

Team Activity Reports – August 2021

Updates from the President

Club Express – Analysis and due diligence in process. Recommendation will be ready by October Board Meeting.

LWVSMC Legal Status – Judy O'Malley completed her research on steps required to bring our status into conformity with League, State, and IRS rules and summarized her findings in a memorandum provided to Evelyn, as President, and Susan, as Treasurer. Susan is discussing options with Pat Thompson (LWVNJ staff) and Terry Thompson (LWVNJ former Board Member). No details to report at this time.

Voters Service Team – Several members have committed to participating as members of a re-constituted Voters Service Team. Informal discussions are underway. No meetings have been scheduled.

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Membership Team

Team Co-Chairs – Wilma Pfeffer, Diane Hara

Members

Current active members – 105.

One New Member – Donna Lembo, Brielle

Membership Renewals

Evelyn is working on additional emails

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LWV of Monmouth County (ILO)

Board Members from SMC – Evelyn Murphy (Leadership Team), Peggy Dellinger (Secretary), Susan Sferas (Treasurer), Annette Scott, Sherri West

ILO Board met Wednesday, September 1.

Minutes posted in the Members Only section of our website, under the "ILO Room" tab, under the heading "Meeting Documents."

Upcoming Programs:

Forum Volunteers Information Workshop, Monday, September 13, 7:00 pm.

Election 2021: What's New? What's Different? Sunday, September 19, 3:00 pm

Previously scheduled *Hot Topics* webinar postponed.

Next meeting Wednesday, ~~September~~ November 3, 1:00-3:00, on zoom. All members are welcome to attend. Contact Evelyn for the zoom link.

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Re-Enter, Register, Vote (RRV)

Team Chair – Annette Scott.

Voter Education and Registration

Team scheduled 20 meetings through 5 partners in 4 municipalities and reached 71 citizens **17 meetings** were completed – 5 in person, 9 zoom, 3 teleconference. 3 meetings were cancelled by partner organizations

Partners were Reentry Passaic Co. (Patterson), Reentry Middlesex Co (New Brunswick), Reentry Bergen Co. (Hackensack), Reentry Monmouth Co. (Neptune City), GEO Parole (Neptune City).

Volunteers in addition to Annette were Vanessa Merhi (GRBA).

Registrations – Two voter registrations and two address changes were completed at the in-person meetings and mailed. Three cell numbers were added to our text line.

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Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

Team Co-Chairs – Diane Hara and Lois Kiley

The DEI met on ZOOM, August 28, 2021, (attending – Lois, Diane, Annette, Wilma, Marie Curtis) and continued its ongoing discussion of terms relevant to understanding discriminatory practices across the United States. This month the terms were "redlining" and "a Karen":

DEFINITION: Redlining is the systematic denial of various services to residents of specific, often racially associated, neighborhoods or communities, either explicitly or through the selective raising of prices. The best-known examples of redlining have involved denial of financial services such as banking or insurance, other services such as health care or accessibility to places of business, e.g., supermarkets. In the case of retail businesses like supermarkets, purposely locating stores far away from targeted residents resulting in a redlining effect. Fifty years after the abolition of enslavement, local governments continued to legally enforce housing segregation through exclusionary zoning laws and city ordinances. The term "redlining" was coined in the late 1960s by **John McKnight**, a sociologist and community activist. It refers to the practice of marking a red line on a map to delineate the area **where banks would not invest**; later the term was applied to discrimination against a particular group of people (usually by race or sex) irrespective of geography.

DEFINITION: "A Karen" - Karen is a pejorative term used in the United States and other English-speaking countries for a woman perceived as entitled or demanding beyond the

scope of what is appropriate or necessary. A common stereotype is that of a white woman who uses her privilege to demand her own way at the expense of others.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

- It was suggested that websites related to DEI information (e.g. terminology) might be a category on the League website to serve as a resource for members who are interested. Lois will contact Ted Dellinger to discuss the possibility of this idea being implemented.
- The T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center was mentioned as a resource center for African American programs and a possible feature on Facts & Issues.
- Annette raised the issue of lack of access to Asian American communities for voter registration
- Discuss fundraising and increasing DEI membership for next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: September 25th, 11:00 a.m. at Deans Natural Food Market, 1119 NJ-35, Ocean Township, NJ 07712 - all members are welcome to join. Attendance by Zoom also will be available. Please contact Lois if you are coming.

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Observer Corps

Coordinator – Marie Curtis

Ocean Twp Council – Observer: Wilma Pfeffer

August 12 meeting lasted only 15 minutes.

- Public Hearing items: Open Space Resolution, Air Conditioning at the Municipal Gym, Drug Overdose Day were all approved with no public comment. Various expenditures (Police Department computer, vehicle improvements; Palaia Park roof replacement, cancelling real estate tax for veterans, road improvement, cannabis establishments, parking banned on Laurel Ave) all approved with no public comment.
- Next meeting will be September 9, 5:00 – 9:00

Ocean County Board of Commissioners – Observer: Anne Ugrovics

August 18 meeting attended after an article in NJ Spotlight alerted us that the Commissioners would be awarding contracts for e Poll Books and voting machines.

- The Board voted 5 to 0 to award the contract to Dominion Voting Systems. Dominion is a Toronto based company. The key factor referenced is that the Dominion machine produces a paper ballot which the ES&S machine does not.
- There were very few people at the hearing. The Chair of the Board of Elections supports buying the Dominion voting machines. These machines will cost Ocean County \$2.6 million for Early Voting, which will be reimbursed by NJ.
- One person from the public spoke in opposition to the decision.
- According to the new Census there are 637,000 people living in Ocean County. The Board of Commissioners believes the count is short by 25,000 people

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Facts & Issues

Host – Marie Curtis

August Episode Released

Words Can Hurt Interviews with LWVSMC DEI Team members Diane Hara, Annette Scott, Lois Kiely

Future Programs:

- Lois has asked to do a program with the group at the T Thomas Fortune Community Center in Red Bank. Waiting for a response there.
- Also awaiting a response from the Monmouth County Parks staff. They indicated a desire to do a program after the county fair. Phone calls are not answered, and I only get a robot menu and leave a message.
- I also want to do a repeat program with Annette's contacts about post incarceration adjustment.
- Since the Hot Topics was changed, I am also thinking of asking Orsted to do a show on what wind power offshore in Europe has meant to their coastal communities and economies.

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Candidates' Forum Team

Voters Service Co-Chair for Forums – Nancy Sabino
Scheduled Forums Grid appended.

Forum Volunteers Information Workshop scheduled Monday, September 13, 7:00pm

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Voter Registration Team

*Voters Service Co-Chair for Voter Registration – **open position***



Tabling Events Scheduled – Call for Volunteers will go out soon

- Ocean Twp Fall Fest, Joe Palaia Park, 10am – 4pm. *Peggy Coordinating*
- Ocean Grove Fall Harvest Festival, Main St., 10am – 4pm
- Asbury Park Community and Green Fest, Springwood Park, 11am – 3pm
- Jersey Pride Celebration, Asbury Park, noon – 5pm

National Voter Registration Day – Tuesday, September 28

- Ocean County College – Annette scheduled to be on campus to work with students
- Georgian Court University – Annette hoping to connect
- Asbury Park – Lauren McCaskell working on an event with local contacts

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Public Relations, Social Media, and Website

*Dallas Grove – Public Relations Chair, Nancy Sabino, Public Relations Co-Chair,
Lauren McCaskill – Social Media Chair, Ted Dellinger – Webmaster*

Website - Updated Homepage to provide easy access to Monmouth County Election Information.

Items Publicized – Coaster, Coast Star and Electronic Media

- Harvard Case Study Aug.26
- LWV Available to Hold Forums
- TapInto Belmar profiled Evelyn and Peggy
- Pictures from Jamie Watt at No More Excuses Rally

FaceBook – 22 Posts Reached 1,533 people with 118 Post Engagements, 36 Page Visits. 5 new Page Likes; Total 188 (160 Women, 25 Men); 6 new Followers; Total 203

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Vote411 Team

Webmaster – Ted Dellinger; Elections Information Coordinator – Nancy Clarke. Working with Anne Torre, GRBA.

Workshop (8/17) for Monmouth and Ocean Counties attracted 29 attendees. 25 became Champions. Covered 66 races – all 52 competitive races in Monmouth County and 14 races in Ocean County.

Recruited from LWVSMC – 16 Members and 3 Ocean County at-large Members

Ted and Anne set up all 66 races for September 1 launch.

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Energizing Young Voters (EYV)

Director – Pat Supplee

Programs: materials updates -*Module 2 of FFV (The Truth About Turnout)* has been updated with Census data figures from the 2020 election; former schools/teachers have been notified of new offerings and urged to get on the schedule.

Collaborations: Wilma Pfeffer (former CASA volunteer & employee; educator special needs) formulated early stages of plan to mentor foster kids; has met with director who will determine whether some issues can be worked out.

Development/Funding - "[story](#)" finished; looking for interested researchers to determine possible design and cost; have met with one from Rutgers (Camden).

Presentations: Citizenship education classes – (9/9 and 9/15); NJEA Convention (11/4-5) virtual and in-person; Dates TBD – Plainfield, NJ – multi-year implementation (all programs); Middletown HS South – multiple programs planned & implemented by 2 students under our guidance; Red Bank Regional HS – programs and voting simulation – planned by student; Four community and 4-year colleges in NY/NJ by adjunct professor who attended training workshops

Future sustainability of EYV. In scaling up in NJ, Pat envisions three regional districts each led by co-directors who will oversee the program in their region. The goal is to provide a transition in the future to maintain the program as its own entity, not "Pat's program." **Pat would like to hear from anyone with ideas on this.**

Youth Advisory Board membership terms will be 2 years; membership will be scheduled so there are always some experienced and some new members on the Board. **Students who wish to and can commit to a two-year term beginning this school year (9/21-8/23) should contact Pat.**

Training: All programs – YouTube recordings are available; will be posted on the website to assist teachers. They will be able to see the lesson being taught and interested adults commenting on them. Have a look yourself.

New intern - Katy Timari is a student at Rider U.

Publicity: Still a need. Newsletter being produced by Gina (former Intern, now volunteer). **Looking for volunteer journalism student** or League volunteer to write press releases for local news (print & virtual).

Candidate Virtual Forum Volunteers: 2021 General Election (as of 09_4_21)

FORUM	Organizer(s)	Director	Media Liaison	Question Screeners	Candidate Tech Resource	Timekeeper	Platform Hosts
MC Commissioner and Surrogate Wed., Sept. 29, 7:30 <i>League: Western Monmouth</i> <i>Moderator: Susan Ferris Rights</i> <i>Sponsor: LWV Monmouth County</i>	Sharon S Carole B						
LD-12 Thu. Sept. 30, 7pm <i>League: Western Monmouth</i> <i>Moderator: Evelyn Murphy</i> <i>Sponsor: RACNJ</i>	Carol Beyer? Elizabeth Bond?						
Ocean Twp. Bd of Ed Mon. Oct. 4, 7pm <i>League: SMC</i> <i>Moderator: Susan Sferas</i> <i>Sponsor: LWVSMC</i>	Janice McGowan		The Coaster?				
LD-11 Tue. Oct. 5, 7pm <i>League: Greater Red Bank</i> <i>Moderator: Sharon Steinhorn</i> <i>Sponsor: RAC-NJ</i>	Vanessa Merhi /Marianne Kligman						
Brick Bd of Ed Thursday, Oct. 7, 7:00pm <i>League: SMC</i> <i>Moderator: Marie Curtis?</i> <i>Sponsors: VMMS and VMES PTAs</i>	Evelyn Murphy						
LD-30 Mon. Oct. 11, 7pm <i>League: LWV SMC</i> <i>Moderator: Susan Sferas</i> <i>Sponsor: RAC-NJ</i>	Rosemary Venter						

<p>Neptune Bd of Ed <i>Tue, Oct. 12, 7pm</i> League: LWVSMC Moderator: Marie Curtis Sponsor: OGHQA</p>	<p>Harriet B</p>					<p>Luisa Paster</p>	
<p>LD-13 <i>Thu, Oct. 14, 7pm</i> League: Greater Red Bank Moderator: Anne Torre Sponsor: RA-C-NJ</p>	<p>Marianne Kligman</p>						
<p>Atlantic Highlands Boro Council <i>Mon. Oct. 18, 7pm?</i> League: Greater Red Bank Moderator: Anne Torre Sponsor:</p>	<p>Marianne Kligman</p>						
<p>Neptune Township Committee <i>Tue, Oct. 19, 7pm</i> League: LWVSMC Moderator: Marie Curtis Sponsor: MURC</p>	<p>Harriet B</p>		<p>The Coaster?</p>			<p>Luisa Paster</p>	
<p>Manalapan/Englishtown Bd of Ed. <i>Mon, Oct. 20, 7pm?</i> League: LWVSMC Moderator: Sponsor:</p>	<p>Sharon Steinhorn</p>						