LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WINCHESTER

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, OCTOBER 7, 2014

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY ROOM OF THE WINCHESTER SAVINGS BANK

Attending: Juanita Zerda (facilitator), Jean Herbert (secretary), Susan Woodward, Nancy Schrock, Rosemary Pye, Vicky Coccoluto, Leslie Kennedy

The minutes were approved as amended.

The treasurer’s report was accepted.

There was some discussion of whether or not we should pay the $100.00 fee to join the Non-profit Network. Nancy will explore if this organization is relevant to our mission.

**Membership:**

We have two new members, for a total of 68.

Leslie provided us with the membership renewal letters we should send out next week.

We will do our direct appeal in February or March. Juanita will draft the letter to be reviewed at our January meeting.

Leslie will have 200 brochures printed. Jean will send a brochure and cover letter (already approved) to all Town Meeting members. Jean has already arranged to receive address labels from the Town Clerk.

Jean sent out the ‘Dear Neighbor’ letter last month. Leslie has the list; she and Nancy will follow up with emails.

**Voter Services:**

Vicky and Susan will contact the campaign managers for the candidates involved in the October 23rd debate for assistance with publicity and outreach to the relevant communities beyond Winchester.

Juanita, Vicky, and Nancy will meet October 20 to organize questions for the debate.

The high school registration at Stoneham and Winchester went well. Rosemary will follow up with the town clerks to find out what the returns were.

Leslie has already reserved the rotary for the banner for the March town elections.

**Communications Committee**:

Nancy will put the Guide to Elections on Facebook. She will send an email blast to members asking about rides to the polls and will send the Guide to Elections with that email.

Juanita asked Leslie to contact the teacher of the high school computer class to see if a student could help with our web page. We might consider a stipend. The committee will also put out another call to the members asking for someone to replace Maryann.

**Programs:**

The Farmers’ Market went well. It was a good date. Jean emailed people who signed the list that day.

After the lack of attendance at the “kick-off” event last month, we questioned whether the effort put into an event and the publicity for it is worth our time. We considered inviting the members for a discussion about the future of the League in March. One suggestion was to provide events only for issues that will be voted on. Our plans for this year were based on outreach to our members at the Annual Meeting in June, so we will assess attendance throughout this fiscal year.

The Town Center warrant will not be submitted this fall, so Nancy is putting off this program until February or March.

Jean and Susan Verdicchio will present the Mass League’s program on Campaign Finance Reform the last week of January at the Jenks Center.

Rosemary has organized the event on the ballot questions. Everything is ready.

She is reconsidering whether or not we should have another program on the health insurance for town employees as planned. She has a speaker lined up, but this event might be cancelled.

Jean and Juanita will meet to organize the “meet the new reps and senators” event. Leslie reserved the library for noon on December 9.

The proposed event for March about violence against women and girls has been cancelled; instead, the spring book selection will be about this topic.

Nancy has organized the Moveable Feast. The event is already on the town employees’ calendar and the food has been ordered.

Since Marilyn was not in attendance, we tabled the Next Door Theater Night discussion.

**Other Business**:

We decided to go ahead and advertise the event on Climate Change, but would not co-sponsor it.

Leslie suggested giving one of the two remaining gift memberships to the new director of the Multi-cultural Network. Everyone agreed to this.