

League of Woman Voters of the Hamptons
40th Annual Members Meeting
Sunday, May 7, 2017, 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Hampton Bays Senior Citizen Center

The Annual Meeting was attended by members of the Board of Directors and members of the LWVH and guests. Only members of the LWVH will be able to take part in the voting process during the business part of the meeting. Approximately 50 members and guests attended. Co-Presidents Glorian Berk and Judy Samuelson conducted the meeting.

After some light refreshments the meeting was called to order at 2:25 PM. Judy Samuelson, Co-President, welcomed all attendees and introduced our speaker, Minerva Perez. Ms. Perez is the Executive Director of OLA (Organizacion Latino-Americana) of Eastern Long Island. She spoke of her goals for OLA where her work focuses on the arts, education and advocacy for the Latino community and serves as a cultural bridge between Latino and non-Latino populations. OLA is a non-partisan organization that is looking to strengthen ties with other comparable organizations on the East End for the benefit and inclusion of the Latino community. They promote civic engagement and actively register voters to participate in local governments and issues.

Ms. Perez worked for The Retreat, a crisis shelter for women and children. She is the Chairperson of the Southampton Town Affirmative Action task force and a member of the Parrish Art Museum's Education Committee. She earned a BFA from NYU. Ms. Perez spoke for 45 minutes and after taking some question, concluded her remarks.

Business Meeting:

- Glorian called the Business Meeting to order. In accordance with our by-laws a quorum is present. The official recorder is Barbara McClancy and the parliamentarian is Susan Wilson.
- Barbara announced that the minutes of the last Annual Membership meeting of May 15, 2016 were approved by the BoD's of the LWVH. Judy followed by asking the member's permission to refer the minutes of today's Annual Meeting to the BoD's for approval. The membership approved this referral.
- Cathy Peacock spoke of the current state of our finances. We received some substantial donations from the estate of one of our members and Kathleen Tate, a local entrepreneur. Our overall solvency is in good shape. Referring to the proposed budget distributed to the membership in a Constant Contact on April 5, 2017 the proposed budget passed by acclimation.
- Barbara McClancy and Arlene Hinkemeyer reviewed the By-Laws and proposed some minor changes. These are on our website. (There is a link to them in the Constant Contact sent April 5th.) Barbara explained the changes should be made for clarity and correctness. She also informed the membership of a required "boiler plate" change made to Article III, Section 2 in June of 2016. The changes were presented, seconded and approved by the membership.

- Judy Samuelson presented the proposed changes to the League's Nonpartisan Policy. These changes help clarify the position and are also contained in the email sent on April 5th. These changes were approved by acclamation.

The President's Report:

Judy Samuelson, representing herself and co-president, Glorian Berk, presented a list of the chapter's accomplishment in the past year.

- The recognition and encouragement of the North Fork voters who have become members of the LWWH.
- We participated in a nation pilot project to encourage citizens in Brookhaven to voter by making individual phone calls to each.
- We conducted six candidate debates in national, state and local elections.
- Anne Marshall and Carol Mellor made some Public Service Announcements on local radio and cable access stations on voting information for the public.
- The Special Events Committee held a fundraising tour of Bridgehampton.
- The Health Committee presented an update on the coming merger of Southampton and Stony Brook University Hospitals.
- The Government and Health Committees presented a panel to explain the Single Payer option for Health Care.
- We held a Board of Directors training session to educate and encourage greater recognition of our goals.
- On September 26, 2016 we participated in National Voter Registration Day at various sites throughout the Hamptons.
- Special Events had a fundraising lunch and lecture by Kathleen King.
- Government held a Public Information Meeting (PIM) on the 2017 vote on whether or not to support a NYS Constitutional Convention (ConCon).
- We held a reception for new members to encourage participation in our committee work.
- Voter Services (VSC) helped to register our newest citizens at their naturalization ceremony at the Islip Federal Court House.
- In November there was a consensus on Legislative Procedures.
- We had a holiday party in December for the membership and local politicians.
- We held a planning meeting and decided our goals for the coming year include advocacy of league positions and better visibility for our local league.
- In February we held our always popular "Blah's Luncheon at Bobby Van's restaurant in Bridgehampton.
- In March there was a further ConCon PIM.
- The Natural Resource Committee held a PIM about the recent PSEG approved Deepwater Wind Farm development.
- Special Events held Pancake Brunch fundraiser at a restaurant in Westhampton Beach.
- The Education Committee participated in "Students inside the Suffolk County Legislature" and "Students inside Albany" programs.

The Carrie Chapman Catt Award:

The award was presented by Judy and Glorian to Estelle Gellman for all the hard work she has volunteered to take on. She is the Chair of Government and co-chair of Membership. Estelle is a tireless worker and never seems to say no to anything that's asked of her.

The Betty Desch Scholarship Award:

Judi Roth, representing the Education Committee, presented the \$1,000 scholarship to Andrew Wilson of the East Hampton High School. In addition to being an active volunteer, Andrew is involved in community service, is an East Hampton Lifeguard and an Eagle Scout. He would like to study and enter international diplomacy after college. His volunteer activity also led to his attending the second inauguration of President Barack Obama. Andrew accepted the award and thanked the LWVH for selecting him.

Nominating Report:

Afton DiSunno presented the Nominating Report that was included in the Constant Contact of April 5th. The current co-presidents will step down this year and Estelle Gellman and Susan Wilson will replace them. There is one change to her report. Judy Samuelson has declined to become an Appointed Director. Afton presented her report and the membership approved the nominations by acclamation.

2017 Program Suggestions:

These suggestions are the result of the January meeting.

1. Advocacy and support for civil rights. Lobbying, letters to the Editor, PIMs.
2. Reform at the Suffolk County Board of Elections.
3. Integrate the 100th anniversary of woman's suffrage in NYS (Gained in 1917) with issues affecting women in 2017.
4. Increase membership and improve member participation on committees
5. Reinstate the Observer Corps for local government meetings.

Local Positions:

Glorian presented the following local positions which were adopted by the membership in May 2016.

1. Recycling and Solid Waste. Support of recycling, composting and regional cooperation on solid waste management for the towns of EH and EH (LWVH consensus 1989).
2. Affordable Housing. Support of a diversity of affordable housing opportunities to meet the current and future housing needs of all citizens, regardless of economic circumstances. Support of mixed-use development and housing types of varying sizes and price ranges and encouragement of efficient permitting processes and collaborative community based planning for long term land use (LWVH consensus 2002).
3. Work Force Center for Day Laborers. Support of the establishment of a hiring center for day laborers in the Hamptons as a humane response to day labor hiring practices (LWVH consensus 2007).
4. Council-Town Manager form of Government. Support the reorganization of town governments to create the position of town manager who will assume administrative responsibilities thereby providing town boards greater opportunity to set policy and strategic direction (LWVH consensus 2010).

The membership approved all of the above local positions.

Presentation:

At this point the Board of Directors and the membership presented Judy and Glorian with gifts for their tireless work on behalf of the LWVH in their capacity as co-presidents. Judy and Glorian thanked everyone and introduced the new co-presidents, Estelle Gellman and Susan Wilson. Estelle and Susan expressed their appreciation and thanks to all. They also recognized the ex-presidents in attendance.

Directions to the Board:

The directions were presented to the new presidents.

- Encourage more interest and participation to residents of the North Fork.
- Monitor and support affordable housing in our area.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara McClancy
Recording Secretary

Attachments:

1. The Constant Contact of 4/5/17 containing
 - a. 2027 Proposed Budget
 - b. Nominating Committee Report
 - c. LWVH 2017-2018 Board
 - d. Non-Partisan Policy Revisions
 - e. 2017 Program suggestions
 - f. Local Positions, Approved May 2016
2. 2017 Annual Meeting Agenda
3. 2017 LWVH By-Law Revisions