LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MASON COUNTY ZOOM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SEPTEMBER 15, 2020, 11:30-1:30 MINUTES

24 members and 4 guests attended.

Amy D. welcomed the group and brought the meeting to order at 11:30. The minutes from the August Annual Report Meeting were approved. Lynn B. moved to approve and Karen H. seconded.

Treasurer's Report

Pat C. Reported there is \$5,509.27 in the checking account. This includes a \$1,500.00 donation and a \$200.00 donation towards the postcard project. Dues are beginning to come in as well and members are reminded that now is the time to renew their membership.

The CD is currently valued at \$1,051.00.

Pat C. and Dee Ann K. are working to make PayPal available on our website.

Voter Services

Postcard Project – Committed volunteers are needed to write postcards. LWVMC will be contacting approximately 5,000 voters in Mason County. The postcards target young voters, first-time voters and infrequent voters.

Volunteers can sign up on line via the email sent on September 12. Postcards are being printed now and will be ready soon. Packets will include postcards, names and addresses of 120 voters, postage and a sample of personal notes that could be included.

Amy D. submitted a letter to the editor regarding voter registration and upcoming events. These include, September 19th at Pioneer School; September 22, National Voter Registration Day, at Kneeland Park; and Oct. 10 at the Shelton Farmers Market. Volunteers are needed to help and can sign up on line.

LWVMC will sponsor a ½ page add in the Mason County Journal encouraging people to vote and identify drop boxes for ballots.

Cheryl W. reported that a candidate forum for US House, District 10 will occur on October 14th. Beth Daglio and Marilyn Strickland are the candidates. Members are also encouraged to checkout *postcardstoswingstates.com*

Karen H. reported that the USPS sent out postcards to WA voters that could cause confusion over mail in ballots. WA Secretary of State, Kim Wyman, is preparing a press release that will be widely distributed to clarify that WA State voters do not need to request a ballot.

Karen H. directed members to a virtual Voter Registration Workshop on Sept. 17th from 11;30-12:30 by Mason County Auditor's office.

Member Services

Lynn B. reported that we currently have 53 members. This is Membership Drive Time and all members are encouraged to recruit new members.

Nancy M. will send out a reminder for dues payment. Levels of membership are: Individual \$60.00; Family \$90.00; Irene Davis level \$100.00 and a new level-Citizen Activist of \$120.00 in honor of Jean Moore.

Send check to renew to LWVMC P.O.B. 2465 Shelton, WA 98584

Application for new members can be downloaded from the website. Anyone needing a scholarship for dues can reach out to Lynn B.

Programs

October 20: Be Vote Ready; Paddy McGuire, Mason Co. Auditor and Kim Wyman, WA Secretary of State will speak. Meeting is moved to 1:30-3:30 in order to accommodate Ms. Wyman's schedule.

November 17: Addressing Racial Justice; Amy D. reported on possible speakers; Abigail EchoHawk on systemic racism and Native representation, Sharon Laing on why racism is a public health crisis and Leah Thomas on Intersectional Environmentalism.

December 15: Centennial Committee presents "Women Leaders of Mason County". Three new posters will be presented. The honorees are Ethel Dalby, Clara Eastwood and Georgiana Miller.

Climate Change Committee

Sherri D. reported that the next meeting of the committee will be on September 22, 1:30-2:30 with Bill Dewey of Taylor Shellfish.

The committee is working on a Virtual Town Hall on Climate Change with the 4 candidates for our State Legislature. Co-sponsors include Climate Solutions, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group and Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Sherri D. presented to the LWVWA on the committee's activities. Dee Ann K. reminded members that two articles about climate change from the Mason Co. Journal can be found on the website. The two articles (8/20 and 8/27 editions) are detailed accounts of our meeting with Nick Manning, Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Imagining May 2021, LWVMC Achievements

Amy D. asked meeting attendants to state their imagined LWVMC achievements. Responses included the following:

- -Education of voters on climate change, environmental health and vulnerable populations
- -increased voter participation in the November election
- -developed self-awareness on racism and taken action within our community
- -model good behavior regarding anti-racism
- -reduced hostility among the community
- -more diversity of league membership, maintain the reputation of the League as a nonpartisan organization that can be trusted

Book Discussions/Recommendations

"Falter: Has the Human Race Begun to Play Itself Out" by Bill McKibben

"White Fragility" by Robin DeAngelo

"How to be an Anti-Racist" by Abram X. Kendi

"Caste: The Origins of our Discontent" by Isabel Wilkerson

Amy D. suggested that we identify volunteers to lead reading groups.

<u>Program – begins at 12:30 speaker Hilary Franz, Commissioner of Public Lands</u>

Sherri D. thanked and introduced Hilary Franz. Topics covered included current wildfires in WA, efforts to control, resources needed to succeed, the importance of promoting forest health and investing in resiliency of landscapes and communities. Clean energy as a generator of funding for public schools and other topics were discussed through a question and answer period.

Ms. Franz's presentation was recorded and will be available on the website.

Amy D. adjourned the meeting at 1:37 pm

Calendar

September 22 – National Voter Registration Day, Voter registration at Kneeland Park, 2:00-5:00pm

October 2 – Executive Board Meeting, 11:30-1:30

October 20 – General Membership Meeting; time 1:30-3:30

November 3 – Election Day