

November 10 LINC Meeting Notes

If you didn't attend... checkout the LINC Facebook page to view live-streaming of the meeting.

MISSION STATEMENT: *To be a force for social, racial, economic and environmental justice through personal engagement, education and political action*

The meeting was facilitated by Emily Kaufman. NY State Senator Jim Gaughran stopped by to thank LINC members for all the canvassing/phone calls that were done on behalf of local candidates: Steven Bellone, Kathleen Clearly, Joan Cergol, Jillian Guthman, Doc Spencer and Janet Singer.

RACISM DISCUSSION GROUP: Meets prior to the general LINC meeting (1:45-3:00). The discussion is ongoing as we explore and develop an understanding of how we've become "racialized," and an awareness of the ways we unknowingly perpetuate the existing racial constructs. Focus has been and will continue for the next few meetings on exploring the history of racial constructs by discussing and reflecting on the **1619 Project** - a series of essays around slavery that were produced by The New York Times. This week's focus was on the "The Economy That Slavery Built."

ELECTION COMMITTEE: Rich Rhodes recapped the work that the election committee and LINC members have accomplished during the past two years. He will be stepping down as chair but will carry on in the role of liaison between LINC and the local/federal officials. Harriet Koppel will be assuming the role of chair of this committee. Rich was thanked by the group for his outstanding leadership and dedication.

"THE TRIPLE C" - a.k.a **C**indy's **C**ollaboration **C**ommittee – Cindy is currently working on increasing LINC's collaboration with other local groups to enable us all to be most effective and efficient in our endeavors.

EVENTS COMMITTEE: Peter Wayne shared that the next event will be a forum focused on the upcoming **2020 Census**—its significance and how LINC members can get involved. A planning meeting will be held in early December. The event will take place in February or March. He also reported on the success of the last fund-raiser: **ELECTIONS MATTER**-- \$1700 was raised which will support LINC activities throughout the year. Again huge thanks go out to Ryan Vollmer who once again graciously hosted the event.

NEW BUSINESS: LINC PRIORITIES/WAYS TO BUILD ENTHUSIASM: Attendees broke up into small groups to brainstorm ideas as we move forward into 2020:

- **Turn Senate** (LINC road trips to NH, PA, ME)
- Ensure Trump is not re-elected
- **Register voters** (work with League of Woman Voters)
- **Build networks at local colleges**
- Explore reasons why Huntington Station has such a low voter turnout and try to change
- Focus on **local races**: work to unseat both Peter King/Lee Zelden
- Get involved with Stacy Abrams' **Fair Fight 2020**-- mission to advocate for free and *fair* elections to ensure access to democracy for all
- Participate in **Poor People's Campaign -March on Washington scheduled for June 20th** ("A National Call for Moral Revival uniting people across the country to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, ecological devastation and the nation's distorted morality.")
- Set challenges for LINC members, such as knocking on 5,000 doors (text banking)
- Create **LINC Instagram** page to reach millennials (Twitter)

GUEST SPEAKER: Roger Weaving, Jr. from the Huntington Township Housing Coalition --whose mission is to encourage the development of affordable new and rehabilitated homes, both rental and ownership, for low and moderate income individuals and families in Huntington. Check out their webpage to learn more about the current issues and ways to get involved: www.huntingtonhousingcoalition.org

NEXT LINC MEETING: DECEMBER 8th (3-5 p.m.) Racism Discussion Group (1:45-3:00 p.m.)