

LWV of Delaware

Pre-Board Report: Census & Redistricting submitted by Sandy Spence, Chair, January 13, 2020

Our work on this topic has proceeded slowly during the holiday season but is quickly picking up.

- I attended the state's Complete Count Commission in December and signed up LWVDE as an official Census Partner.
- Connie Jones has agreed to coordinate our Census work in Sussex and is doing a terrific job with close to 30 volunteers to date and working with First State Community Action on hard-to-count communities (LWV focus on seniors),
- Jane Lord has agreed to assist with print media,
- Mary Ann Coe has a section on the Census on our website,
- Marj Johnson and Mark K. Eggers are planning their respective League's participation, and
- Jack Young is supporting all our work.
- Jane, Jack and I met with Carol Jones for lunch at Dogfish Head Brewing & Eats to discuss the agreement with Dogfish Head to collaborate with us by introducing a 19th Amendment beer in August. We plan to announce it at our February 14th event. The current plan is for Dogfish Head to offer "exclusive" tastes on August 26 in conjunction with a 100th birthday parade on the Rehoboth Beach Boardwalk sponsored by numerous local women's groups, including LWVSC.
- At that lunch, we also developed plans for the National Day of Action LWVUS is promoting for Feb. 14. We will have an expert speaker on the Delaware Suffrage "debacle" (sorry for my editorial word) at an event at the Rehoboth Beach Museum to which all members in the state will be invited. We will also announce the Dogfish Head beer, etc.
- We are requesting proclamations from the Governor and General Assembly and encouraging local Leagues to seek proclamations from local officials.
- Meanwhile, Jack and I are looking ahead to our redistricting work on the General Assembly. We have learned the name of a person at the Dept. of Corrections who is collecting last home addresses for Delaware residents currently in Delaware prisons and a bill will be proposed to direct how this will be incorporated into data used by the General Assembly to count prisoners at that last address, an issue we have worked on in the past and currently. We are also investigating options for our ability to draw fair maps for the legislature if William and Mary decides not to focus on Delaware redistricting.
- Etc.