LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WINCHESTER STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING DECEMBER 12, 2017 PUBLIC MEETING AT WINCAM, 32 SWANTON ST. WINCHESTER

Present: Facilitator, Patty Shepard, Secretary Jan Dolan, Elinor Quill, Robin Wolf, Susan Woodward, Judy Blaine, Vicky Coccoluto, and Alan Field, LWVW friend. Not attending: Michele Bartalini, Lauren Costello and Mary McKenna.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05. Following member check-in, the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting of November 14, 2017 were approved as circulated. Patty will forward the final version to Susan Woodward for website archival.

Treasurer's Report: Robin presented a written report. She did not have to write one check in November. The closing balance of 10/31/17 was for Business Checking: $5,407.33 Certificate of Deposit: $7,154.52.

Membership Report: Vicky reported 54 members have paid; of this three are life members and three are new members. As of 12/12/17 there are 28 fewer members compared to 2017. The deadline for membership is 1/31/18.

Program Follow-ups: Moveable Feast Dec.7. Leads Elinor Quill and Jan Dolan reported that this annual event was a success. The Meeting Room at The Winchester Public Library was a splendid location. D’Agastino's provided the food and Stop and Shop donated the cake which was presented as a salute to the municipal employees. There were 48 municipal employees attending a nd 14 League members who volunteered. The volunteers noted that the placement of the reception desk at the entrance was effective. The library staff and the director, Ann Wirtanen were very helpful. Jan recommended that the League review the amount of food ordered from D'Agastino's and will determine if the Town Manager's office sent a reminder to the various municipal departments. Bills for various expenses will be sent to the Treasurer.

Upcoming Events: The March Candidate Forum for the March 27 Town Election: Vicky, Robin and Susan volunteered to be the committee. A question as to the Moderator was raised. There was no decision and the committee will discuss this and make a recommendation.

OLD BUSINESS

Vote Banner for Town Election- March 27, 2018. Susan stated that Litho-Craft will place the new date patch on the banner. She indicated that the banner will be displayed on the Shore Road side rather than the ever popular Church St. side. Susan will send the bill from Litho-Craft directly to our treasurer.

Request from Arlington LWV: The Arlington League requests that Winchester League be co-sponsors of a candidate forum for DA candidates in Middlesex County next spring ( the election will be in the fall of '18). Patty indicated that the Arlington league is in the process of planning the event and is part of a statewide non-partisan effort to increase the dialogue about criminal justice reform. It looks like Patti Muldoon will be moderating and it will take place in the late spring. Robin, Vicky and Susan volunteered to assist.

Update on the MBTA and Town Center Project: Mary was not able to attend the meeting but sent a message that the MBTA indicated that a meeting of the involved parties will be held in January 2018.

Distribution of Winchester League files and papers for review: Susan presented a satchel full of files and papers that Gloria Legvold had passed along to her. Each member was encouraged to take a few

   

items, examine and recommend action at the next meeting. Susan was delighted to find that the satchel was empty.

Access to Old Files in Drop Box : Judy and Susan are working on this project and will report action at the next Steering Committee meeting.

Spring Book Read: Vicky reported that she has had recent conversation with Chris Kurhajetz , Director of Social Studies at Winchester High School. He recommends the book, JUST MERCY written by Bryan Stevenson. He favors a date in late March or early April which fits into the students' schedule. Vicky will continue the planning.

Target dates for High School voter registration: Susan reported that she has consulted with Mia Gustin, WHS Office Manager as to recommended dates for the registration. In addition she has talked with the Town Clerk for specific registration dates.

Ideas for a spring program: Vicky reported a message from Lynne Brodsky a LWV member requesting a program on Single Payer Health Plan. Vicky indicated that the first move is to determine if the LWV has a position on this issue. During this discussion it was noted that we need to put the Annual Civic Award and the Annual Meeting on the meeting agenda for January 2018 and set up some subcommittees.

NEW BUSINESS

Who will be our legislative envoy to the Massachusetts League? It was decided, and Vicky agreed to send a message to our membership about the opportunity and also do some outreach to members we think might be interested.

Moderator Training Coming Soon – Questionnaire. Patty will complete the questionnaire.

LWVMA Metrowest Field Service meeting January 13, 2018 - Who will represent LWVW? Susan and Judy agreed to attend, with Patty as a back-up if Judy cannot do it.

OTHER Vicky reported that Jo-Ann Michalak contacted her concerning a request from a student at Salem State who is eager to discuss a series of questions on the subject of the 2016 Presidential Election and the issues that could affect women voters. The Steering Committee expressed interest but also concern, emphasizing the non-partisan posture of the League of Women Voters. Vicky said that she would contact the student, discuss the League's position and recommend other possible organizations that the student could question.

To fill in gaps in the upcoming schedule, Jan agreed to host the February meeting and Judy agreed to be the secretary for the April meeting and facilitate the May meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38. Respectfully submitted, Jan Dolan