

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY

### 2020-2021 MEMBER MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting conducted via Zoom

#### **Land acknowledgment statement**—read by Paul Lindquist

*We recognize the land we occupy is the ancestral home of the Ho-Chunk Nation, who have called this land Teejop (day-JOPE) since time immemorial. We acknowledge the circumstances that led to the forced removal of the Ho-Chunk people, and honor their history of resistance and resilience*

#### **Welcome & Orientation to Agenda**—Chris Clements

Chris started the meeting by acknowledging that we had a challenging year, including a pandemic, and voter rights challenges. She thanked the members for stepping up to these challenges and noted that thanks to our 641 members, we are well-positioned to continue working on these and other challenges. She also expressed sincere gratitude to the Board of Directors and all members who worked to empower voters.

Chris also acknowledged that the departure of Kate Vickery as Executive Director is a current issue, but the focus of this meeting will be on the past year's achievements.

#### **Process for 2021 Annual Meeting business**

1. Members were mailed a packet including 2021 Ballot Materials and an Annual Meeting Report.
2. All members were invited to attend a Ballot Question & Answer session via Zoom on May 6, 2021.
3. Members were asked to complete a written ballot and return it to the office by May 26, 2021
4. Per LWVDC bylaws, votes are to be counted by 2 LWVDC members. Margaret Fuguitt and Pat Sammataro counted the votes.
5. All members were invited to a meeting on June 2, 2021, to discuss vote results and to celebrate the past year's achievements.

#### **Election Results:**

141 ballots were mailed by the deadline. Per LWVDC bylaws, 30 votes are needed for a quorum.

Board candidates and Nominating committee were approved by 140 yes votes and 1 blank ballot.

Budget was approved by 131 yes, 3 no, 7 blank.

Withdraw 15% of the Memorial Trust Fund was approved by 131 yes, 3 no, 7 blank.

By-law amendments were approved by 131 yes, 3 no, 7 blank.

2021-2022 Program was approved by 132 yes, 1 no, 8 blank.

### **Domain Highlights**

#### **- Program—Georgiana Hernandez**

Georgiana reported that the past 15 months were challenging. April was the start of the programs no longer being presented as in-person events. We began with Zoom in the summer, and also had pre-recorded sessions. A total of 13 forums were presented via Zoom. Lively Issues, normally a luncheon, was changed to a conversation with Dr. Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins and we celebrated the League's 100 years. Attendance averaged 80 at virtual forums. The virtual forums enabled people outside of Dane County to participate.

Aileen Nettleton, Barb Arnold, and Mary Anglim are members of the Program Committee along with Georgiana.

#### **- Voter Service—Marian Matthews**

Marian also noted that her committee also had a challenging year due to limited in-person events. LWVDC partnered with the Voter ID Coalition and publicized the Voter Helpline which handled 2,200 calls. Over 100 people served as ballot witnesses for absentee voters who could not leave their homes. Members of the committee and volunteers also distributed flyers and worked with apartments and senior housing. Food pantries included flyers with their food boxes. Zoom registration was held at high schools and UW. Thanks to the Voter Service Steering Committee and a special thanks to Paul Lindquist who served as co-chair.

#### **- DEI—Lisa Janairo**

Lisa is helping our chapter implement LWVUS's DEI policy. Two DEI cafes were held via Zoom. She is hoping to bring new educational activities in the coming year. Lisa is planning to present short-term and long-term recommendations to the board in July. She also plans to work with various domains to expand

community partners.

### **50 Year Member Recognition—Mary Ellen Schmit**

Peggy Glassford was recognized for 50 years as a League member. Peggy's League service began in Park Forest, Ill., before she relocated to Wisconsin upon retirement. A summary of Peggy's work with the League was included in the Annual Meeting packet that was mailed to members.

### **Award Presentations**

The Carrie Chapman Catt award is presented each year to a member as a tribute to years of excellence in contributing to the community, making a sustained commitment to the League and to its governing principles, and fulfilling the words of Carrie Chapman Catt: "*What should be done can be done; what can be done let us do.*"

Two members were honored this year as Carrie Chapman Catt Award winners:  
**Gail Bliss and Caryl Terrell.**

Bonnie Chang and Laura Greuneberg introduced Gail; Georgianna Hernandez introduced Caryl. Both awardees spoke briefly about their work with LWVDC. A summary of Gail's and Caryl's work was included in the Annual Meeting packet that was mailed to members.

### **Conclusion**

Chris thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

### **Optional Q&A regarding Executive Director position**

Members were invited to stay and ask questions about filling the ED position. Those who participated asked what the plan is and will we just start over. Chris Clements explained that the board is devoting the June meeting to a thorough discussion of this topic. Members also asked how people who are not on the board can communicate their thoughts about filling the position. Chris said they should contact her.

Respectfully submitted  
Joan Provencher,  
Secretary