mullinix Park (June 14, 11am-1pm). George Carroll mentioned that he is interested in continuing to table at high schools and wondered whether he could send a letter on the topic to the county BOEd, because Mike Bunitsky, who has coordinated this effort in the past, is moving. Kate said that that was the correct approach.
Legislative Breakfast: Ellen West reviewed the preliminary plans for the Legislative Breakfast on December 6. The event will be held at the Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ in Frederick, last three hours, and cost $850 for the room. Last year, the league charged a $10 entrance fee for all participants (not speakers). Ellen suggested that the league consider charging $25 entrance fee this year. Kate agreed that the league should charge an entrance fee, because it made money on the event last year. Ellen confirmed that volunteers will prepare the food for the event. Ellen has forms for the event that need to be signed by Kate or Sue Kunkel. Ellen and Linda Norris plan to meet May 22 to further discuss plans for the breakfast.

Voter Services: Nannette Hobson noted that the committee continues to monitor the status of Frederick City elections (Primary, September 9; General Election, November 5), including the candidates who have announced that they are running for office. July 1 is the deadline for registering to become a candidate, so additional people will be announcing their candidacy in the coming weeks.
For this election, Frederick is following a different process than in the past. Each district neighborhood will have one candidate. At the Forums, citizens will have an opportunity to meet the candidates. Because the city has not provided adequate information on the new elections process, disseminating information on the candidates and that process will be important.
Lauri Gross noted that LWVFC will not be providing candidate information for the Frederick elections on VOTE411, because the state league charges $300 to set up a VOTE411 portal for local elections. However, Lauri will be working with

the *Frederick News Post* on their Voters' Guide, which will carry the LWVFC's name, and a Voters' Guide will appear on LWVFC website.

Publicity: Lauri said that the committee will be issuing a press release for the Legislative Breakfast but had nothing further to report at this time.

Ethics: Kate noted that the board needs to appoint a new chair for the Ethics Committee, because that person needs to begin work on recruiting new committee members and the nominating and hiring process for the Ethics Commission. Sue Krause indicated an interest in the position. She was nominated for the position and confirmed by a unanimous voice vote.

LWVNCA: Sue Krause stated, and Sue Kunkel confirmed, that the league has received $1,007 as repayment for its dues paid to LWVNCA, which has recently dissolved.

Website: Kate and Sue Kunkel have become the Mid-Atlantic liaisons for ChapterSpot. Their role is to help other leagues with questions on ChapterSpot. The national league has scripted answers to most questions, but Kate and Suel are also learning a lot from counseling other leagues, which can be applied to LWVFC's use of ChapterSpot. Kate asked that all board members ensure that their contact information on ChapterSpot is correct, especially when renewing membership.

Miscellaneous:

LWVMD Convention: Kate stated that LWVFC has four voting delegates for the convention. In-person attendance costs $275 and online attendance costs $200. Kate plans to attend in person and Jill and Patti have asked to attend in person. All three plan to be voting delegates. Sue Kunkel and Peggy Durbin have asked to attend virtually. George plans to attend but will pay his own registration fee. Kate proposed that the league pay for Jill, Patti, Sue Kunkel and herself to attend as voting members. A motion was made to cover their registration fees, Ellen seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Girl Scouts: Jill mentioned that the Girl Scouts would be attending a future LWVFC Board Meeting after their state convention. She discussed the status of collaborating with the Girl Scouts on their Civics Badges and civics education. She noted that the Girl Scouts are organized similarly to the LWV with national, regional, and state offices. The regional office for Frederick County is located on Hillcrest Drive in Frederick and that's where any league outreach to the Girl Scouts should start. Jill will be unable to continue working on this project and is looking for a volunteer to step in. She noted that the Ohio Girl Scouts has already developed a curriculum for the Civics Badge, so the LWVFC would not have to start from scratch in its collaboration with the local Girl Scouts.

State League Listening Sessions: After the Maryland Convention in June, an LWVMD Board subcommittee would like 30-45 minutes on the agenda of an upcoming LWVFC board meeting. The state league is piloting a program for listening sessions at different sized local leagues.

Police Accountability Board (PAB) Committee: Kate has been appointed to the PAB's Administrative Charging Committee, which reviews investigations of officers. She attended the first meeting, where the committee reviewed 6-8 complaints, most of which were on minor issues.

Adjourned: 5:58pm a motion was made to adjourn and seconded, so Kate adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by Secretary Rosanne Roe.