

LWV Evening CT Meeting 5/18/2017 @ 6 PM  
National Popular Vote Presentation by John Purchase

Attendees:

Ginger Lane  
Dawn Stilson  
Eliane Purchase  
John Purchase  
Michelle Dorsey  
Tony Dorsey  
Denise Sanderson  
Joan kelchner  
Lissa Klechner  
Alice Stambaugh  
Carl Stambaugh  
Lee Ann Rezac

John Purchase gave his talk on “National Popular Vote, Why Should I Care?”

State legislators appoint the electoral college which votes for candidates. Majority of 538 votes are needed to win. The constitution allows the State to decide on the electors. The college was formed to allow states to maintain power, and was intended as a deliberative body to select the president, not intended for the general population to directly elect the president. NPV is an interstate compact that would guarantee the president to the candidate that receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and D.C. It takes effect when passed by states with a total of 270 electoral votes. As of March, 165 votes have already committed to join the compact. This is a contract which is strongly protected by the constitution. Congress has to consent to an interstate compact. The winner take all approach to presidential elections is due to state law. Current practices allow 4/5ths of voters to be ignored, with swing states getting all the attention. 94% of post-convention visits went to 12 states, with 2/3 of events in just 6 states. In Feb 2016, NPV was passed in state house with strong bipartisan support. It did not receive a hearing in Senate. As a result, we need to speak up in order to get it heard in 2018. A spirited discussion of NPV and other options (constitutional amendment, article V constitutional convention, etc) ensued.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM

Respectfully submitted:  
Michelle Dorsey