

League of Women Voters of Mason County

Executive Board Meeting

April 6, 2018, 612 Birch St., 3-5 p.m.

MINUTES

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

- 1.0 President Cheryl called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.
- 2.0 Agenda was not sent out before the meeting; the standard format was used.
- 3.0 Minutes of the 3/2/2018 meeting were approved as corrected.

4.0 Executive Reports

President: 1) Cheryl W asked for a review of the Candidates' Forum held March 29. Comments included:

+ Amy asked people what they thought as they left. Many were reticent at first, but liked the speed dating format once the forum was under way.

+There were 7 tables of 6-7 people at each. One attendee did not like that Dedrick videotaped only one table.

+Lynda suggested improving the process of placing people at tables to ensure equal numbers at each table and to mix up the groupings.

+ Forums need to be better publicized to attract more attendees. There was a concern that there were 3 forums for the City Council candidates, but the LWV format was unique.

+ In future forums discourage campaign apparel, banners, buttons, and ask candidates not to bring signs.

+Consider partnering with another group for the next forum, e.g., KMAS

+People liked questions posed by LWV, and most brought good questions of their own.

+Concerns raised included pollution in Oakland Bay, sewer taxes.

+Plug LWVMC as a way to attract new members.

+Ask some attendees to facilitate discussion at tables. Identify them people with facilitation skills ahead of the forum. Develop brief guidelines for facilitators.

+Ask new LWVMC members to help set up the room, greet attendees, etc.

Cheryl agreed to write personal thank you letters to candidates for participating, and a letter to the editor of the *Journal*.

The next forum will be in the fall for the general election. Candidates will include 1 County Commissioner, 2 state Representatives and 1 state Senator. This would allow for 8 tables. Lynda L will contact KMAS as a potential co-sponsor. Lynda will set up a committee to plan the event.

2) Cheryl announced the LWV state Council meeting will be June 1-3 in the Tri-Cities. Cindy, Lynn and possibly Joanne will attend. Cheryl will announce the event at the April membership meeting and encourage others to attend. Lynn will find out the cost so that this information will be available at the meeting. Pat said there is \$600 in the treasury to support attendance.

Vice Presidents: 1) Cindy announced some upcoming events that LWCMC might want to participate in: the Shelton Schools Picnic April 17, 5-7 p.m. in the Transit Center. She asked whether we might register voters at the event. Cindy will contact CHOICE High School to find out if this would be appropriate. The event is a fundraiser for their after school program. Tickets are available through CHOICE. Food will be catered by Smokin' Mo's.

2) May 4, 4-7 p.m. Elevate Mason County will sponsor a march, Neighbors Supporting Immigrants. It will go from the Civic Building to Kneeland Park. Note that the time for the Board meeting will be 2-4 to permit participation by Board members. Cindy asked whether LWVMC wants to have an information/voter registration table at the park. Amy said she has a table, 2 chairs, a banner, and voter registration forms which she will bring. Cindy asked about a canopy in case of rain.

Lynn noted that if more such events are planned, LWVMC could apply for an education grant from LWVWA to purchase materials.

Treasurer: Pat C. reported that we have 34 total members, including two new. \$15.50 was collected in The Boot at the March meeting. The current bank balance is \$3,738.32. Nancy M will be paid \$25 for printing TRY brochures, and dues for LWVWA and LWVUS are still outstanding, along with the annual fee for the website.

Lynn B announced that LWVUS and LWVWA have voted to waive member fees for students. It was moved, seconded and passed (LL/AD) that LWVMC waive the fees concurrently with state and national.

Secretary: Michelle B reported that the Co-Secretaries are working on a document outlining communication procedures, in an attempt to plug the gaps. These will be shared at the next Board meeting. Michelle will send out Board minutes to Cheryl for review, then to the Board within a few days of each meeting as a reminder of actions taken and tasks to be completed. She will also send the Board minutes to Nancy for distribution to the membership. Cheryl will send out the agenda and minutes to the membership until the end of her term.

Voter Services: Amy D reported that she completed the LWVUS survey on the local March for Our Lives. Cheryl and Cindy facilitated the local middle school event for LWVMC.

Amy announced that the new edition of The State We're In is available on line.

Lynn reported that two new members would like to help with voter registration. Lynn will contact them re: the upcoming events noted above and the registration for seniors in the high schools.

Programs : Lynda L announced the April 17 meeting, with guest speaker Laura Porter on Adverse Childhood Experiences and their consequences. Her website is ACEinterface.com where a booklist on the topic is displayed. It includes the book, The Deepest Well. A TED Talk on The Deepest Well is available online. This information will be sent out to members before the April meeting.

May 15 meeting will feature Mason County Treasurer Lisa Frazier speaking on the recent downgrade of the county, and the tax increase for schools.

June 22 will be the annual meeting and picnic at Harmony Hill. Planned Parenthood will send a speaker for the event.

The Planning Retreat will be held in June; the 29th is tentatively scheduled. Lynda L volunteered to have the retreat at her home if she is available on that date.

Member Services: Lynn B announced that the next "League 101" orientation for new members will be April 12 at her home. She expects six new members to attend. Lynda and Amy will help with the orientation.

Lynn plans to hold two orientations next year, in November and March, possibly in a community setting.

Lynn requested two volunteer mentors; Lynda L and Bobbie S agreed to serve.

She requested help with printing name badges for new members; Pat C will do it.

Lynn asked how many TRY brochures to print, and how best to distribute them. After discussion, no decisions were reached. She will also develop a new membership brochure for next year.

The Board agreed to think about ways to engage new members. This will be a topic for the planning retreat in June.

Nominating Committee Report: Lynda L announced the slate of candidates for the Board. President – Cindy S; Co-Vice Presidents – Bobbie S, and Connie S; Treasurer –

Pat C will continue; Secretary – Norma B and Michelle B agreed to serve as Co-Secretaries (Esther R will be asked when she returns from vacation,

Good of the Order:

+ Cheryl W submitted her name to serve on the Citizens' Advisory Council for the Board of County Commissioners.

+ How to reinvigorate Commission Watch was discussed, with the suggestion to appoint a Coordinator.

+ Pat C has offered to train a new Treasurer and Web master. Need suggestions.

Upcoming events:

April 17: Membership meeting.

April 17: Shelton Schools Picnic, 5-7 pm, Transit Center. Possible voter registration

May 4: Board meeting, 2-4 p.m., home of Lynn B

May 4: March and voter registration, 4 p.m., Neeland Park.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 (CS/AD)

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Bell, Co-Secretary