



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WARREN COUNTY

59^h Annual Meeting League of Women Voters of Warren County
June 3th, 2021, 5:30 PM, Conewango Club, Warren Pa.

5:30 PM Social time

6:00 PM Order meal

6:10 PM Speaker – Lisa Rivett, Voter Registrar and Director of Elections

Business Meeting – following dinner

Annual Meeting:

Proposed Order of Business

Call to Order

Introduction of Board

Adoption of Order of Business

Adoption of Rules

Report of Nominating Committee/Election

President's Report – Susan Swab

Treasurer's Report/Budget – Christa Williams

VP Membership Report –Michelle Gray

VP Programs Report – Barb Scott

VP Communication Report – Phyllis Wright

Special Reports

Acknowledgements & Thank Yours

Directions from the floor

Adjournment

Board of Directors

President: Susan Swab

Secretary: Susan Stout

Treasurer: Christa Williams

Communications VP: Phyllis Wright

Membership VP Michelle Gray:

Programs VP: Barbara Scott (completing
Jennifer Bliss's term for one year)

Nominating Committee

Annette Sivak

Jennifer Bliss

Voter Registration Committee

Sally Beckerink

Jane Dunshie

Meeting Rules

In order that the meeting may proceed in an orderly manner, it is recommended that the following rules be adopted;

1. Those presenting local programs items have 5 minutes to speak, including a brief explanation.
2. Discussion on the program items will occur after all times have been presented and moved for adoption. There will be a ten minute discussion period for each item enabling the members to give direction of scope, focus, and emphasis.
3. Speakers from the floor are to limit their remarks to two minutes.
4. No member may speak more than once on any item until all those wishing to speak have had an opportunity to do so.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee; Annette Sivak Nominating Committee Chair and, Jennifer Bliss, Nominating Committee Member, have submitted the following slate to the Board and Membership;

President: Susan Swab Two Years
 Treasurer: Christa Williams – Two Years
 Vice President Communications: Phyllis Wright – Two Years

Nominating Committee: Jennifer Bliss – One year will chair in 2022
 ? – Two years will chair in 2023

Presidents Report

Last year, due to covid, we did not have an in-person Annual Meeting, rather we sent an Annual report to members and conducted business by email.

Despite the restrictions our League has been very active. We continued to meet regularly, mostly by zoom, and as restrictions lifted, in person. As you can see from the Program Communication Report prepared and submitted by Phyllis Wright and Jennifer Bliss, no virus can keep the League of Women Voters of Warren from its mission.

Programs/Projects

Program Communication Report - June 2020-2021 Compiled by Phyllis Wright and Jennifer Bliss

COVID 19 pandemic guidelines prevented many in-person meetings however the Warren League provided several virtual opportunities plus communication VIA web site – www.LWVWC.org, Facebook - Lwv wc hosted by Michelle Gray, plus virtual programs and news media. Board meetings were open to members via Zoom

League members and friends visited the “Justice Bell” (symbol of women’s right to vote 100th Anniversary) that traveled through Warren in 1917, and was on display at the Erie Co. Historical Society Watson Curtz museum.

The Fall membership meeting was held at the Warren Co. Historical Society – Irvine Museum where displays relating to passing of the Women’s Right to Vote 100th

anniversary, plus recognizing notable Warren Co. women. A quiz relating to the USA LWV 100th Anniversary history was shared. The 19th amendment – women Vote forever postage stamp was recognized.

Media releases encouraged people to complete the 2020 census for a complete count that would provide federal and state funds to various government services in our rural area.

The board completed the PA LWV program planning process for 2021-23.

Warren LWV joined Clarion LWV for a public virtual District 21 candidate forum for incumbent Senator Scott Hutchinson and Shelbie Stromyer in Oct.

Sally Eaton produced and edited the “2021 Government Directory” – a community service of our LWV. Jane Dunshie organized the distribution of 3,000 directories. The 4 page leaflet was funded by “Sally Sokolski Memorial Fund” of the Community Foundation of Warren County.

The Warren LWV organized a virtual Spring time legislative interview with Senator Hutchinson with topics from the PA and our league. Subjects included election law reform, redistricting reform judicial district, legislative rules, open primaries and national voting compact.

Legislation topics included working with the PA LWV and Fair District PA for the passage of “Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Act” –LACRA, House Bill 22 and Senate Bill 222. After the failure of a PA amendment for fair mapping voting districts process in earlier years, the new Bills were introduced to build and improve existing redistricting systems with transparent process, public engagement, map drawing criteria and Legislators roles remain. Over 20 media letters were written by Susan Stout and local news reporters including “Letter to the Editor. “ Virtual public programs were lead by Phyllis Wright and Susan Stout to provide better understanding and asking legislators to vote for Bills. Judicial districting was another focus of the league’s legislative work.

May 6th the local league joined the USA and PA leagues for the public “People Powered Fair Maps Day of Action”. Locally the LWV organized “It can Happen Here and It Did!” to show that gerrymandering moved Warren City and Mead Township to another district in 2001-2011. Volunteers formed car caravans, biked, walked from three points represented gerrymandered areas to the Courthouse for a rally to promote fair voting districts and LACRA.

In June a display table with league resources was available at the Warren Co Pride LGBTQA+ public event as part of our “inclusive” mission. The league continues to believe in Equality of Rights for all citizens.

The 2021 Annual meeting was held at the Conewango Club June 3rd with dinner and the Director of Elections- Lisa Rivett speaking on issues relating to citizens election ballots – Voter IDs, drop boxes, time restrictions for mail ins, automatic registration, etc.

Voter Registration 2020- 2021 – Sally Beckerink and Jane Dunshie

Throughout the past year Jane Dunshie lead the effort in all five county high schools to register eligible students to vote. This involved communicating with teachers instructing students in the classroom since the League did not enter buildings to work directly with students. A one paged “voting rights” information sheet was duplicated for classroom use. The Warren County School District Virtual Academy coordinator posted online the League’s information on deadlines, etc. for students not attending classes in buildings. That outreach was viewed by students in other counties where Warren’s Virtual Academy has contracts to serve students. Plans are made to register students before the Nov 2021 elections. It was a challenging year because of restrictions associated with the COVID pandemic.

Our focus as always will be on Voter Registration and education. We have multiple programs/activities for members to attend, help with, learn from, and enjoy.

The Board welcomes input, new ideas and suggestions for activities of interest of members

Special Acknowledgement and thanks to, Sally Eaton, Jane Dunshie and the Sokolski family and foundation for all their hard work and assistance in completing and distributing our Government Directory.

Respectfully
Susan Swab, President

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

