

League of Women Voters Mason County
May 7, 2021
Zoom Board Meeting
12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

The April 2, 2021 Board Minutes were moved, seconded and approved.

It was announced that LWVMC has 70 members.

A discussion among League members addressed redistricting and gerrymandering as each effects elections, voter participation and policy direction and development. It was agreed that a Letter to the Mason County Journal Editor will be sent and information will be added about Speak Up Schools so that the drafters of the letter can include that information in their submission. The LWVMC is encouraging a working definition of restricting, community participation, and transparency, and a discussion of all ways redistricting and gerrymandering are critically important to fair democratic elections. TRY (They Represent You) brochures are ordered, available and ready for distribution.

Pat C. made the Treasurer's Report: Our checking account as of May, 2021 is \$7,710.00. LWVMC will pay \$2,958.00 in membership dues to National League in June, 2021. Backup Treasurer is Sandy Miller and Pat is looking forward meeting her and her extensive expertise and invaluable assistance.

Bobbie S. reported on Voter Services. She reported a clear message. The LWVWA published and recently updated book "The State We are In" is timely and appropriate and she proposed that we get it out there, at every opportunity and in every location we can. This would include School Libraries, Timberland Libraries, Tribal Libraries, Sound Reading, Cielo/Immigrant Centers, etc. The Pat C. will expend \$825 on books for the Libraries, new members and any member who wants one. Donations/Sale is encouraged.

Lynn B reported on Member Services. Her findings are that there is value to stay in touch with members who have not been active during the pandemic. The telephone tree is working and she needs more callers. It is helpful to talk about next meetings, board meetings, reading list books that have impact on issues, standing committee's and LWVWA positions and upcoming programs of LWVMC.

Amy D talked about upcoming programs: On 5/18/21, Kathy Sakahara "Is Democracy Dying?" Kathy is Lobbyist for LWVWA. On 6/15/21 Annual Report Meeting at Harmony Hill, Scott Brewer, Director of Hood Canal Coordinating Council. Amy D highly recommends a book: The Voter. She also recommended the statewide LWVWA Convention and encouraged people to sign up early to receive the early bird \$20.21 registration fee.

A discussion among members was held on the wisdom of meeting, inside with and without masks, vaccinations, the method by which this virus is spread, testing, antibodies and general health and the short and long term welfare of Leagues members and guests.

Sheri D. reported on the Climate Change Committee (CCC). She spoke of the importance of planning and strategy as the committee works to educate themselves. The next meeting is May 27, 2021 at 11 am and tentative speaker is Julianne Gale and Zephyr Elise, Mason County Climate Justice. She talked about future meeting programs and speakers, including Don Gourlie, Puget Sound Partnership. Nancy Snyder received education and training and resources from Climate Reality which the CCC will use to deepen their mission to raise awareness, planning and strategy for climate change. She also talked about raising awareness through letters to the editor and op-ed articles in the Shelton Mason County Journal and MasonWeb TV. The CCC is also working with the Mason County Planning Manager and People's Voice on Climate. Forestry health, production, employment and climate issues are important to the CCC. Sheri has been assisting the Olympic Climate Action's Committee on Forestry Management to be seen/heard on the timber industry issues and science based climate issues affecting current Washington State legislation.

Lynda L. reported on her observations as a member of Observer Corps. The Mason County Board of County Commissioners (MCBCC) is going to hire a new county administrator. The assignment for this new administrator will be (1) Setting Priorities for the County (2) Defining the Vision for the County (3) Setting the potential duties for the new county administrator. The MCBCC will hire a consulting group to "head hunt" this person at the next general meeting of the MCBCC. The contract and cost of hiring this consulting group was not reported to the LWVMC.