

League of Women Voters of Mason County
2016 Board Planning Retreat
June 24

Present: Cheryl W, Donna H, Joan C, Gwen G, Amy C, Sandra H, Nancy M, Ruby B, Lynn B, Lynda L, Jeanette B, Pat C, Michelle B, guest A.B. W.

President Cheryl W called the meeting to order at 12:45.

Member services: Lynn B suggested bringing in new members as a focus for next year, with board members serving as ambassadors reaching out to potential new members, increasing visibility of LWV in the community, following up with guests who attend meetings, and including new members in all of LWVMC activities/committees. Lynn asked for volunteers for a committee to meet in August to develop a plan. Donna H, Cheryl W and Nancy M volunteered; Lynn will ask 1 or 2 other members to join.

Lynn B received a letter from Kevin Smelzer of Mason Conservation District requesting to speak to LWVMC.

Treasurer's report: Pat C estimated a beginning balance for next year at \$1120, after an approximately \$500 is paid for state and national dues. Last year's beginning balance was \$1270, with the difference due in part to income from Vote cards. The budget for next year, based on 40 members, will be about the same as last year's. Michelle B asked whether we could purchase some small gifts to give to young people who register to vote. Pat C suggested the Special Events or Printing and Advertising lines might be used for this purpose. Ideas for gifts included: pins, pencils with LWV logo, stylus for electronic screens. Michelle will call the state office to ask what is available; Cheryl will check on price of stylus.

Sandra asked whether we want to reorder Vote cards to raise funds. Suggestions for sales included marketing them to other Leagues, e.g., Kitsap where Lynn B will be the MLD coach, posting a notice on the Facebook page that they are for sale. The item was tabled until the next board meeting.

Program Planning: Cheryl suggested a theme of public health, including gun safety and zika virus, for the next year, and asked everyone present to write ideas for meeting topics on monthly sheets. Suggestions included: Community Health Improvement Plan, emergency preparedness, programs that are not well known, among others. Cheryl will compile the suggestions and send them out. Program topics for fall include: September – Get out the Vote, and voting rights; October – Ballot initiatives; November – Mason Matters, with the new director as a speaker; December – Field trip suggestions: Shelton High School's health Services Academy, Mason General Hospital, including a speaker from Harrison Belfair clinic.

Cheryl W presented her 'big idea:' to invite a Presidential debate to Mason County. Sandra H said she would take the suggestion to LWVWA.

Lynda L asked for discussion of the Candidates' Forum. October 12 at 7 p.m. was selected as the date and time. Options for location include: Senior Center, junior high school, Mason Transit Center, PUD. Lynda asked for a committee to organize the event, to include a "speed dating" format in which candidates move among tables where attendees are seated and are encouraged to ask questions of the candidates. Committee will include: Lynda L, Sandra H, Jeanette B, Donna H, plus one other member.

Adjourned: 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Bell, Co-Secretary