



Vermont Suffrage Centennial Alliance

MEETING SUMMARY NOTES

Thursday, January 30, 2019, 10:00 – noon
Center for Achievement in Public Service (CAPS), Schulmaier Hall
32 College Street, Montpelier, campus of Vermont College of Fine Arts (VCFA)

Present

Vivianne Adair, American Association of University Women
Marguerite Adelman, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom
Cyndy Bittinger*, Sandra Dooley, Hope Johnson, Linda Lazarowski, Dell McDonough, Linda Radtke,
* Becky Cook, Norwich Historical Society
Donna Rae Heath, Business and Professional Women/VT Inc
* Lake Champlain Maritime Museum: Elisa Nelson, Matt Harrison
League of Women Voters: Lyn Blackwell, Anne Mixer, Lila Richardson, Sonja Schuyler
Rachel Onuf, VT State Archives & Records Administration
* Ericka Reil, Vermont Center for Independent Living

* Eileen Sullivan, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England
* Joy Worland, Department of Libraries

Presiding: Sue Racanelli, League of Women Voters
Recording: Lilly Talbert, Vermont Commission on Women

Regrets

Terri Corsones, Laura Daudelin, Susan Dineen, Karin Hanta, Alice Kitchel, Karen Madden, Rachel Siegal, Donna Smyers, Yvonne Strauss, Margaret Tamulonis

* *Participating Remotely via Conference Call*

WELCOME + INTRODUCTIONS

Welcome New Participants

Matt Harrison, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Hope Johnson, Linda Lazarowski,

DISCUSSION: VERMONT SUFFRAGISTS – Lyn Blackwell

ANNOUNCEMENTS: SUE RACANELLI

Thank You Notes. Ready for distribution. Special thanks to Capitol Copy who helped with redesign at no cost.

Grant. Mid-December, we were informed that the Vermont Humanities Council awarded us \$1,000 to supplement the Champlain Valley National Heritage grant. Our request was for \$4,250.

Terry Corsones, Vermont Bar Association, dropped off chocolate chip cookies. Thank You.

JUDITH DILLON: GUEST SPEAKER. Annette Gordon-Reed agreed to be keynote speaker on May 22 and has waived her fee. Developing form to formalize arrangements. Sandra Dooley was able to secure a Speakers Contract Form from Meg Smith of The Women's Fund which she shared. No indication yet of accommodations or travel costs. Vermont Bar Association will be able to pick up some expenses. Not sure how long her stay in Vermont will be.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

EVENTS: VIVIENNE ADAIR, DELL MCDONOUGH

Main Event Name: SuffrageFest (proposed by Rachel Onuf) and Parade. Keep it short to be a hashtag #.
Vivienne made a rough draft flag. Designed a modification of state seal, shield or flat top, to be displayed on a float to lead the parade. Roland Pepin – red coupe for parade. Linda Radtke is coordinating music. Will include Freedom and Unity Chorus, Maiden Vermont. Exploring other options as well. Norwich Band – it's their anniversary St. Johnsbury Band may require stipend and flatbed truck. Catamount Pipe Band. Middlebury Opera through June is Joan of Arc. Might fit with Women's History.

Dell had a very productive meeting with Matt Wilson and Emma Shea of Zero Gavity about doing a suffrage beer. Single-run draft or cans which could carry messages and information about suffrage. Also non-alcohol options. They would like to talk to VSCA PR person.

Vivienne & Dell met with the Montpelier Alive Parade Coordinator.



How members can help: STEP UP OR RECRUIT SOMEONE YOU KNOW: Events Committee needs coordinators to take on aspects of festival and parade planning and execution. Positions: Volunteer, Parade, Vendor, Festival, Stage Dell needs an expert on insurance - Certificate of Coverage

Donna Smyers: Suffrage Scramble 5K Race Update

Websites are live! <http://cvrunners.org/cvr-races/suffrage-scramble> and www.runreg.com/suffrage-scramble-5k. Paper application can be printed and passed out. Registration cost is low, \$20, so as not to discourage entries. Encourage people to sign up! Good time to announce the race is open for registration on social media. Looking for sponsors. Can ask for a fairly large amount or go for several small donations. Does anybody have ideas? Thinking of women-specific companies that might want to sponsor. If anybody wants to help with this, let me know. Also wrote an article for the Central Vermont Runners newsletter <http://cvrunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/20JANCVRNEWS.pdf> (page 6).

How members can help. Sign up to run or walk, promote the race on social media, share the registration link, distribute fliers, suggest sponsors.

Sonja Schuyler: Women's Suffrage Symposium

Saturday, May 16, 2020 from 2:00 - 5:00 PM | Ethan Allen Homestead

Dan O'Neil of Ethan Allen Homestead Museum (EHM) is preparing for the symposium, *One Event, Many Perspectives: The Centennial of Women's Suffrage* on Saturday, May 16 from 2-5:30. Open to 100 people. Two sessions with four speakers: Melody Walker, *Navigating Freedom in Two Worlds*; Beverly Little Thunder, *On the Shoulders of our Ancestors and Mother Earth*; Kathryn Dungy, *African American Women in the fight for Women's Suffrage*; Susan Ouellette, *Emma Willard, Women's Education and the Campaign for Women's Suffrage*. Channel 17 will film and live-stream the event. Museum will handle reservations. Free to public but suggested donation of \$10 at door. Registration required. We may not be able to have a tent for extra registrants as EHM is a historic and meteorologically sensitive site. The League will conduct voter registration at the event.

OUTREACH: LILLY TALBERT

Distributed new brochure & bookmarks. Thanked Department of Libraries for printing bookmarks at no cost to VSCA and Adriana Eldred, NVU-Lyndon student for designing both. These will be stored at the VCW office – if members are tabling an event they can contact Lilly for pick-up of banner and other VSCA materials.

Upcoming Events (February & March): Reviewed Upcoming Events (February, March). See the calendar – look at all the suffrage events in purple! <http://www.vtwomen.org/events/>

February 5. Farmers Night. Honoring the 19th Amendment through Word and Song: Meg Mott, Neely Bruce.

February 14. League of Women Voters Centennial Anniversary Gala, Capitol Plaza, Montpelier.

February 19. 1920-2020: A Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage. . .Madeleine Kunin, Lyn Blackwell, Melanie Gustafson, Lisa Holmes, Kiah Morris, Burlington.

March 19. Women's Suffrage in Vermont: Lyn Blackwell, Rachel Onuf, Burlington.

How members can help. STEP UP OR RECRUIT SOMEONE YOU KNOW: VSCA needs a promotions, PR, marketing and communications professional as a volunteer. That person could work independently or with Lilly. Might be a great position for a retired person or recent PR graduate looking to build resume.

Historic Sites Markers: Sue Racanelli reporting for Laura Daudelin

Laura has been working with The National Collaborative for Women's History Sites on a project titled *National Votes for Women Trail (NVWT)* in partnership with the Pomeroy Foundation to promote a program of historical roadside markers to commemorate people, places, and events important to passage of the 19th Amendment. Laura volunteered



to be Vermont's State Coordinator. She submitted information on Clarina Howard Nichols and Lyn is working on Annette Parmelee. Laura calls in to the Trails once-a-month conference calls. State Coordinators expressed concerns about the length of time it's taking to get approval for markers after submission. NVWT hired additional help to alleviate wait time. Laura finds it pretty amazing to hear what other states are doing to commemorate the centennial and shares what VT is planning. She also found it exciting to hear about marker dedication ceremonies. There will be 250 historic road-side markers nationally and Laura can't wait for Vermont to have its first marker. <https://ncwhs.org/votes-for-women-trail>

Social Justice and Identity Organizations Outreach: Lila Richardson, Elaine Alfano

Outreach: Will issue another invitation to organizations who have not responded to prior invitations. Seeking VSCA contacts to personally invite these organizations. Helpful to suggest pitches that align with those organizations' missions...pointing out the connection to issues like voter rights.

RESEARCH & HISTORY: LYN BLACKWELL & RACHEL ONUF

Assisting with reconstructing the 1913 parade. Working with Ericka on framework of story for comic book and how to present in coherent way with context before giving it to Andi. Thinking one-page for bio focus. Also, getting information for the Trails Marker Program. Clarina Howard Nichols will be added to the national database. At Enosberg Falls, not much information or excitement about Annette Parmelee. At Grafton, home of Lucy J. Daniels, different story.

Comic Book Update: Ericka Reil

Moving forward with the comic book. Andi Santagata from the Center for Cartoon Studies is the artist who will be working on it. Twelve pages including front and back covers. Will feature both Vermont and national suffragist leaders. Names include Sojourner Truth, Alice Paul, Susan B. Anthony, Clarina Howard Nichols, Lucy J. Daniels, Ida B. Wells, Carrie Chapman Catt. Need to keep it to 5. Deadline August. Great team working on this. Would like to have it printed if we could find a sponsor. Other option, pay to print on our website – would help recoup the cost.

Joy Worland suggests a book launch – and doing an event with Department of Libraries or book store.

Cyndi Bittinger requested that a draft be circulated among historians before final approval.

FUNDRAISING: SANDY DOOLEY

Play. Second Reading was on December 15. Very well-received. Consultations with Jess Hyman, Susan Reid, Jena Necrason, Orly Yadin (VTIFF), Cristina Alicea, Mariah Riggs, Ann Creaven, John Killacky, John Nagle (VT Shakespeare Company), and Kathy Wagenknecht (Bennington, Oldcastle Theater). We have dates and venues for four locations.

Budget. Approximately \$61,360 including the Parade and State House activities at approximately \$23,000.

Fundraising Committee Meeting. First meeting, January 14. Kate Baldwin, retired from UVM and former Commissioner, joined the Committee. Group agreed to seek 70% of funds, \$35,000, from institutional donors (businesses, foundations and organizations that give grants) and 30% of funds, \$15,000, from individuals. Want statewide representation on Committee - had phone conversations with Mary Ann Carlson, former VT State Senator (Bennington district) and Vicky Young (Proctor resident, Rutland County.) Kate consulted with Speaker of the House, Mitzi Johnson and set up a February 5 meeting with Wanda Heading-Grant, VP Human Resources, Diversity and Multicultural Affairs at UVM.

Requesting one-time \$20,000 budget appropriation to VSCA for parade/activities. In the process of setting up a meeting with Senators Jane Kitchel and Tim Ashe of the Senate Appropriations Committee. The House/Senate Community-based Public Hearings on Governor's Recommended FY21 State Budget is scheduled for Monday, February 10 at 6 p.m. Need VSCA members from Barre City, Morrisville, Rutland City, St. Johnsbury, St. Albans, Winooski, and Springfield to present testimony in support of our request at this hearing.



Insurance. Obtained advice and information for VSCA from my retired insurance agent/friend

Talking Points: Need Talking Points for use in basis of discussion; and for our members to advocate for funds.

How members can help. Lyn Blackwell will help Sue complete Talking Points.

Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership Grant: Sue Racanelli

Insurance has been the hang-up, preventing us from getting the signed Agreement to begin the grant. While we were successful in getting insurance, they had the wrong name on the paperwork – League of Women Voters of Vermont rather than League of Women Voters of Vermont Education Fund. Once, everything is squared, we will be able to hire the Educator and Coordinator. Lyn and Rachel will work with designer Maja Smith on the panels for the traveling exhibit.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday February 20 | 1:30-3:30 p.m. NOTE CHANGE IN TIME

2020 MEETING DATES

Note: Executive Committee meets one hour prior

Tuesday March 31. 10:00 AM

Tuesday April 28. 1:30 PM **Venue Change: Vermont Historical Society Community Room/ Barre

Thursday May 28. 10:00 AM

Tuesday June 23. 1:30 PM

Tuesday July 28. 10:00 AM

Thursday August 13. 1:30 PM