

League of Women Voters of Mason County

Executive Board Meeting

November 2, 2018, 11:00-1:00 p.m.

Shelton timberland Library

MINUTES

Present: Norma B, Pat C, Joanne B, Bobbie S, Lynn B, Nancy M, Lynda L, Amy D, Cindy S, Michelle B, Cheryl W, Connie S.

President Cindy S called the meeting to order at 1:05. Agenda was approved (JB/LL).

Executive Reports

President: 1. Cindy began her report by posing the query: Describe a time when you experienced bias toward you, or you felt bias toward someone else. (This was an exercise proposed by MELD on Diversity and Unconscious Bias.

2. Cindy handed out materials on identifying our bias from Clark Co. LWV Civility Conversations Project. Lynn mentioned the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (DEI) webinar by LWVUS. And Cindy noted the November 8 meeting of Elevate Mason will include training on Understanding White Privilege and the December meeting of will focus on Youth for Climate Justice.

3. Cindy reported that her response to a letter appearing the Shelton-Mason County Journal accusing LWVMC of partisan bias will be printed in the Oct.31 issue of the Journal. Her response has been distributed to the Board.

4. On Weds. Nov 7 Cindy will speak to Pioneer Kiwanis with information on LWVMC.

5. Finally, Cindy announced she will work with a newly formed Voter Services Committee work on a grant for education fund monies to fund voter education projects.

Vice Presidents: Bobbie S said she talked with Thaddeus Smith, a youth voter group member re: registering students to vote and will meet with him.

Secretaries: Minutes for the October Board Meeting were approved (NM/PC)

Treasurer: Pat C reported 31 members have paid dues to date, including those carried over from spring, and 4 new members. Current checking balance is \$3,951.12.

Programs: Lynda L announced programs for November and December are finalized: November speaker will be former state legislator Karen Fraser speaking on “What the Legislature Cannot Do.” Amy D will ask members for questions for Karen to address in her talk.

The December 18 meeting will be the luncheon at Salish Cliffs restaurant (11:30), including discussion of the book, *Democracy in Chains* by Nancy McLean. A silent auction, organized by Lynn B, Connie S and Joanne B will be part of the program.

January: Meeting will include an update on the Mason County Budget Study. Other suggestions for the meeting included inviting the newly elected commissioner and returning commissioners to the meeting to describe their visions for the county. Alternatively, Lynn suggested sending a delegation from LWVMC to meet with the new commissioner to provide information on the League. No decision was made,

Amy presented other potential program topics for spring: Climate change, health care, and civility.

Amy reported briefly on the Thurston county LWV Education Fund luncheon with Secretary of State Kim Wyman as the featured speaker. Jill Severn, author of the LWVWA publication *The State We're In* also spoke on issues of the current state of our democracy.

Lynda asked that the programs start promptly at 12:00 when we have guest speakers, and that any unfinished business be left until the end of the program.

Voter Services: Cindy announced that she will meet with interested members following the November general membership meeting to discuss forming a new Voter Services Committee. She will ask Arlene A, Sandy P and Jenn D to be part of the discussion, as well as others who want to be part of the discussion and the new committee. Leaders for the committee will be chosen.

Member Services: Nancy M passed around samples of potential designs for new member badges and business cards and asked everyone to pick the one they like best. She announced the result and will go ahead with the design.

Lynn B reported on the new member orientation held on October 29. She requested volunteers to serve as mentors for new members. New members and volunteer mentors are as follows: Maureen A (Lynda L), Lori B (Norma B), Kathy J and Jonnelle L (Bobbie S), Jenn D and Sandy P (Cindy S), Polly H (Cindy S), Kathy J and Jonelle L (Bobbie S), Ann M (Amy D), Eleanor L (Connie S), Linda W (Pat C). There were a couple of other potential new members who did not attend the orientation. Joanne B read from the by-

laws that LWVWC may have associate members who do not pay dues and do not vote. There is also a scholarship for members who are unable to pay dues.

Old Business: Joanne B reported that plans for the silent auction at the December meeting are in process and will be announced.

Cheryl W asked for feedback on her reports on Commission Watch. Those present said they would like a summary without so much detail.

Action items:

Cindy noted that we have discussed forming alliances with other organizations, and asked what kind of structure we want. One idea was to develop a resource list of resources on various issues.

Nancy suggested inviting the kids who are working on climate change to present a program (the Elevate Mason County group or members of Sunrise).

Lynn noted the toolkits that LWVWA and US have put together as resources for action on specific issues. Cindy asked again how we should structure these activities. Nancy M suggested we begin with a 1) program of interest, 2) ask interested people to form a study group on the issue, 3) use the toolkits where available to focus the study, 4) look at how the issue impacts the local community, 5) connect with other groups with similar interests, e.g., schools, and 6) ask What actions can we take? For example, Cheryl said she could contact a science teacher to learn whether/how schools are discussing climate change with students. **Nancy will investigate the LWVWA Toolkit on Climate Change as a focus of a short-term study on climate change and the impact on Mason County.**

Cindy mentioned the LWVWA Action workshops coming up; the first will be Nov. 17 in Seattle. **Cindy might take a vanload if others are interested in attending.** The January 12 Action Workshop at Shoreline will focus on the environment.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Bell, Co-Secretary