



National Collaborative for Women's History Sites 2020 Annual Report

Treasurer's Report - Lucienne Beard

The National Votes for Women Trail (NVWT): Nancy Brown, Chair.

The goal of the National Votes for Women Trail (NVWT) is to collect sites from all over our country to tell the story of suffrage for all women, of all ethnicities, classes, and geographic areas and make them available to educators, researchers, and heritage tourists on a mobile-friendly searchable database. This year we have over 1650 entries on our NVWT database, with a goal of 2020 entries by the end of the year. This is double the amount we had last year at this time.

Thanks to the grant for \$5000 from The National Trust for Historic Places written by Jo Goodwin and Sehila Mota Casper, and over \$4000 raised in our GoFundMe campaign, we were able to improve our database map and clean up the database with the help of consultant, Lauren Harris, and Administrative Assistant, Lindsay Hinkle.

Thanks to a grant for \$125,000 from the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, we were able to hire Project Manager, Denise Ireton, to oversee the process of William G. Pomeroy Foundation submissions, as well as the work of four historians to enable us to meet our goal of getting at least one Pomeroy Marker in every state that could vote in 1920. The William G. Pomeroy Foundation is committed to putting up at least 250 historical roadside markers to commemorate the passage of the 19th amendment. While the original goal was to have this completed by the end of 2020, an extension is being considered due to the unforeseen circumstances caused by the current COVID-19 pandemic.

As of August 18, 2020, 49 states have identified at least one appropriate site, with 21 states having at least one completed and approved application. Three hundred are currently in the pipeline with 168 in the preliminary stage, 56 applications in hand, and 47 completed. Our sincere thanks to Denise and her team for their work, and Judy Wellman and her Advisory Board for their tireless efforts, and the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for making the NVWT a physical trail, as well as a virtual one.

NVWT public relations are growing. Marsha Weinstein did a PBS interview on KET that has been widely used, including a cameo appearance on The Today Show on August 25, 2020. Marsha also represented us

well in interviews that followed the unveiling of the first statue of real women in Central Park in New York City. Coline Jenkins, great great granddaughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton has promoted the NVWT on both a recent CNN interview, in addition to a recent Seneca Falls fountain dedication. The Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission partnered with us for a "Become A Trailblazer: Uncovering the Whole Story of Women's Suffrage" webinar, featuring board members Marsha Weinstein, Judy Wellman, Jo Goodman, Ida Jones and Nancy Brown.

Currently a Jr. Trailblazer campaign is running on Instagram and Facebook encouraging middle and high school girls to visit nvwt.org, get inspired, and submit a video encouraging people to vote. The campaign kicked off on August 26 and will run for one month. Award-winning filmmaker, Jennifer Hall Lee, will judge the entries and create two public service announcements to be shared via the NCWHS networks. In the week following the kickoff we had 2,363 visitors to our website, with 2,320 of them being first time visitors. We are hoping to learn from this and continue to find ways to engage the interest of the next generation in the women's suffrage story. Thanks to board member, Cheryl Harned, consultant, Taylor Baird, and an anonymous donor for making this project happen.

Online Communications: Social Media

As of 10/1/20, our Facebook page has: 78 organic page views, 16 new page likes, 950 post reaches, and 1588 post engagements. Our Twitter account has 1642 followers, 56 profile visits, 8 tweets, and 22 mentions. Our NVWT map has had 5846 views to date. We hope you have found NCWHS online if you use these social media outlets—and please share our posts with your friends and colleagues. In addition, we love posting news from members: let us know via membership@ncwhs.org if you've got brief news you'd like us to post. The committee also manages our website www.ncwhs.org.

Membership and Development:

NCWHS membership stands at 101 active members. We appreciate everyone who has joined or renewed their membership. We received \$3895.00 in donations this past year. Thank you to everyone who donated.

Nominating Committee: Antonia Castañeda, Chair, Sehila Mota Casper, Barbara Lau

2019-2020 Recruitment of New Board Members: Board members nominated, Nominating Committee successfully recruited, and the Board elected five new colleagues to the Board:

Julie Bache
Cheryl Harned
Ida Jones
Lillian Williams
Allison Stokes (Resigned in 2020)

Nomination and Election of Officers for 2020-2021: We nominated and in early September, elected the following slate of officers for a one-year term, ending September 30, 2021.

Marsha Weinstein	President
Judy Wellman	Vice President
Robyn Young	Secretary
Lucy Beard	Treasurer

Re-Election of Board Members Whose First, Second, or Third Year Term Expires at the end of Fiscal Year 2020.

Sehila Mota Casper

Nominating Committee – tasks pending completion in 2021:

Update Board Members Skills Set Survey of 2018
Update New Board Members Orientation Powerpoint

Research and Interpretation Committee: Nancy Hewitt, Heather Huyck and Lynn Weiner, Co-Chairs

The Research and Interpretation Committee (RIC) currently includes members from the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island, Harriet Tubman NHP, U.S. Forest Service (retired), Center for Sacramento History, Women’s Rights National Historic Park, Tumacacori NHP, President Lincoln’s Cottage, Molly Brown House, Keweenaw (MI) Heritage Center, at-large public historians with extensive knowledge of historic sites, as well as university- based members from Washington State University, Roosevelt University (retired), Rutgers University (retired), Huston-Tillotson University (retired), UMass-Amherst and the University of Denver.

RIC once again submitted proposals for national conferences, and spend a great deal of time organizing and discussing these proposals. The good news is we had three proposals accepted. The bad news is that like so many, we were not able to gather together and present because of the COVID cancellations. We had great sessions planned for the Organization of American Historians and the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, but those meetings were cancelled. But the good news is – our session at the OAH will be included in the 2021 conference (virtual or otherwise). And we have had another success: “Generations of Women: Complicating Traditional Timelines” was presented this September at the American Association for State and Local History meeting– virtually of course. Participants include our committee members Anita Badertscher, Linda Heidenreich, Andrea Malcomb, and Heather Huyck.

Committee members also wrote and submitted a proposal, “Capital Women: Women in Parks” to the National Park Service Foundation, for a project on interpreting women in NPS sites. Unfortunately, that proposal was not funded. We are looking into which proposals were funded in case there is a chance to resubmit.

Much of RIC’s time this year has been spent developing a Tool Kit to aid historic landmarks, homes and parks in recognizing and interpreting the role of girls, women and gender at their sites. We now have a 100+ page document which will soon go to an editor, and have surveyed a number of historic sites for additional material to be incorporated into the text. Ultimately the Tool Kit will be posted on the NCWHS website as a resource for members, and we may also offer it for sale to non-members if we can figure out how to do that.

Our goals for the next year include finalizing the Tool Kit, continuing our conference proposals, and creating a robust presence for the committee on the NCWHS website.

Partnerships:

National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP): Jo Goodwin

The National Collaborative for Women's History Sites received a grant from the National Trust for Historic Places to hire a database consultant for the NCWHS' National Votes for Women Trail (NVWT). Lauren Baird Harris cleaned the crowdsourced data collected from volunteer state coordinators and created the virtual NVWT as a map. The database from which the map is drawn comprises the most detailed collection of woman suffrage activities in existence. The map launched in early 2020 and it currently has 1,607 sites across the country. The final report for this initial grant was sent in April 2020.

The impact of this partnership assisted a second partnership between the NCWHS and the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. The Memo of Understanding agreed to provide five historic suffrage markers per state drawn from the NVWT's sites. The historic marker partnership offers a physical presence to the virtual map funded by the NTHP.

During the summer of 2020, discussions began between Jo, Sehila, Marsha, and Denise to submit a second grant to the NTHP that would highlight particular themes in suffrage history made visible through the production of the map.

Respectfully submitted by the NCWHS Officers and Board:

Marsha Weinstein, President; Judy Wellman, Vice President; Lucy Beard, Treasurer; Robyn Young, Secretary.

Julie Bache, Nancy Berlage, Nancy Brown, Sehila Mota Casper, Antonia Castaneda, Joanne Goodwin, Cheryl Harned, Linda Heidenreich, Ida Jones, Barbara Lau, Lori Osborne, Camesha Scruggs, Lynn Weiner and Lillian Williams.