

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF METROPOLITAN COLUMBUS

### *Voter Services Committee Meeting Minutes 5/20/2018 at 1:00pm*

*Giant Eagle Market District, 3061 Kingsdale Center Columbus, OH 43221*

*In attendance: Mary Burkey, Sarah Beauchamp, Kaye Cragg, Kathleen Lensenmayer, Mary Carroll-Barrientos, Stuart Wright, Michelle Shinew, Jackie Nielson, Barbara Beardsley, Mary Austin-Palmer*

- I. Welcome & Introductions
- II. Approval of April minutes: Mary Austin-Palmer moved to accept, all approve
- III. Old Business: Committee reports
  - A. Youth Registration project update: Mary Austin-Palmer reports a very successful first year, with most all schools requesting repeat registration events next school year. One English teacher is writing a proposal to bring our High School Registration program into all 17 Columbus City high schools. Our first-year pilot program has occurred in ten schools, reached 387 students, registered 243 students, sent home 92 registration cards.
  - B. Mary Burkey on VoterGirls project update: All is moving well. All paperwork has been submitted to the South-Western Career Academy / Columbus State location at 4750 Big Run South Rd, Grove City, OH 43123 for our venue on October 27. Volunteers who wish to work on developing the curriculum for the Citizenship patches should let Mary Burkey know and a date in June will be set for a planning committee meeting.
  - C. Voting 101 resources. Ohio Voice presented an informative program to 24 LWV members on May 6<sup>th</sup>. We hope to make this a yearly event. LWVMC will hold a Speakers Bureau how-to session on July 29, so mark your calendar if interested. The presentation can be viewed on YouTube using these links or via the attached PowerPoint:  
Voter Registration (full program) <https://youtu.be/hTXCK5cHZ88>  
Voter Registration (Overview) <https://youtu.be/rpekWOyrHw4>  
Early Voting <https://youtu.be/h6AP8A5rmEI>  
Election Day Voting - <https://youtu.be/1hQ-WSHc770>
- IV. New Business
  - A. Build upon our Vision & Mission Planning. Our Vision: Making Democracy Work. Our Mission: To engage citizens in the election process and inform voters about non-partisan, impartial resources for making personal decisions on issues and candidates.  
  
We had an in-depth conversation about differentiating the mission of Voter Services as contrasted to other LWV committees such as Education & Advocacy. The consensus was that we should focus upon providing assistance in validating, updating, and registering citizen as voters as well as guiding citizens to Vote411 as a resource for those who wish

to make informed decisions on candidates and issues. We want to steer clear of advocating for issues so that we can maintain our historically non-partisan stance that allows our committee entry to a wide variety of venues and community groups. Michelle Shinew recapped our discussion with this outline:

Mission: Engage citizens in the election process and inform voters about the system

2018 Goals:

Expand Youth Involvement

- Educate young people about our election process through schools and organizations
- Enroll eligible 17 and 18 year olds
- Recruit Youth at the Booth
- Coach college students on voting location choices and how to get registered

Utilize Voting Resources

- Recruit all citizens to get registered and to vote at every election
- Provide education to explain process/requirements
- Promote and distribute League Election Bulletin/Online information
- Staff registration drives for underserved populations, Asian project, disabled, purged
- Partner with other organization to maximize outreach and resources

What are Voter Services' primary goals & what specific actions, events & venues should we target? We will revisit this question in our next meeting, using Michelle's notes above and the bulleted items below. Members are encouraged to think about activities and events that match their interests – let Mary Burkey know if you want to make a topic your project. And new members are encouraged to watch the Voting 101 presentation & jump in by volunteering on SignUpGenius!

- Asian Fest <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054ba4a72ea6f85-asian>
- Summer festivals
- Juvenile Detention & Residential treatment centers (Maryhaven)
- Postcard project
- Student march to early voting (Northland)
- Vote411 how-to video / sessions at community events
- Advocate for LWV issues: criminal justices reform, national popular vote, automatic voter registration
- Focus on youth – high schools & community colleges
- Accessibility
- Outreach to other groups (Ohio Voice, HeadCount.org)

- Disenfranchised & overlooked voters
- National Voter Registration Day Sept 25

B. Mary Burkey is our new committee chair. If you would like to explore the idea of co-chairing or helping out, please contact Elizabeth in the LWVMC office <vote@lwvcols.org>.

V. Adjournment at 3:20pm

Next meeting: **DATE & LOCATION CHANGE** Sunday, **JUNE 10, 1:00pm UPPER ARLINGTON MAIN LIBRARY** meeting room B (lower level) 2800 Tremont Rd, Upper Arlington, OH 43221