

League of Women Voters of Mason County
Executive Board Meeting, December 7, 2018
Shelton Timberland Library, 12:30-2:30

MINUTES

PrESENT: Cindy S, Lynda L, Amy D, Lynn B, Jonnel A, Nancy M, Connie S, Michelle b,
Bobbie S, Norma B, Cheryl W, Pat C.

President Cindy S called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

Agenda: Nancy M requested to add an item on new member packets under Member Services. The agenda was approved as amended.)

Minutes of the November 2 Executive Board Meeting were approved (NM/LL).

Question of the day: Where do you get your news and information?

Multiple sources were cited, including: PBS, NPR, online news services, NY Times, local and national network news, masonwebtv, Mason Co. Journal.

Executive Reports:

President: Cindy S said she would like to recognize local media for coverage of LWVMC meetings and events: masonwebtv, ifiberone, and Shelton Mason County Journal. Suggestions were: 1) at the March membership meeting in honor of Sunshine Week (sponsored by the American Society of News Editors in honor of James Madison); 2). LWVMC give an award each year to a local group or individual for projects for the good of the community. 3) Lynn B noted that LWVWA and LWVUS already have existing awards that our local award could fit into. She will investigate these other awards and report back at the next board meeting.

Option 1) was voted on and approved for the March meeting (NM/Connie S). The other two options will be discussed at the next meeting.

Vice Presidents: No new reports.

Treasurer: Pat C previously reported a balance of \$4,412.80, with state and national dues still to be paid. LWVMC now has 40 members, 16 of whom have paid at the Irene Davis membership level.

Programs:

December: Lynda L reported that she has contracts with both Salish Cliffs and Sisters Restaurants for the December 18 luncheon. She recommended that we hold the luncheon at Salish Cliffs as originally planned and hold the January 4 board meeting at Sisters. This plan was voted on and approved. Nancy M will send out a new announcement about the venue change for December, with a note that members should attend even if they have not read/finished the discussion book, Democracy in Chains by Nancy McLean.

January: The Budget Study Group will report on the findings of the comparison of the 2012 and 2018 Mason County Budgets. County Commissioners have been invited to attend.

February: John Bolender of the Mason Conservation District will speak on the effects of climate change on the forests in Mason County.

March: Theme of climate change will continue with a presentation by youth affiliated with Elevate Mason County. (That group will hold a meeting on climate change on December 13, 6-7:30 at the Shelton Fire Hall, 122 W Franklin).

April: Redistricting, gerrymandering, and voter suppression. Speaker TBA. LWVWA issued a report in June 2018 on practices in Washington state and recommendations for the 2020 process. Cheryl W will forward this report to board members. Connie S will research definitions of voter fraud, etc. and bring these to the next board meeting.

Lynda has reserved Harmony Hill as a possible venue for this meeting.

May: Proposed evening meeting to include members who cannot attend meetings during the day. Suggested topic is Mental Health Outreach, suggested venue is PUD 3.

June: Annual meeting to be held at Harmony Hill.

Voter Services:

Bobbie S and Cindy S reported on a meeting held December 4 of members interested in forming a new Voter Services Committee (Jenn Devan, Arlene Army, Dee An Cline in addition to Bobbie and Cindy, plus 3 others who were unable to attend the meeting).

Cindy noted that the group will meet with Fina Ormond, Mason County Elections Superintendent on January 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditor's office to discuss Mason County voter information, including registration and voting statistics. The group will use the information to decide where to target efforts to increase voter registration and turnout.

The group will also develop a postcard-size survey form to gather information on issues of concern and sources of information among voters and potential voters. The group will have the survey forms available at the December 18 luncheon for members to use with friends and family members over the holidays.

Member Services:

Nancy M reported that she has sent out 4 packets to new members. She needs additional materials: Brochures from LWVWA and LWVUS, and Legislative Priorities for 2019. Amy D said these should be available from Amy Peloff, the new staff member in the LWVWA office.

Nancy asked about sending out informational materials to members and guests. Cindy asked if it would be helpful to have a policy and Nancy replied that guidelines would be better than a policy. Several board members expressed various preferences about getting non-League materials; some wanted them, some did not. The matter was tabled for later discussion.

Lynn B reported she had 3 new members. NAMES

Member Ellen Short Sanchez has received a national award for her work in bringing schools and community together. Lynn asked how LWVWC might recognize this and similar awards. The suggestion was made to announce them in the newsletter.

Nancy M announced that Ruby Bailey had sent a thank you note for the flowers sent when she had a stroke last summer.

Commission Watch:

Cheryl W reported that the Mason County 2019 budget was adopted on Monday December 3. The Citizen Budget Advisory Committee was scheduled to make their recommendations at the regular BOCC meeting of December 11, one week after the 2019 budget was adopted.

Cheryl noted that someone else will need to take over attending BOCC meetings for the months of January-March as she will have other responsibilities.

New Business

Cindy S introduced some proposed amendments to the by-laws for the responsibilities of Secretary and Member Services Chair, and the timing of the appointment of the Nominating Committee.

Proposed amendments to the by-laws: Approved by the Board—Dec. 7; Submitted to members—Dec. 18; approval by 2/3 voting members—Jan. 15. Nominating Committee appointment made at January meeting (after Board approval Jan. 4) The highlighted words in the current by-laws will be amended with the bold words in the new by-laws:

Secretary

Current:

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all formal meetings of the League and of all the meetings of the Board; shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office. **The duties of this office shall include responsibility for the website, the online newsletter, and e-mail notification to membership of meetings and various announcements, distribution of minutes and similar notifications of interest.**

New:

The Secretary(s) shall keep minutes of all formal meetings of the League and of all the meetings of the Board; shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office. **The duties of this office shall include responsibility for writing, editing and submitting minutes to the President and to designated Board members for distribution, and for handling correspondence as requested by the Board.**

Change to Secretary Job Description:

Add: Submits written draft minutes for review and approval to President, and other officers as necessary. Distributes approved final minutes as follows: Final .pdf version to President, Web Master and Member Services Co-Chair.

Member Services Chair:

Current:

The Member Services Chair will register LWVMC members and orient new members regarding periodic publications, record and distribute member contact information, assure that members are on the appropriate and necessary e-mail/ mailing lists, and notify by telephone or U.S. postal Service those members without e-mail of upcoming meetings, events, and/or other materials distributed by e-mail.

New: Add

The duties will include responsibility for the online newsletter, e-mail notification to membership of meetings and various announcements, and distribution of minutes and similar notifications of interest.

Nominating Committee

Current:

The President shall appoint the Nominating Committee at the regularly scheduled **March** meeting.

New:

The President shall appoint the Nominating Committee at the regularly scheduled **January** meeting.

The proposed amendments were adopted by the Board (CW/NM).

Silent Auction: Connie S reported on the plan for the silent auction that will be part of the December 18 luncheon meeting. There will be a total of 6 baskets for members to bid on. Connie showed an example, a basket for the Women's March in January. She asked Nancy to remind members to bring cash or checks to bid on baskets.

Connie also noted that the Friends of the Library have donated books and DVD's on political history which members can purchase for \$5.00 each.

Letter to the Editor. Amy D suggested that LWVMC write a letter to the editor in response to a question raised in a Journal article about the Planning Advisory Council (PAC) appointed by the BOCC. The article reported that the BOC had sent back the Council's recommendations for edits that would revise the content. In the article, Ms. Vogler asked about a previous LWVMC study of county advisory committees with recommendations regarding appointments and conduct of advisory committees, councils and task forces. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m. (AD/MB)

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Bell, Co-Secretary