

# League of Women Voters Asheville-Buncombe County Board Meeting

December 17, 2024; Zoom at 6 pm

Submitted by Patricia Hearn, Secretary

**In Attendance:** Suzanne Fisher, President, Patricia Hearn, Secretary, Nicole Wheeler-Schumacher, Vice-President, Kathy Schofield, Treasurer, Board members: Nadine Hamby, Donna Mann, Cheryl Williams, Sharon Withrow.

Suzanne called the meeting to order at 6:05.

**Minutes** from November 21 Meeting were approved by acclamation.

**Finance and Budget Update:** Kathy submitted a written report via email prior to the meeting which indicated that we are in good shape financially. For that reason, we did not solicit end-of-year donations but urged people to donate to hurricane recovery efforts instead. She noted that the largest expense for November was for insertions in the Mountain Xpress.

## **Membership Committee:**

- Winter social (a potluck with finger food) is scheduled for January 8 from 6:00-8:00 at the Tempie Avery Community Center. Board members are asked to arrive at 5:00 or 5:30 to help with set up.
- LWV 101 is scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 6:00, at the East Asheville Library. The content is geared toward new members but all are welcome.
- Chapter Spot (new membership system)  
Membership Questions Form will take the place of a survey. Proposed form can be viewed at <https://form.jotform.com/243024629801048>. Board members were asked to review it and send suggested revisions to Suzanne by December 23.

## **LWVNC**

- Annual Meeting will be held in May or June at the YWCA with catered refreshments. Board members are asked to let Sharon know which dates will NOT work for them.
- LWVNC Convention will be held May 2-4 in Durham: \$50 early registration (includes some meals); hotel room \$209 per night. People are needed to serve on the Program Priorities Committee whose work must be completed by March.
- Regional Meeting will be held March 22 in Hickory; each chapter may have 10 attendees. Suzanne encouraged board members to attend.

**Annual Meeting:** Suzanne distributed lists of required tasks, officers and board member terms, bylaws and past award winners. She asked that board members think about these in preparation for finalizing plans at the next board meeting.

**Voter Outreach:** Cheryl reported that there had been no events in December and that there would be one more observation of BOE meetings in each county before the end of the year. She recommended separating an “observer corps” from the voter registration team and noted that the coming year would be ideal for a new person to take over organizing registration activities given that there will be few elections in an “off year.

**ERA/Gender Equity Action Team:** Current effort is aimed at encouraging President Biden to publish the amendment before leaving office. Nadine reported that the Archivist has said this requires Senate approval and there is not enough time to obtain that.

**Election of the President by Popular Vote Action Team:** Suzanne is preparing to contact new and continuing members of the General Assembly to promote the idea.

### **Old Business**

- Member Survey: the function of the survey will be fulfilled by the Chapter Spot form. Sharon asked for specific suggestions to improve the “member onboarding” process so that new as well as current members have a clear understanding of league operations and ways they can participate.
- Coffee Chats: Following the example of the Henderson County league, Suzanne proposes starting to host these at area coffee shops or other similar venues once or twice a month, beginning in March 2025.
- Board Retreat is scheduled for March 5 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the club room at 60 North Market. The agenda will include long-range planning and consideration of what we might do differently. Suzanne asked board members to send her suggestions.

**Schedule of Meetings;** 6 pm via Zoom: January 16; February 20, March 20, April 10 (2nd Thursday), May 15 (Annual Meeting?), June 19

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.