

# **League of Women Voters of Mason County Membership Meeting May 21, 2024 Minutes**

## **Olympic College, Shelton, Library, Hybrid**

Present in Person: Chris M. Lynda L., Lynn B., Karen R., Amy D., Randy L., Mark T., Peggy D., Sue U. guest, Patti B., Julie F. from Thurston County LWV, Sandy M., Dee Ann K., Arlene A., Carole W., Diana F., Kamryn M., Tom D., Chiara F., Gordon Weeks from Mason County Journal, Present for Presentations: Hannah Palmer and her Civics Class from Cedar High, Will Harris Present on Zoom: Pat C., Cheryl W., Sammie

Amy called the meeting to order at 11:35 am.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of April 16, 2024, General Meeting, were approved.

**Leadership Team** Amy reported on the LWVWA Council meeting May 31 to June 2, 2024. There is a tour of the Capital Campus May 31 in the afternoon. The meetings begin 10 am. June 1. Amy listed the nine workshops over the two days. Kim Abel, Kitsap County, is conducting a forum for candidates from Congressional District 6.

**Treasurer** Sandy reported Checking: \$5902.69, CD: \$1112.65, Education Fund: \$5436.87. Annual dues to state is \$1073.50, with the quarterly due July 1, \$268.38

**Member Services** Lynn is planning an orientation for new and prospective members.

**Voter Services** Dee Ann reported plans for Speed Dating at Civic Center the third week of October. As there will be 8 candidates after the Primary Election in August, all 8 will be invited. Some positions are unopposed, so it will not be necessary for them to participate in the Speed Dating portion. Other voter services plans are to be in the community once or twice a month, using Tabling, where the members stand in front of the Voter Services table to engage and encourage voters to become informed **on** the candidates and issues. There will also be post card writing events in the fall. Karen R. and Eileen visited classrooms in North Mason High and James Taylor High in the North Mason School District, and Cedar and Choice Highs in Shelton School District. The TRY brochures were handed out to all students. Karen H. is also distributing TRY brochures in many public locations in Mason County. Eileen reported the Allyn Days booth is secured for July 20. Eileen, Cheryl, and Dorothy will volunteer to get the booth for free. Dee Ann reported on the OSPI Forum that took place Monday 20th in Spokane. Dee Ann will put link to the recording on the website.

**Advocacy** Amy encouraged members to check their emails for ways to support petitions/issues for which the LWVUS and LWVWA are advocating.

**Programs** Amy announced the Annual Report Meeting on June 27 will close this year's membership meetings. We will meet June 27 at Arcadia Fire Hall at 11:30 am. The Annual Report will recount the activities we've undertaken this last year. New officers will be elected. Our guest speaker, Paddy McGuire will give an account of his experiences overseas watching international elections.

**Climate Change** Lynda reported members are attending the County Comprehensive planning meetings on Monday evenings. The May 20 meeting was canceled, however. The purpose is to put pressure on them to include climate change resiliency in the planning process.

**Communications** No report

**Nominating Committee** Lynda reported the officers in current positions agreed to serve again: Leadership is Amy D., Dee Ann K., and Lynn B. Treasurer is Sandy M. Secretary is Eileen P.

The Leadership team will be seeking assistance from the 60 members on programming and other events. There may be a book club added.

Amy adjourned the business meeting at 12:00 pm.

Amy turned the meeting to first guest speaker Cynthia Stewart, LWVWA Advocacy Team Issue Chair.

She explained the League position on the three ballot initiatives. Cynthia presented on Zoom from 12 to 12:30 pm.

Mason County Auditor Steve Duenkel presented in person from 12:30 to 1:30. He prepared responses to questions from League members and discussed challenges of the office and how citizens can become involved in the election process.

Amy adjourned the meeting at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen P.

Secretary

League of Women Voters of Mason County