

Minutes of LWVMC Board Meeting December 6, 2024, 11:30 am, on Zoom

Present: Lynn B., Dee Ann K.P, Lynda L., Tani F., Amy D., Eileen P.

Lynn called the meeting to order at 11:33 am.

Board members present introduced themselves to Tani, a new member.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the board meeting October 25, 2024, were approved.

Attendees shared the institution they wish to protect.

Executive and Committee Reports

Voter Services: Dee Ann reported on the Speed Dating event October 17, 2024. Eight candidates and 71 community members, including LWVMC members, attended.

She commended Esther R. and Carole B. for their well-organized poster distribution process throughout the county. Many League members assisted in the distribution, including most schools, many businesses, and public spaces such as transit buses and community centers. Their report will be nominated for the State League award. The Auditor's office was very helpful in getting information on the poster.

The Auditor was also complementary to the League for assisting at the Shelton and Belfair Vote Centers, organized by Dorothy O. and Peggy M.

Eileen reported visiting the one Civics class Evan Brees teaches at North Mason High, the one class Todd Plaisance teaches at Mary M. Knight High, the two classes Travis Schultz teaches at Shelton High, the two classes Tristen Slauson teaches at Shelton High, Mike Kuhn's senior advisory class at Choice High, Tami Stoutnar's Civics class at Choice High, and Luanne Bigbear and Kurt Garrison's senior classes at Cedar High. In total, 9 classes in all but one high schools in Mason County, were visited.

Leadership Team. Dee Ann reported on the State Board upcoming activities. The Action Workshop is December 7 and Monday morning updates during the Legislative Session January to April 2025. No lobby day is planned. The Convention will be June 6 to 8 in Clark County. The state League is moving to a smaller office in Seattle. Amy reported on the state program committee, including adult and high school civics education and Project 2025. Lynn reported on MELD, the new way dues will be collected and distributed to local leagues, and CANVA training, a social media tool that Peggy M. uses in communications, scheduled for January 22, 2025, at 4pm on Zoom. Another topic to be discussed is How Democracy is Faring in Washington State.

Treasurer. Dee Ann reported Sandy M., previous treasurer, has turned over the books to her. The change was recorded at the bank, The full treasurer's report will be presented at the general membership meeting December 17, 2024. The rate for the CD went from 3.78 to 3.922.

Programs. Eileen is planning the Civics Education program December 17, 2024. All Civics teachers in the county were invited, and Evan Brees from North Mason High, Hannah Palmer from Cedar High,

and Mike Kuhns from Choice High agreed to attend. They will report on the state mandated curriculum required for graduation and how they apply it to their student needs to engage students to be good citizens. The program will begin at 11:30 am to accommodate the teaching schedule.

Amy announced the January program will be presented by Kit Muehlman on Multi-Member Districts, a LWV-WA Education Project. The February meeting may be on GRIT, the Tacoma housing program. The March meeting is planned around justice and public defender funding. At some point, the state studies will be included.

Member Services. Lynn reported 10 new members, 4 having attended League 101, and 6 more needing to attend in January, along with those who may be interested in joining. The telephone tree is active, and Lynn requested callers to inform her of telephone changes and conditions of members, such as death in family or health issues. The new membership dues process will be mentioned at all meetings to ease the implementation. There are eight months to educate our local members. An email from National will be sent in February.

Advocacy and Member Engagement. Amy announced the LWVWA Action Workshop December 7, 2024, on Zoom, at 10am, requires registration. Diana Wynn will speak on how to lobby Washington legislators.

Climate Change Committee. Lynda reported some history on work with the planning commission to include climate change in the Planning Committee Comprehensive Plan. Four years ago LWVMC sent a letter to the County Commissioners encouraging climate change inclusion. The Commissioners ignored the letter, as they did not believe climate change was real. However, the state made it a requirement to include in the planning process. The Climate Change Committee has been attending planning meetings the third Monday at 6pm in the County Commissioners Chambers. A local group Climate Justice brings students from Cedar High who actively ask questions. The study will last one more year, due June 2025. The committee meets at Lynda's home to discuss strategy.

Communications. Lynn spoke on behalf of Peggy M. She encouraged Lynda to include a report on the Climate Change Committee actions for The Voter newsletter and Facebook posting. Dee Ann will include a Voter Services report. The Voter will also feature quotes from members who have valued their League membership, along with a welcome to new members. Also, there will be a new feature: an interview of a current member. Eileen volunteered.

Ongoing and New Business. Dee Ann announced the LWVWA study on Eldercare will go out before Christmas for study in January. Amy announced the next study is Welcoming New Immigrants to the Community in February. April is the due date for the impact on issues studies. Lynn encouraged members to talk about the studies in the phone tree conversations. Amy will include the studies in the January general membership meeting.

Lynn asked Lynda to contact Chris, Francesca and others to ensure we have someone to manage the technology (OWL) at membership meetings. Otherwise, we can't offer the hybrid option.

Lynn adjourned the meeting at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Eileen P., Secretary