

May 26, 2007

Minutes of the Study Committee on Restoration of Civil Rights of Felons.

The Committee met on May 26, 2007 in Charlottesville from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM at Molly O'Brien's home. Lunch was served at 11:45 AM and the Meeting began at 1: 15 PM and lasted until adjourned at 3:00 PM. Molly McClenon, Chair, opened the discussion and then the participants continued. Participants were: Lorraine and John Hart (Fairfax), Vanessa Johnson (Fairfax), Molly O'Brien (Cville), Barbara Sherrill (Arlington), Judy Snoke (Mont. Co), Margo Sterling (Fairfax), Natalie Testa (Fluvanna), Eileen Williams (LWV VA Prog. Dir.) and Lulu Meese (C'ville).

The participants recommended:

- (1) That scope of study for consideration by LVVVVA Board in July be:
Study of the Restoration of Civil Rights of Felons in Virginia.
- (2) Limited budget in LWV VA Education Fund Budget of \$200. The budget will be discussed and voted on 6/23. Under II. Education Activities, A. LWVUS Item is \$500. and B. LWV VA Study is \$200. Since it is costly to do a state study, I will recommend \$50 for LWVUS study - which is normally the level of funding in budget and to take the \$450. from A and add to B with the total for LWVVA Study of \$650. This is normal level of funding for LWV VA Study. Budget committee was confused because little was charged to LWV VA for the 2005-2007 state study and was absorbed by LWV of Fairfax Area.
- b. There is also \$200. for printing the League study under publications D. IV. \$200. for printing study.
This makes much more sense than our initial information.
3. Developed a Calendar for 2007-2009 for study meetings, workshops, reports, etc. (Calendar attached).
4. Agreed to invite two speakers to fall workshop for study item. Meese is to get information on names of persons who might speak.
5. Agreed that would need to change Virginia Constitution to remove Governor as sole person to determine restoration of felons,
To change the constitution, the proposed measure must pass in two different legislative sessions separated by a general election, and then win a majority of votes in a statewide referendum - a process taking at least three years.
6. Agreed to individual assignments for study responsibilities (copy attached).
7. Discussed questions for local Leagues to use for interviewing appropriate local leaders (copy of information attached).
8. Agreed that Meese would prepare minutes, .enclosures and packets of information and send to M. McClenon for review and sending on to

committee members for their input and final printing in June around 14-15.

9. August 11 was set as next meeting of committee to be held in Charlottesville - with exact address to be sent out later

Enclosures:

Calendar

Assignments

Felons Demographics and other legal reports and information which committee needs to have to follow up with their responsibilities.