

## **MINUTES – STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, MARCH 10, 2020**

### **OPEN MEETING – WINCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

FACILITATOR – Erica Lane

SECRETARY – Jean Herbert

ATTENDEES - Lynne Brodsky, Amanda Littell-Clark, Merry Crowley, Susan Woodward, Vicky Coccoluto, Marilyn Mullane, Phil Coonley, Jeanette Kolodziej, Jeanette Grenzeback, Erica Lane, Jean Herbert, Jan Dolan, Robert Dixon, Emileanne Koehnleir

The meeting was called to order by Erica at 7:10 PM.

Welcome and Introductions

The minutes from February's meeting were approved.

The treasurer's report had been sent to all SC members and was accepted.

#### COMMUNICATIONS:

Amanda reported on the web site she discovered that is offered by the national League, called MyLO. There are several advantages to this site, such as some pre-created content (League history, voter education), good support from the LWVUS, and the fact that the content they provide is accessible (for example, for the visually impaired). Also, there is no need to double-post content; material goes automatically to other social media sites (Facebook, Twitter).

The program does not come with a payment mechanism such as Paypal. That would have to be purchased and set up separately. It also does not have a way to contact members through an email blast. That, too, would need to be set up separately, such as through Constant Contact.

However, there was a general feeling that this would be a positive change from the current Wild Apricot system. More will be discussed by the Steering Committee, with input from Vicky (for membership concerns) and others.

#### MEMBERSHIP:

Vicky reported 91 current members.

#### FUNDRAISER – JIMMY TINGLE, APRIL 4:

Marilyn distributed an assignment sheet for people to help on the night of the event. We have just one hour to set up. Jean reported that 30 tickets have been sold to date. Also, we received \$465.00 in donations.

#### SAFE COMMUNITIES ACT:

Phil Coonley spoke on behalf of the Network for Social Justice (NFSJ) about the Safe Communities Act. The legislature has extended the discussion period until May. This is a good sign, indicating that negotiations may be taking place to create a bill that they know the governor will sign. Phil reminded us that the LWV has a strong position in favor of Safe Communities, but he mentioned that training of police and reporting to the community could be added. Sixty towns in Massachusetts are already Safe Communities. Phil asked for our support to add Winchester to that list. He also urged us to thank our local legislators who are supporting the Act. The next step for the NFSJ is to speak with the Select Board. The NFSJ wants to create a climate that is optimal for the census, which is important for all of us. Also, they feel this is an opportunity for Winchester residents to share our values and express our openness as a welcoming community.

Phil asked us to share any personal story we may have about someone we know where being in a Safe Community would make a difference in their lives (such as a child care worker or cleaner). He encouraged us to visit their web site to watch a video and read some FAQs.

#### CITIZENSHIP AWARD:

Merry is collecting names of people being considered as recipients of this year's award. Suggestions are due March 15. She has four names now.

#### ANNUAL MEETING:

We will discuss details for the Annual Meeting at the April SC meeting.

#### CANDIDATE FORUM:

Because of the coronavirus, we decided to move the debate to WinCam instead of holding it at the Jenks Center. It will not be open to the public. The event will be recorded and aired. Lynne will shorten the program to accommodate more questions. She will send the questions to the SC members, with the understanding that they are not to be shared with the candidates ahead of the debate.

#### MARCH 31 ELECTION:

Jeanette has made sure the Vote banner is displayed at the rotary. We will have it displayed for the September 1 primary as well as for the November election.

#### SPRING READ

Jeanette has received no response from the school group that is supposed to be working with her. Given that things are in disarray due to the coronavirus, we decided to cancel the Spring Read for this year. We will think about broadening participation for next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

The next SC meeting will be Tuesday, April 14, 7:00 PM, at Jean Herbert's home: 10 Fenwick Road

Facilitator: Sue Carney

Secretary: Robin Wolf