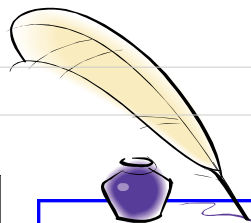




Westwood/Walpole League of Women Voters

Volume 5 issue 10

June 2007



Calendar of Events

Annual Meeting

- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Approval of 2006 Annual Meeting Minutes
- Various Reports
- Year In Review
- Proposed Steering Committee 2007-08
- Proposed Budget 07-08
- Proposed Bylaw/Policy Changes
- Proposed 2007-2008 program

Steering Committee

Secretary:

Jane Wojick

Membership:

Marcia Hirshberg
781.326.8784

Hberg40@comcast.net

Bulletin:

Jane Nash
781-769.1185
Jane.nash@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Cheryl Schiarizzi

Web Master:

Kathy Zola

Annual Meeting

June 14, 2007

Speaker

Judi Barrett has more than 20 years of experience with land use planning, zoning, and housing policy. Since 1996, she has served as senior planner and project manager at Community Opportunities Group, Inc., in Boston, assisting cities, suburbs and small towns on a wide variety of planning engagements. She led the firm's work as master plan consultants for the Towns of West Newbury, Merrimac, Harvard, Ayer, Shirley, Hamilton, Tewksbury and Princeton, and was recently retained to prepare new master plans for the Towns of Westford, Clinton and Dedham and the City of Attleboro.

Ms. Barrett has extensive zoning experience. She is currently directing a comprehensive zoning bylaw revision for the Town of Northborough and preparing mixed-use zoning bylaws for North Reading, Bellingham and Wilmington. In addition, she has written many housing plans, including DHCD-approved plans for the Towns of Stow, Hopkinton, Acton, Mansfield, Shrewsbury and Easton, and assisted several communities with comprehensive permit reviews as a specialist in Local Initiative Program (LIP) developments.

She is also widely recognized for her work in municipal finance and fiscal impact studies. Prior to joining COG, Ms. Barrett worked for the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development as manager of the Community Development Fund, and as Community Development Director for the Town of Plymouth.

Annual Meeting Order of Business

Annual Meeting Order of Business

Welcome –Call to Order

Announcements

Dues are due as June 1 and can be paid tonight

Vote to Accept

June 2006 Annual Meeting Minutes

Treasurer end of year report

Budget 2007-2008

Changes in By-laws

Westwood/Walpole Policies/SC Guidelines

Steering Committee 2007-2008

Program Westwood/Walpole 2007-2008

Reports– Local

Please see 2007 Annual Meeting Booklet

Reports-State Convention

Acknowledgements

Directions to Board from Membership

Chair's Remarks

Adjournment

Minutes-Annual Meeting June, 2006

Annual Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2006

Raffael's Restaurant in Walpole

General Comments:

Approximately thirty six members and guests attended Annual Meeting and heard attorney and local league member Marianne LeBlanc speak on "Women Voters: how they influence elections and how that is changing."

PRESIDING: Jane Nash

MINUTES: It was MOVED and VOTED that the minutes of the June 2005 Annual Meeting be APPROVED as published in the Annual Meeting Booklet.

BUDGET REPORT: It was MOVED and VOTED to APPROVED the 2006-2007 budget as printed in the Annual Meeting Booklet.

2006-2007 STEERING COMMITTEE: Nominations were accepted from floor, and it was MOVED and VOTED to ADD to the proposed Steering Committee for 2006-2007 as printed in the Annual Meeting Booklet the names of Marianne LeBlanc to the "open "position of Westwood Voter Service Chair and Nan Crossland as" On Board" Publicity Chair.

2006-2007 PROGRAM: It was MOVED AND VOTED to APPROVE the PROPOSED 2006 Program as printed in the Annual Meeting Booklet with the elimination of the words "FALL CONFERENCE."

VERBAL REPORTS: VOTER SERVICE--Kathy Hasenjaeger and Rose Smith reported on their efforts to improve attendance and the importance of holding Candidates Events. Westwood changed their date and location from a weekday evening event at a local church to a weekend daytime event at the Westwood Council on Aging. Attendance was improved. Local papers praised the event and citizens were quoted as saying the Candidate Event helped them in their voting decisions. Kathy H described how Walpole conducts their Candidate's Night. She emphasized that Candidate's Events are essential and every effort must be made to make them accessible and to improve citizen attendance. She commented officials always attend.

LWVM FUND RAISER REPLACES FALL CONFERENCE--Marcia Hirshberg explained that State fall Conference will be replaced by a state fund raising event to be held Thursday, September 21, 2006 at the Fairmont Copley in Boston; Paul La Camera recently appointed general manager of WBUR-FM and 33 year veteran of Boston's WCVB-TV will be honored. It will cost \$150 a plate for dinner. Marcia explained that all levels of the League are seeing a reduction in donors. The LWVM fund raiser is an effort to find new ways to keep the League funded. She urged all members to support the LWVM fund raiser.

DIRECTIONS TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE: Directions came during the discussion part of speaker's presentation. Voter Service should focus on the educating and registration of high school students, single mothers, and unmarried women. It is important to educate all to the value of voting. Voter Service will be a focus of program for the coming year.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS: Jane Nash commended Sara Onderdonk and Jane Walsh for their contributions as Steering Committee members. Both are leaving. Sara Onderdonk initiated a monthly "Meet and Greet", acted as our on Board publicity person and improved that position, and updated the Westwood Know Your Town booklet which will be distributed this fall. Jane also thanked Pam Kane for coordinating the kitchen part of the Antique Show for many years and for her organization of an excellent program on "Water Resources and Buckmaster Pond in the fall.

Jane stated much more member contribution was necessary if our league is to remain a viable organization. She reported that the Antique show is dropped as a fund raising vehicle as the work involved was not offset by the money collected. Member help is needed to make the Annual Fund Drive even more successful.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:15



Westwood & Walpole Candidate Event Reports

The raw and rainy afternoon did not deter an **excellent crowd** of over 100 people from attending the Westwood Candidate's event organized by Kathy Zola and Jane Nash. The event was held on Sunday April 15th at the First Parish Church on Nahatan Street. Erin Pastuszewski from the Concord League did a superlative job at moderating. She synthesized similar questions and maintained a calm and respectful tone throughout the event, despite an occasional interruption from the floor. She was ably assisted by Cheryl Schiarizzi and Nancy Farris who collected the question cards from the audience.

Candidates for both the Westwood town and the Norfolk 11th District Representative Primary elections introduced themselves for 1 minute, and then candidates for contested positions answered written questions collected from the audience. Each candidate had up to a minute to address each question with one more minute at the end for a final statement.

We think that several factors contributed to the event's success. Candidates' invitations went out via certified mail. The Sunday afternoon time-slot worked well. The town issues, especially the Westwood Station and High Rock Village development projects, were on people's minds. Pre-event newspaper publicity included an ad in the *Daily Transcript* and the *Westwood Press*, notices and articles in the *Daily Transcript*, the *Westwood Press*, the *Walpole Times*, the *Hometown Weekly* and even the Sunday calendar metro south section of the *Boston Globe*. Email notices were sent out to LWV Westwood-Walpole League members and a few other town organization email lists. One of the candidates included a "save the date" message with his mailed campaign literature

Many many heartfelt thanks go out to the candidates, the audience members and the organizers, especially Erin Pastuszewski, for making this event so successful!

Kathy Zola

The Walpole local election **Candidates' Night** was held on Monday evening, May 21. There were only two contests in Walpole this year. Two of the three Selectmen candidates for two seats and one of the two Water and Sewer Candidates were in attendance. Even uncontested candidates were asked to take questions as there are many issues of importance which the voters had on their minds. Only two of the uncontested candidates were present. Representative Town Meeting candidates were given a chance to introduce themselves. One gentleman running on a write in ballot took advantage of this format as well as one other candidate. The turnout was small but we had the benefit of Cable Television and good coverage from the Walpole Times to get the word out. It was suggested that we might even try doing Candidates' Night in the TV studio if the turn out continues to be small. Of course, with contested races the numbers can change rapidly. Thanks to Kathy Hasenjaeger and Carol Lane for lending their expertise to the entire event planning and to Kathy Zola for acting as Timekeeper.

Nancy Farris

Scholarship Report

From Westwood High School:

The Walpole/Westwood League of Women Voters' Scholarship will be presented to Westwood High School senior, **Ryan O'Leary**.

Ryan is a terrific kid who is highly motivated and well rounded. He has a strong interest in political science and international relations. Ryan was chosen by the scholarship committee with your criteria in mind.

Ryan will be studying American history at Furman University

Thanks, Mary Furber

The above award is given in memory of Virginia Lyman

From Walpole High School:

The Westwood/Walpole League of Women Voters' Scholarship will be presented to Walpole High School senior, **Maureen Smith**

Maureen Smith was chosen for the scholarship because she is an outstanding student who has worked really hard.

She is a bright student, earning consistently high grades in every subject. She is also intricately woven into the community of Walpole High School, using her talents in varied ways. My favorite thing about Maureen, however, is her spirit. She is sincere and exceedingly polite, but also possesses a strength and depth of character that differentiates her from her peers.

Maureen is ranked 22 in a competitive senior class of 272. It is the actual marks earned in these high-leveled classes that tell the clearer story, however. Her grades have been consistent and strong in every class, every year. She has also supplemented her academics with participation in the high school orchestra, television, creative English and art programs. Her talents are far-reaching and considerable. And her SAT scores are also strong.

Maureen will be attending BU majoring in History in the fall.

Diane Barr

Year In Review

Westwood/Walpole LWV 2006-2007

Year in Review

Summer--We started our League year early with a pool party at Marg & Dale Harrington's-Great Fun!

September--Kick Off organized by Nan Crossland focused on regional planning. Timothy Reardon, regional planner for Massachusetts Area Planning Council, unveiled the Metro Future Project. His timely power point presentation entitled "Regional Growth Trends" coincided nicely with Westwood's smart growth project, Westwood Station.

Members of the Westwood/Walpole League traveled in style by limo to the "Guardians of Democracy Fund Raiser" in Boston sponsored by the League of Women Voter of Massachusetts. What a fabulous, inspiring evening.

October--Rose Smith chaired a local program on domestic violence with Jane Doe action coordinator Layla D'Emilla describing how we can all help stop domestic violence. This meeting resulted in the Steering Committee vote to join with Jane Doe Inc to announce legislation and other ways for our membership to take action to stop family violence.

November—Phoebe Joseph chaired a program on "Toxins in our Environment with speaker Leise Jones from the Alliance for a Healthy Tomorrow/Clear Air Action demonstrating how polluted our homes are and what we can do about it. Area Leagues join with Norwood to hold a Candidate's Forum on the 9th Congressional District

December—Great fun for all at Karen Coffey's for the Annual Holiday Party.

January, February--Marcia Hirshberg planned, executed, and hosted another successful National Program Planning meeting. Cheryl Schiarizzi chair's the fund drive and collects \$2,185.

March—Nancy Farris continues working with the town of Walpole on their Hazardous Waste Day. How many years is this now, Nancy.

April, May Candidate Events dominate --- Kathy Zola chairs the most successful candidate's event in years. Over 100 people came to hear candidates for local and state seats declare their positions. Nancy Farris, Carol Lane, and Kathy Hasenjaeger shared the duties of organizing the Walpole's Candidate Night.

Walpole's Vandana Apte from the Johnson Middle School wins the LWVM essay contest for the 6-8th grade group with her paper entitled "Making Democracy Work: Citizens Rights and Responsibilities." Nancy Farris and Phoebe Joseph went to Boston to see Vandana get her award.

Walpole loses a valued league member. The Westwood/Walpole League gave a contribution to the LWVM in memory of Chris Peters a former Walpole president.

June---Annual Meeting with Judi Barrett speaking on, "Housing Laws in Massachusetts are they working?"

Just typing a few of the highlights of this year's programs and activities is tiring.

Think of all the real work involved in planning and executing these events!!!

Well done League volunteers!!!

Fund Drive and Hazardous Waste Reports

Fund Drive Report

When Jane Nash decided not to coordinate the 2007 fund drive and no one from the membership came forth to take over, Treasure Cheryl Schiarizzi “stepped up to the plate.”

Due to her extremely tight schedule, it was decided to send letters only with no follow up calls. Approximately 40 letters were sent with 22 companies responding for a total of \$2,185.00 collected.

As usual, all those who contributed were listed in both the Westwood and Walpole candidate event programs.

Cheryl thanked Jane Nash for getting the stationery and mailing labels ready and Nancy Farris for helping me stuff the envelopes.

Thank you, Cheryl, for again coming forward to serve the League.

Hazardous Waste Report

Nancy Farris received a letter of thanks from Robin L. Chapell, Health Director for the Town of Walpole which read:

Dear Nancy,

Thank you so much for **ALL** your help (in pencil and before) at the Household and Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, April 28, 2007. Your help really added to the success of the event.

It is unbelievable the amount of hazardous and special wastes we collect, over 200 computers, monitors, and televisions, over 425 gallons of waste oil, 60 gallons of antifreeze, along with propane tanks and car batteries, 126 cars went through the hazardous waste line (Clean Harbors) and 135 cars went through our express.

Thanks again. Your help was extremely appreciated!

Congratulations, Nancy. Your many, many years of service to the Town of Walpole’s hazardous waste collection are an excellent example of League action.

Proposed 2007-2008 Steering Committee

Proposed Steering Committee for 2007-2008

Chair

Shared by all SC members

Secretary

Carol Ziemian

Treasurer

Ginnie Fettig

Membership

Marcia Hirshberg

Bulletin Editor/Communication Liaison

Cindy Buckley

Voter Service, Fall

OPEN

Voter Service Spring

Kathy Zola

Publicity

OPEN

Web Master

Kathy Zola

Fund Drive Coordinator

Phoebe Joseph

Walpole Hazardous Waste

Nancy Farris

Members at Large

Judy Barrington

Patty Stewart

Proposed 2007-2008 Budget

Westwood/Walpole League of Women Voters Budget 2007/2008

EXPENDITURES	Actual 03-04	Actual 04-05	Actual 05-06	Prop 06-07	Actual 06-07	Prop 07-08	
A. General Administration							
1. Postage, Supplies		\$10	\$72	\$37	\$39	\$0	\$42
2. PO Box Rental		\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$106	\$106
3. Attorney general Fee (PC)		\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35
4. Incorporation Fee		\$15	\$15	\$0	\$15	\$0	\$30
5. Copy Club		\$0	\$158	\$0	\$158	\$311	\$350
6. Website/IDC Renewal			\$45	\$45	\$45	\$0	\$45
Subtotal		\$160	\$425	\$217	\$392	\$452	\$608
B. Finance							
1. Grants/Scholarships		\$1,100	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
2. Finance Drive		\$681	\$242	\$321	\$300	\$16	\$200
3. Antiques Show		\$1,042	\$920	\$1,132	\$0	\$367	\$0
4. Gifts/Memorials		\$53	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$100	\$200
Subtotal		\$2,876	\$2,862	\$3,153	\$1,500	\$483	\$1,400
C. Membership Meetings							
1. Kick-off Meeting		\$65	\$92	\$238	\$140	\$350	\$200
2. Annual Meeting		\$500	\$1,078	\$1,243	\$1,000	\$456	\$1,000
3. Holiday Party		\$60	0	\$40	\$100	\$0	\$300
Subtotal		\$625.00	\$1,170	\$1,521	\$1,240	\$806	\$1,500
D. Delegates - Travel & Expenses							
1. State Convention		\$144	\$632	\$96	\$200	\$150	\$200
2. National Convention		\$0	\$918	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
3. Workshops/Forums		\$232	\$50	\$50	\$150	\$0	\$150
Subtotal		\$376	\$1,600	\$146	\$350	\$150	\$1,850
E. Programs and Action							
1. Voter Service/Education		\$50	449	\$529	\$700	\$527	\$700
2. Programming		\$2,202	2,539	\$536	\$2,000	\$1,330	\$2,000
Subtotal		\$2,252	2,988	\$1,065	\$2,700	\$1,857	\$2,700
F. Support of State/National	Actual 2003-04	Actual 2004-05	Actual 2005-06	Prop06-07	Actual 06-07	Prop 07-08	
1. LWVUS			1620	\$2,015	\$1,600	\$1,857	\$1,800
2. L WVMA			1264	\$1,503	\$2,000	\$1,509	\$1,500
Subtotal		\$0	2884	\$3,518	\$3,600	\$3,366	\$3,300
G. Communications							
1. Bulletin		\$854	55	\$47	\$100	\$106	\$100
2. Web		\$970	0	\$0	\$600	\$0	\$600
Subtotal		\$1,824	55	\$47	\$700	\$106	\$700
H. Membership		\$131	0	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$250
TOTAL EXPENSES		8244	11984	\$9,667	\$10,682	\$7,220	\$12,302
INCOME/RECEIPTS	Actual 2003-04	Actual 2004-05	Actual 2005-06	Prop06-07	Actual 06-07	Prop07-08	
A. Dues		\$2,349	\$2,640	\$3,165	\$3,000	\$3,115	\$3,000
B. Member Contributions		\$100	0	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$50
C. Interest		\$8	\$13	\$16	\$15	\$18	\$15
D. Other							
1. Antique Show		\$2,925	3129	\$2,704	\$0	\$0	\$0
2. Finance drive		\$3,336	3715	\$3,120	\$3,500	\$2,135	\$2,200
3. Deposits (unassignable)			13	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4. Annual Meeting		\$800	975	\$550	\$1,000	\$0	\$750
5. Phonathon		\$369	\$296	\$222	\$0	\$68	\$0
Subtotal		\$7,430	\$8,128	\$6,596	\$4,500	\$2,203	\$2,950
TOTAL INCOME		\$9,887	\$10,781	\$9,827	\$7,565	\$5,336	\$6,015

Proposed Program 2007-2008

Proposed Program 2007-2008

September — Fall Kick Off Meeting

September 2007-January 2008— LWVUS Immigration Consensus Meetings

October/November—LWVM Affordable Housing Consensus Meetings/Local Voter Service

November/December—LWVM Fiscal Policy Consensus Meetings/DeVanna Collection begins

December —Westwood/Walpole Holiday Party/Domestic Violence Action, DeVanna
Collection ends

January—LWVM Program Planning/Fund drive begins

February—OPEN

MARCH —Fund Drive Ends/Walpole Hazardous Waste

April—Westwood/Walpole Candidate's Events

May—Voter Service for Westwood/Walpole Town Meetings/Other

June—Annual Meeting