

Minutes: ILO Board Meeting

September 9, 2019, Home of Sharon Steinhorn

Present

Carole Beyer, *LWVWM*

Peggy Dellinger, *president LWVSMC*

Susan Sferas, *ILO treasurer*

Louise Usechak, *ILO Natural Resources Director*

Barbara Chaudhery, *president LWVGRBA*

Evelyn Murphy, *LWVSMC Voter Service Director*

Sharon Steinhorn, *president LWVWM*

Treasurer's Report (Susan Sferas)

Available funds: \$5,537.37 (plus \$427.15 in the Education Fund). Expenses since July meeting were \$303.15: \$44.40 for the Voter Service Mailing to Freeholders and Sherriff candidates, \$60.75 for Vote411 Business Cards and \$100 to one of the teachers for the Harvard program. Report accepted, to be posted on the ILO Room of the Members Only Page of LWVSMC.ORG

Hot Topics

The Monmouth County Leagues are holding three Hot Topic Talks in the current fiscal year:

VOTING SECURITY (November 10)

Set for 3 to 4:30, Sunday, November 10 at the Shrewsbury Historical Society Building, Sycamore Ave., Shrewsbury. LWVWM is providing light refreshments. LWVGRBA is the lead. Barbara has emailed to potential speaker Dr. Andrew Appel of Princeton, expert and speaker on voting security, but has not yet received a reply. She has confirmed that Penny Venetis, Clinical Professor of Law and Director of International Human Rights Clinic of Rutgers will speak. If Dr. Appel is also available, we will offer a panel discussion. Mary Anne Kligman of LWVGRBA is writing a press release which she will send to the presidents of LWVWM and LWVSMC who will forward to their PR directors.

CENSUS (January 12)

Set for 3 to 4:30, Sunday, January 12 at Temple Shalom, 5 Ayrmont Lane, Aberdeen. LWVWM is the lead. LWVSMC is providing light refreshments. Sharon is considering asking Diana of the ACLU to speak. The two experts from the Brennan Center who spoke at last year's Census Hot Topic are also a possibility. Lisa Ianucci of LWVSMC has agreed to coordinate and lead LWV census activities across the county. Sharon will let Lisa know about the January Hot Topic (202-841- 1138 liannucc@yahoo.com). Peggy will ask Ted Dellinger (WVSMC webmaster) to put the links to the LWV's Census material on the website after the election.

POLLING (March 15)

Set for 3 to 4:30, Sunday, March 15. Discussed having it at (first choice, if no charge) Monmouth University or the Turner Gallery of the Ocean Township Library. LWVSMC is the lead. LWVGRBA is providing light refreshments. Peggy will secure a venue and invite Patrick Murray, Director of the Monmouth University Polling Institute. (She'll first contact Jesse, who knows Patrick well.)

Freeholder/Sheriff Candidate Forum (Oct 23)

Sharon is lead; Carole is on team and may take lead for 2020 Freeholder Forum. Set for 6:45 p.m., Wednesday, October 23, at Monmouth County Library Headquarters, 125 Symmes Road, Manalapan.. Sharon will confirm if one of the two candidates for sheriff has dropped out and amend the Forum Flyer accordingly. Developed topics for questions for candidates [Can be used for both the Forum and for Vote411, if we choose], which Sharon will draft and send to Board for comment:

Question Topics for Freeholders Candidates:

1. Freeholders' attempt to prohibit county from having "sanctuary cities." Evelyn (who attended and gave testimony at the Freeholders' public meeting) offered to draft a question for Sharon.
2. Voting security—possibly asking about budgeting for voting machine replacements and inquiring about the criteria on which selection would be made (paper trail, for example)
3. Single-use plastics—asking where each candidate stands.

Questions/Topics for Sheriff Candidates:

1. Opioid epidemic—how big a problem, what can be done.
2. Relationship between the Monmouth County Sheriff's office and ICE
3. How can the sheriff's office ensure that local law enforcement has the skill and knowledge to deal effectively with human trafficking?
4. How can the sheriff's office promote positive relationships between the police and the communities they serve?

Rally opposing natural gas pipeline (Saturday, Sept. 14, Marine Park, Red Bank)

Louise has been working with the LWV NJ National Resource team to educate public and organize resistance. Barbara and Sharon will forward the flyer on the rally to their memberships. (LWVSMC has already.)

Suffrage Program (Sunday, March 1)

Peggy represented Monmouth Co. Leagues at a August 27 meeting at the Ocean Township Historical Museum with representatives of the AAUW and T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center to plan a presentation women's suffrage with a focus on the experience of African America Women. The next meeting of the team is 5 p.m., October 10, at the T. Thomas Fortune Center in Red Bank. Members of the ILO Board are welcome.

Registration

Peggy distributed "I can't vote, but you can" buttons to LWVGRBA and LWVWM for their upcoming voter registration drives. Barbara to email Evelyn the link for ordering "I registered" stickers.

Change to Vote-by-Mail process

Legislation passed in August requires that every voter who cast a ballot by mail from the November 2016 election will receive vote-by-mail ballot for all elections going forward, unless they opt out—regardless of earlier opt-out requests or "just this one election" vote-by-mail applications. Deadline in Monmouth County for opting out for Nov. 2019 election is September 19 [confirmed by Evelyn after the meeting]. Evelyn will revise Jesse Burns (LWV NJ)'s press release with new details and email ASAP to presidents.

VOTE411

Peggy reported that 24 volunteers from across the county attended the Aug. 21 VOTE411 workshop at the Eastern Branch and signed up to cover 51 races. Ted Dellinger, who is handling the software, has been wrestling with technical challenges. Peggy will draft a letter from all three presidents to County Clerk Christine Hanlon asking that the emails for candidates for municipal office be requested by her office and included in the information available to the public. We'll send the letter after the election. Peggy will send Christine an OPRA request for the emails of the candidates for Freeholder and Sheriff and send Sharon (who is handling those races for VOTE411) a link to the VOTE411 checklist and templates on LWVSMC.ORG.

Legislative District Candidate Forums

LD 11—set for October 22, still looking for a venue, being handled by LWVSMC with help from LWVGRBA.

LD 13—received a request to partner with Brookdale, tentatively set for October 16 at Brookdale, being handled by LWVWM. **LD 30**—set for October 29 at Georgian Court, being handled by LWVSMC.

LWV Centennial Celebration

February 14, 2020 is 100th anniversary of the founding of the League. "NJ Women Vote" would like LWV to help staff a booth at the 2020 Monmouth County Fair. LWVGRBA is planning LWV centennial displays in the Keyport Historical Society and Middletown Library. LWVSMC with the Ocean Twp. Museum is installing a suffrage display at the County Clerk's Freehold office. More discussion at our next meeting.

Voter Girl

NJ Girl Scouts have purchased a program, Voter Girl, developed by (Ohio?) LWV that supports scouts at all levels earning badges related to voting and civics. Evelyn will find out if Monmouth Co. scouts are participating.

NEXT MEETING: 1 p.m., Mon., Nov, 11, at Ocean Township Museum, Deal Rd. Ocean. Barbara to lead.