

**Voter Engagement Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, June 23, 2021**

**Present:** Linda Biemer, Charlie Compton, Sharon Exley, Margaret Goodfellow, Carla Michalak, Giovanni Scaringi, Karl Wokan, Sara Wokan

**Meeting called at 3:05pm**

**1. Minutes from April 27, 2021 approved**

**2. Binghamton Mayoral Race:** Jared Kraham, Joseph Burns, Ken Butler of the People's Party

**WSKG (Charlie):** Studio is available, parking is good, can have an audience of 50-100 people. Margaret (LWV) stated that if Butler is certified to be on the ballot, then he should be invited to participate in the debate

If the debate is held at the studio, it could be a radio event with the option to video stream on WSKG.

Per an email from Charlie on June 24<sup>th</sup>, he confirmed that we can use the studio for radio/TV for the debate! He reserved the studio for both dates.

**Watters Theater: (Alison)** 550 seats available, possible cost. Parking is an additional cost but could be covered. No TV at BU

**Little Theater: (Carla)** 200 seats available, can provide radio, worked well at the DA debate

**West Middle: (Gio)** Still waiting for information

If the party faithful attend the debate at any of the locations, we will need more room for the community.

Karl supports TV too, believes we can reach the biggest audience

**Proposed date:** 10/21, alternate date 10/14

Carla noted that the Little Theater is available on those dates per K. Bacon, the director

**3. Broome County Clerk Race:**

Sharon and Carla will work on an educational presentation on the role of the Broome County Clerk

We will invite both candidates, will propose dates of either October 7<sup>th</sup> or September 30<sup>th</sup> 7pm

Host this event in the evening, it will be a Meet and Greet or will we have the candidates answer predetermined questions such as what does a county clerk do, why do we need one, what types of changes need to be instituted?

Sharon will contact Joe Mihalko (R) and Carla will contact Harris Weiss (D)

**4. Family Court Judges and State Supreme Court Judges Elections** – the media can educate/highlight the candidates/races, our committee will not do anything with these elections.

**5. Educating the Electorate:**

- a. Margaret and Sara discussed planned BTLWV Voter Registration efforts for the summer at local events and locations including: VINES, Binghamton and Vestal Library and looking into regional farmer's markets
- b. Carla inquired about doing an educational program or brochure?
- c. Charlie suggested doing a call in show that focused on informational items, currently WSKG cannot do a talk show
- d. Could we work with the Bob Joseph show?
- e. PSAs could be an option but they cost \$10-15 per spot, probably not worth it per Charlie
- f. Could we take a few minutes from the Mayoral debate, and provide education on voting mechanics
- g. Charlie said local programs are costly
- h. Locally, some people were surprised about early voting and the consolidation of voting locations
- i. Propose pre-program for the debate, then debate
- j. Encourage media to be repetitive about information or do a radio show set up an interview show. Use LWV and BOE people for the radio show
- k. Jackie is certified in Media Literacy, how can she help?

Gio will send out a Doodle Poll for our next meeting in approximately one month, please respond when you receive the poll!

**Meeting concluded at 4:30pm.**