LWV-Lower Cape Fear

Planning Meeting February 25, 2017
Agenda

- Set-up & Social (until 9:50)

- Program Purpose & Process; Review of LWV program for 2016-18; LWVNC areas of focus - Sheila Fellerath & Cindy Linn (15 min.)

- Reports, questions & discussion: LWVLCF 2016-17 Program (30 min.)

- Brainstorming & suggestions for 2017-2018, issues for emphasis, following by voting. Facilitator: Cindy Linn
2016-2017 Goals

- Monitor education policy and issues at local levels: Funding, Pre-K, Charter Schools, and Vouchers

- Seek opportunities to educate ourselves and others on these issues.

- Conduct research or plan opportunity for advocacy aligned with state and national League positions.
Education Roundtable 2016-2017

Feb to June 2016
Main Area of Interest

Education Advocacy
Charter Schools

June 2016 to present
Main Area of Interest

Pre-K
Private School Vouchers
February - June 2016
Accomplishments

- Completed Charter School report

- Engaged in public school advocacy with a coalition of agencies called “Schools Our Students Deserve”

- Wrote a resolution calling for a recommitment to quality public education in NC from LWV-LCF

- Similar versions of this resolution were passed by Brunswick and New Hanover County School Boards and Leland Town Council.
June 2016 to Present

Accomplishments

- Supported Smart Start’s Summit on advocating for early childhood learning
- Collected and developed advocacy materials on the benefits of early childhood education
- Creating action plan for advocacy in the area of early childhood
- Report drafted on private school vouchers, research is on-going.
Resolution sent to legislators and individual contacts made with legislators to advocate for our issues

Presentation of how we organized our advocacy efforts made at LWV-NC Council meeting

Wrote a letter in support of the Brunswick County Bond Referendum
New Hanover County
Special Use Permit

- Observed NHC Planning Board Meetings
- Testified at 4 Planning Board Public Hearings
- Met with 2 County Commissioners re: SUP
- Recruited members/guests to attend the Nov. 14 BOC Public Hearing
- Publicized the League’s SUP position
Prepared SUP Positions: Support Compromise Text Amendment, request TOPU be tabled for further study or, if passed, be referred to Unified Development Ordinance Development Working Group

Received the Organization Volunteer Award for 2016 from our collaborators, NC Coastal Federation
Other Tasks

Met with the New Hanover County Soil and Conservation Agency regarding their activities, especially storm water management
WE NEED YOU!

WHAT: ATTEND THE BOC PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SUP.

DATE: MARCH 6

TIME: 4:00 PM

WHERE: NEW HANOVER COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, PRINCESS STREET
WHAT NEXT?

Follow Unified Development Ordinance Development.
2015-2016 Goals

- Advocate for and promote measures that protect the rights of all citizens to vote
- Advance programs and activities that can identify and help eliminate barriers to voting
Registered 672 voters

Testified at 3 county Boards of Election meetings advocating for expanded Early Voting hours and Sunday voting.

Public Presentations on Voting

Answered hundreds of questions on Voting
Distributed thousands of educational materials to the public: early voting schedules; sample ballots.

Distributed absentee ballot request forms and voter registration forms

Helped train UNCW student volunteers and others on how to register voters.

Observed Board of Elections meetings in all 3 counties.
Hot Topics Presentations

“How Boards of Elections Work” - Sara Knotts, Director of Brunswick County BOE

“The Brunswick County School Bond Referendum-Information for Voters” - Brunswick County School Administration

“The NC Court System” - Sheila Fellerath
Candidate Forums

- Candidate forums for 7 races in New Hanover and Brunswick Counties
- These includes NC Senate and House races; County Commissioner races; and County Boards of Education races
- Press coverage of events