

**Winchester League of Women Voters  
Final Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee  
Tuesday March 12, 2019**

Location – Public Library Small Conference Room, Winchester MA

Host – Jan Dolan

Facilitator – Patty Shepard

Secretary – Lynne Brodsky

Attending – Patty Shepard, Jan Dolan, Meredith Crowley, Lynne Brodsky, Jeanette Kolodziej, Robin Wolf, Vicky Coccoluto, Susan Woodward

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

Member checkin time

Minutes – the minutes of the February 12, 2019 meeting were approved.

Membership report – Vicky distributed the Membership Report, and a list of 85 active members. Her report included some donors who are not members.

Treasurer's Report – Robin submitted the Treasurer's Report.

Banner – Jeannette took delivery of the banner on March 11, and announced it will be hung on the Church Street side of the traffic rotary on March 13.

Steering Committee – We need to find new members for the Steering Committee this summer, to replace Gail and Denise, who resigned, and Patty and Jan who will be completing 4 years on the committee.

Program Follow up –

Jan, Patty, and Jeanette met and completed program planning recommendations for the State League. These were sent to Karen Price at the LWVMA Board, which incorporates input from the chapters like ours, and submits them for voting at the State Convention every other year.

Candidate forum – The Candidate Forum took place on March 3. We had good participation from League volunteers, including at least one new member, Things generally went smoothly. We debriefed about various aspects. Anticipating the Town election next year, we have reserved the Jenks Center room and WinCAM for Sunday afternoon March 15, 2020. There is no way to plan this far ahead for State legislative seats that will be open for election in the fall of 2020.

## Upcoming Programs –

Jeanette updated us about the plans for the Spring Book Read with Winchester High School students coordinated by WHS student Elizabeth Rozmanith, and teacher Chris Kurhajetz. This event will take place on Wednesday April 24, 3:30 to 5:00 pm at WHS, conference room A-101 (to the right of the front door when you enter). The book we will discuss is All the Real Indians Died Off and 20 other Myths about Native Americans. Copies of this book are available at Bookends.

MAWOCC (Mass Women of Color Coalition) – Patty, Jeanette, and Lynne have participated with members of MAWOCC in 2 conference calls. They have established a shared Google Document in which we all are participating. While we still are getting to know each other, exploring what our process should be, we also are talking about possible joint projects. These may include an event highlighting the true history of the Suffragist movement (hint – the significant contributions of Black Women activists were rejected in 1920, and more often than not, are neglected today). This would be in 2020 to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Women Suffrage and of the League, and to look forward at our guiding values of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. We also would like to focus on MAWOCC's agenda and leadership in these areas in Massachusetts. More to come as we continue our conversations with them.

LWVW Civic Award – We discussed some possible recipients for the award. Merry, Patty, Jan, and Robin will act as a subcommittee to develop this year's award.

Town Day – To reserve a table and a tent costs \$145. Jan will reserve this on line. We will need volunteers to staff our table.

LWVMA Convention in Westford – June 7-8. We discussed recruiting members to attend. Those attending can vote on State League policies and actions.

Annual Meeting of LWVW –

Jan and Patty will plan the agenda of the Business meeting, because they are rotating off the Steering Committee.

Robin will present the annual budget at the meeting.

Hospitality – Lynne, Jeanette, and Patty volunteered to engage the caterer, or possibly buy or prepare the food ourselves. We also need to consider decorations.

Civic award (see above) – Merry volunteered to meet with the subcommittee, and once a nominee is selected, to meet with them.

Lauren will contact the local papers.

We need to select and purchase an appropriate gift for the recipient of the award.

Some of us have been exploring Steering Committee membership with interested members, and new SC members will be presented at the annual meeting.

Planning for 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event – see above.

We talked about local resources, such as Nancy Shrock's posting to the website, Ellen Knight, Barbara Berenson.

Miscellaneous from State and National League –

Recommendations about DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion).

A link was recently sent to membership to an excellent article by Edith Mayo (a precis of a book by Rosalyn Terborg-Penn) about Black Women Suffrage activists of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Reminder about the new League logos, which should be on all League communications.

We adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Upcoming events -

Town Election 3/26/19

Spring Book Read – 4/24/19

Spring Town Meeting – 4/29/19

Winchester Town Day – 6/1/19

LWVMA 2019 Convention in Westford – 6/7/19 – 6/8/19

LWVW Annual Meeting and Civic Award Presentation – 6/15/19

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynne Brodsky