

**League of Women Voters of Winchester  
Steering Committee Minutes  
Via Zoom April 14, 2020**

**Minutes: Robin Wolf  
Facilitator: Jean Herbert**

**In Attendance:** Jeanette Kolodziej, Lynne Brodsky, Robin Wolf, Meredith Mason-Crowley, Jean Herbert, Kim Foley, Sue Carney. recorded the minutes. The meeting was facilitated by Jean Herbert.

The meeting was **called to order** at 7:05 via Zoom due to the current public health crisis.

**Minutes** of the March 10, 2020 meeting were approved after a brief check-in.

The **Treasurer's Report** was previously distributed via email. Assets are \$16,290.06 as of March 31. We gained one new sustaining member in March.

**Communications update**—nothing to report for the month of March,

**Fundraiser:** The date for the Jimmy Tingle fundraiser has been changed to September 25. One person requested a refund as a result but we have sold 35 tickets so far. There was a brief discussion of contingency plans in the event of having to once again reschedule. We will go along with whatever the Governor and public health officials recommend in the event the current COVID-19 situation persist into the fall.

**Annual Meeting and Citizenship Award.** Due to social distancing requirements and the lead time required for planning, we agreed to not give a Citizenship Award this year, and the Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom or another electronic platform. We are required to vote for a Treasurer and new Steering Committee members, receive member input on programming, vote on a budget for the upcoming year, and transact any other appropriate business. We need a quorum of 15% of members, which is estimated to be 14. The meeting will be held on Saturday, June 13 as previously determined. We will begin the process of recruiting new Steering Committee members for next year; we already have one confirmed to replace an outgoing member.

**Town candidates debate and election.** The town election will be held on Saturday, June 20. We understand that people will be allowed to vote by absentee ballot if they feel at risk because of COVID-19.

We had previously solicited the School Committee candidates' answers to forum questions, and we are holding them pending finding out whether we can have a public debate or not. If we can have a live forum on camera, that is the preferred option, but we will be flexible pending developments.

**Voter registration**—nothing to report. People can register to vote online or by mail, as in-person registration may be unavailable. We will put voter registration messages out via usual publicity methods (Facebook, local newspapers, etc.). Lynne and Jeanette will coordinate publicity. Jeanette will contact the Winchester High School principal asking him to encourage WHS students to register. We will do publicity for registration for the state primary over the summer; the election is September 1.

**100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration**—Our League spent \$304 on “We Did It For You!” which was very well attended and well received.

**Safe Communities Act**—At the March meeting Phil Conley from the Network For Social Justice asked us to inform the Network about anyone we know who might benefit from being in a Safe Community.

**Town Common Task Force**—Robin Wolf is a new member of the TCTF and is their Treasurer. They are in the process of developing a more “official” organizational structure in preparation for fundraising for various community-building and civic engagement efforts.

**MAWOCC**—activities are temporarily paused due to the current health crisis and MAWOCC leadership changes. The 4 Facebook Live events have been completed. Lynne continues to be in touch with MAWOCC and Boston area DEI groups.

**Mail-In Voting**—Meredith reported on mail-in voting. 5 states have fully mail-in voting but it is a controversial topic that seems to break along party lines, with some exceptions. The National League is encouraging “no-excuse” absentee voting and mail-in ballots and Meredith is in the initial stages of research.

**Reverse 911**—Lynn reported that reverse 911 was used to notify voters of the rescheduled Town election and expects it will be a resource for future election-related notifications.

The **May 12 meeting** will be held via Zoom. Robin will set up the Zoom meeting and facilitate, and Jeanette will be secretary.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Wolf