

## League of Women Voters of Mason County

Board Meeting, February 3, 2017, 2:00-4:00 pm

### MINUTES

Present: Cheryl W, Connie S, Norma B, Pat C, Lynda L, Donna H, Lynn B, Amy D, Michelle B

1.0 President Cheryl W called the meeting to order at 2:10 pm.

2.0 Agenda was approved (DH/CS)

3.0 Minutes of the January 6 Board Meeting were approved (PC/AD)

4.0 Question of the day: How many doctors have you had that were female, how many were male?

5.0 Executive Reports

President: Cheryl W had no new report.

Vice President: Donna H reported concern about voter suppression, in light of administration charges of voter fraud and calling for an investigation . She read the LWVUS statement that there is “no need for investigation” as no evidence has been found. She noted that John Gore has been nominated to head up the Civil Rights Division of the US Dept. of Justice and added that he has pushed for voter and civil rights suppression in court cases. Donna will contact the board when his hearing date is announced, and asked what kind of action LWV can take.

Suggestions included: Call Congressional representatives. Amy D suggested partnering with other organizations such as ACLU, Southern Poverty Law Center, Brennan Institute for Justice. She noted that Kathy Sakahara of LWVWA is working on voting rights. Lynn B added that LWVUS and Membership/Leadership Development is working on a Campaign for Making Democracy Work. Norma B noted there is concern about the 2020 Census possibly adding a question about citizenship status that would result in undercounting of racial/ethnic minorities in the population.

Treasurer: Pat C reported a balance of \$2817.37, plus \$1025.90 in the CD. There are 29 paid members to date. \$60 worth of Vote cards have been sold. Connie S said the cards are being sold at Off the Walls Gallery.

Connie S added that Theda Spracklin will be the Jeanette Boegl member for 2017; Connie will bring her to the New Member Orientation on Feb. 9. Norma B ??? asked if we had ever considered having a student membership. Michelle B said we had discussed it but never implemented it. Lynn B suggested we might hold an informational meeting to attract students and other potential members.

Secretary: No further report. Amy D noted that Esther R had sent a very nice thank you letter to Tom Davis, guest speaker for the January membership meeting.

Voter Services: Amy D reported on the January 28 Action Workshop held in Seattle. Speaker Jermilla Jayapal, 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional Dist. Representative noted that if the Affordable Care Act is repealed, 750,000 citizens of Washington will lose health insurance; and many jobs among health care providers will be lost. She also saw LWV as being translators and bridges for systems for justice. Jayapal suggested LWV organize outside of Seattle, encourage people to run for office, and to speak up.

State Senator Bob Hasagawa said “Respect everyone, listen to everyone.” He also said implementation of the McCleary school funding decision will require new revenues which won’t happen because legislators have completely different world views.

Noel Frame mentioned Twitter as a new communication system. The National Women’s Caucuses are campaigning for One America, helping groups find mutual common interest.

Amy also reported on the Lobby Team. She encouraged everyone to follow the weekly Legislative Newsletter and to watch for the Action Alert. Amy will mention this in the membership meeting. Norma suggested bringing a laptop to the meeting to demonstrate how to respond to calls for action. She noted the Voting Rights Bill (HB1800), the Education Appropriation Bill.

Amy asked board members to give her names of non-LWVMC members who are interested in getting the Legislative Newsletter. She will forward their names so they can be included on the email list of recipients.

Member Services: Lynn B sent flowers from LWVMC to Nancy M who is recovering from surgery. Lynn also sent out dues reminders; passed around postcards and posters to recruit new members. She announced

the New Member Orientation for Feb. 9 at her house; 7 new members are expected to attend. She also mentioned the need for a new member roster; Pat C volunteered to type up the revisions and send out a new roster. Lynn also said she would like to have some additional TRY brochures to hand out.

Cheryl volunteered to contact Adam Rudnick of the Journal to ensure LWVMC notices are printed in a timely way. She also asked Lynn to send the current poster electronically so it can be given to the media.

Programs: Lynda L reported the February meeting will focus on Mental Health, and March on Tree Health. Potential topic for April is education funding, with possible guest speakers Kathy Haigh and Nora Leach. May potential topic is immigration. Ellen Sanchez might assist in finding speakers.

## 6.0 New Business

Amy D reported on the committee for Program and Study Planning on important issues for the LWVWA to take to the statewide convention in June. Briefly three issues selected were: 1) Mental Health – an action campaign to de-centralize mental health facilities. 2) Universal basic income – a citizen education program to describe various schemes. 3) Housing affordability crisis – a study of homelessness and housing. The full descriptions are shown on the LWVMC website.

Michelle B asked if there were any LWVUS study groups proposed for the year. She will contact LWVUS.

Norma B asked how we should respond to Jo Sanchez, Mason Co Community Health Educator and Public Information Officer, who has requested help in moving the Public Health Improvement Plan into the community. Michelle B will call to learn more about his concerns and to ask how we might help and report back at the April board meeting.

## 7.0 Upcoming Events

Feb. 21: LWVMC General Membership Meeting, 11:30-1:30 at Olympic College.

March 3: Board meeting, 2:00-4:00, home of Lynn Busacca

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Bell, Co-Secretary