

MINUTES

July 6, 2022 Board Meeting (LWVSMC Lead)

Final meeting before Merger

via Zoom

ATTENDING (8): Carole Beyer, Elizabeth Bond, Barbara Chaudhery, Peggy Dellinger, Evelyn Murphy, Susan Sferas, Sharon Steinhorn, Louise Usechak

Standing business

- MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING: Approved.
- TREASURER'S REPORT: No income this period. Expenses included reimbursement to LWVSMC for Zoom account (yearly fee for a second account and one month of webinar upgrade). The treasurer's report will be filed for audit and posted on lswsmc.org and migrated to the archives of the new platform of the merged League.

Old Business

- **Harvard Business Case Workshop**

Peggy moved that we nominate Brian Boyce of Manalapan High School to attend the Harvard Business Case Study Workshop, scheduled for August 20 via Zoom. Passed. Peggy will extend a formal invitation to Brian and, based on his response, will submit the nomination by the July 15 deadline. Sharon Steinhorn passed the name of Pat Supplee to two social studies teachers at Manalapan High School to explore possibilities for our Energizing Young Voters program. Carole Beyer is in contact with the Social Studies supervisor, Michelle Lilley. If Brian attends, it will be another building block in our relationship with the school.

- **Natural Resources**

Louise reported that LWV has not yet formally submitted anything to the governing agencies on the Colts Neck proposed development that threatens the county drinking water supply. Colts Neck is asking the courts to declare that it has done all it can to fulfil its affordable housing requirements. Some in Colts Neck are urging the municipality install a sewerage system to replace septic tanks—a plan that threatens the water shed. Louise and team are working to finish League comments to submit to the County, copy to the DEP, on the Colts Neck proposal.

Evelyn explained that the proposed Program for the new merged LWV of Monmouth County covers action based on national and state League positions and the existing ILO programs including natural resources.

- **National Convention**

- Susan attended virtually as the delegate from the ILO. It was a hybrid (virtual + in person) convention and the technology worked well. 900 or so voting delegates attended.
 - Among other outcomes, the long-standing position opposing the Electoral College (merged with support of the National Popular Vote Compact) was elevated to a priority. Our ILO Board suggested offering an updated Electoral College talk as a Hot Topic in the coming year.
 - Monmouth County had a total of seven delegates (3 in-person and 4 online, including two students).
 - The suggestion was made to consider holding a zoom session for all our members debriefing the convention.
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Dissolution and Merger

- **Membership**

- Within days of recent Supreme Court rulings, Monmouth County Leagues received three new members. We discussed how to handle members joining just weeks before the merger and agreed to:
 - Use the dues structure proposed for the merged League, which is consistent with that just adopted at national convention (Suggested dues: \$55/individual; \$25/additional members in the household; flexibility to pay more or less—down to \$0).
 - Create a new membership form with the logo of the League of Women Voters of Monmouth County to use until a new form is created on the new web platform. Evelyn will work with Peggy to create the form in time for the “Bans off our Bodies” event Saturday (see below).
- We are committed to take part in the “Bans off our Bodies” demonstration in Asbury Park this Saturday, July 9, to organize and energize action in the wake of the Supreme Court ruling overturning Roe. It will be voter empowerment and advocacy event for us more than a registration event. We will let the public know where the League stands. It is an opportunity to attract potential new members. Marianne and Evelyn are working on materials explaining League positions on key issues (reproductive rights, gun safety, the environment, etc.). The message will be “Join us in fighting for these rights—Join the LWV.” (The current *Two River Times* cover story includes an article that quotes League positions on Choice and our reaction to the Supreme Court decision—a result of material submitted to the press by Mary Donnelly.)
- LWVMonmouth is our new League’s shorthand name—will be used for domain name, email, etc.

- **Dissolution**

- **Bank Account:** ILO is registered with state. Sharon moved that “*we dissolve the ILO of Monmouth County and merge with Southern Monmouth, Western Monmouth, and Greater Red Bank Area into a single League of Women Voters of Monmouth County under the tax ID of LWVGRBA and that all monies in the ILO treasury be transferred to the new League.*” Passed.
- **Physical Assets:** Peggy moved that “*all physical assets of the ILO be transferred to the new, merged League.*” Passed. Sharon will send the members of the Board an electronic copy of the list of assets from the 2013 ILO Annual Meeting booklet.
- **Website:** We’ve entered into an agreement with Club Express to migrate to a new website platform. Expenses have been underwritten by an anonymous donor (~\$3,000). Member Lisa Iannucci, a librarian, has offered to help us archive the historical documents of the ILO and three local Leagues on the new website.

New Business

- **Garage Sale:** Western Monmouth has a member (Adina Kantorowitz) willing to chair a Garage Sale, possibly in August or September. The Board supports the idea and Sharon will let Adina know that we would like to proceed as the new merged League.

Close-

- Adjourned at 2:35
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