

League of Women Voters Mason County

Zoom Meeting

April 21, 2020

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Question of the day: What has been happening in the League and how can every member be involved?

Dee Anne Kline and Lorie B led a conversation and review of intent, concerns, use and management of LWVMC Website at www.lwvmasoncounty.org. Any suggestions, additions, Action Alerts or any other information related to the Website should be sent directly to Dee Ann Kline for her review and she will pass those along to Lorie B.

Everyone was encouraged to use Mason County WebTV 22 to review the Mason County discussion of Home Rule Charter, a new way to run county government.

Cindy Shotts outlined that a slate of nominees for 2020-2021 would be discussed and selected at the Board meeting in early May with voting at the May, 2020 membership meeting.

Pat Carpenter and Lynn Busacca clarified that annual financial dues are usually collected at the first of the year or should be sent to League of Women Voters Mason County, PO Box 2465, Shelton, WA 98584. However, those individuals who join after April renew 12 months after they join. Communication and questions are welcome with League through email is lwvmasoncountywa@gmail.com

Cheryl reported on her participation in preliminary planning and early communication for the 10th Congressional District (seat currently held by Denny Heck who is retiring from Congress) Candidate forum on July 8, 2020. It is proposed that it be sponsored jointly by Mason and Thurston County League of Women Voters. A concern, which is still being discussed, is Mason County LWV financial responsibility for this forum. The planning is complicated by the fact that there are currently 11 candidates and may be more. Discussion on format including eligibility criteria for participation, whether the forum will be spread over one or two nights, length of time limits for each candidates and audience questions and who will moderate (former candidates, TESC, journalist, County Leaders, etc.). The ideotaping will be at the TVW studios.

Sherri Dysart discussed the LWVMC Climate Change Committee. There are approximately twenty members of the LWVMC that are on an email of interested in climate. She knows how hard the COVID 19 pandemic is for people and thanks everyone for their support. She reported that on March 4, 2020 Patti Case from Green Diamond presented her timber resource

company's response to climate change and may have answered the LWVMC specific written questions to her. She has sent the minutes out to the Committee from that meeting, if you wish to review them. She has observed that there is not a county-wide awareness of the need to address climate change. There is no unified and committed community voice in Mason County to positively address mitigation of damage, adaptation by people to preservation of the planet in the face of climate change. She believes that letters to the editor would help bring voices and people together. She is writing a letter for the editor of the Mason County Journal. She has invited Lisa Remlinger from Washington Environmental Council and Bill Dewey from Taylor Shellfish Farms to join Climate Change Committee on line meetings as speakers. Both the timber and shellfish industries are impacted by climate change. They have not yet responded. When they do, Sherri will create an outline for the presentation and solicited questions from the LWVMC prior to the meeting.

She also would like to suggest that all members of the Climate Change Committee who feel they would like to participate join a Climate Change Study Group (like a Book Club), share common reading material and get together on Zoom to discuss the common reading and follow-up with local, regional and other experts. A reminder that this is Earth Day's 50th Anniversary and earthday.org is the Website that may be of interest. PBS also has a wonderful and recommended documentary. Cindy share that she believed at one time that her generation would take care of the environment. We all see the work to be done after so many years, and that is motivating.

Sherri directed the LWVMC to the Harvard Climate Preparedness Working Group: Climate Mind and Behavior Symposium (2013) The symposium at Harvard is actively (action plans) **preparing** for the impacts that climate change will have on schools and communities. Developing resiliency, identifying vulnerabilities and stepping up the use of mitigation tools are helpful in ensuring longevity of our communities and schools.

Amy Davis observed that there is a distinct overlap and connection between climate change and adverse childhood events. She would like to explore that overlay and interconnectedness more with the League. "Powerful feedback exists between mistreating the natural environment and the health, safety, and well-being our children, families and communities." She also reported on the rescheduled meeting, maybe in August or September, 2020, to learn about Public Health as a component in reducing adverse childhood experiences in Mason County Public Health and Climate Change and its effect are also related. The Deepest Well will be discussed by members closer to the August or September meeting. She has not heard back from Jim Wyndman who is Mason County's Public Health Director on his support and availability for this meeting. Dr Daniel Stein is the Mason County Health Officer. It was voiced that he would be a good person to talk about public health strategies to stay well and slow the spread of the disease.

Cindy Shotts thanked everyone of their work and support. She shared important information from the future actions of the LWVMC Centennial Committee. She reminded members of the Irene Davis poster at the 2/14/2020 Centennial Celebration of the 1920 women's constitutional right to vote. There are three more posters being prepared for the June Annual meeting: Maggie Velasco, Xinh Dwelley, and Mary M. Knight. There will eventually be seven panels/posters recognizing strong and vibrant women of note in Mason County, with half the money available for creating these posters from the Mason County Historical Preservation Commission and half from the LWVMC. We hope to present three on June 2, 2020 at the LWVMC Membership and Program Meeting at Harmony Hill on Hood Canal.

Amy Davis reported on Mason County Home Rule Charter. She suggested that everyone go to the March 17, 2020 LWVMC meeting on WebTV on Home Rule Charter to review. There are also Power Point Slides. She reported that Nan Henderson is tentatively scheduled to speak to the LWVMC on May 19, 2020, but she will not be available on a Zoom call at that time. She will prerecord and provide power point slides. Nothing is committed at of this date, however. It is important to watch the Mason County Commissioner meetings on Mason County WebTV. You can "live stream" this discussion by going on the County Webpage and clicking Archives.

Cindy Shotts and Bobbie Stady reported on LWVMC Voter Services. Without "person to person" contact the question was asked: What could be added to our Website to share voter services? In addition, an idea was voiced to place public service announcement to the three electronic/digital reader boards in region encouraging people to register. Paddy McGuire will request Mason County provide criteria, permission and the cost of renting their reader board for Public Service Announcement to Register To Vote. It was mentioned it is perceived by some in Mason County and elsewhere that registering to vote is partisan. It is not. Cheryl will report the same information for the electronic/digital reader boards owned by Public Utility District #3 and the City of Shelton. All this information will be reported back at the May Board meeting. It is also critically important to complete your US federal census form and send it back to the federal government for tallying. This could be one of the Public Service Announcements, as well.