

League of Women Voters of Mason County
Zoom Executive Board Meeting
January 7, 2022 12:30 pm - 2 PM
Minutes
Submitted by Jonnel A.

The meeting was called to order by Lynn B. at 12: 45 PM. Present: Lynn B., Sherri D., Amy D., Dee Ann K., Pat C., Randy L., Nancy S., Lynda L., Karen H., Cindy S., and Jonnel A.

While waiting for weather related glitch and resumed computer link-ups for some members, Cindy S reported on the book study group reading "Saving Us: A climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Health in a Divided World." This book is a very helpful tool in any controversial discussion, not just climate change. Everyone is welcome even if they have not read the book or even have the book. They may wish to listen to TED TALK on You Tube by the book's author Katharine Hayhoe (good summary of first half of book) or an On Being podcast by Hahoe which may be helpful for second half. Look on you browser for this. The book group will meet 1/13/2022 at 1 PM and 1/20/2022 at 1 PM . Email cindyshotts@hotmail.com to join.

A motion was made by Cindy S. and seconded by Amy D. to approve agenda as amended adding Voter Services Report and leadership proposal requesting a vote by LMVMC on including a LWVUS a consideration of Proposal on Health Care Reform on their annual conference agenda in July, 2022.

A motion was made by Pat C. and seconded by Amy D to approve minutes as submitted.

Answered the question: How will you sustain hope? Join the Green Team... then take small incremental but positive steps, be persistent, make another run at making a challenging presentation to get a hard discussion started, call it "active hope", control your attitude, "Keep on Keeping On", pace yourself, "expect the worst, hope for the best", read something you love, feel acrimonious and then dig a ditch, "I'm too old to despair", be kinder, reflect on the losses others have endured...look for the positive in everything you do and stop, think, listen, then communicate thoughtfully...., learn tools to overcome adversity through connection with groups of people involved in Fix Democracy First and Common Power, knowing LWVMC was among sponsors of an event connecting these motivating groups.

Nancy S. reported thoughts on the Mason County Journal's Kirk Boxleitner interview of her. The topic was about her interest in Climate Change. He seemed to feel that the story would be very interesting to the curious reader if he wrote about "her interest in Climate Change at her advanced age." A little humor was suggested as another way to sustain hope.

Pat C. reported that we have 51 paid members and \$6,648.98 in the LWVMC account. There is also \$740.00 in the Education Fund. She will order 200 "They Represent You" (TRY) brochures which may be ready for pick up as early as 1/14/2022.

Cindy S. reported on our League's Observer Corp's work with other WA State Leagues to create a first draft of enhanced LWVMC guidelines. This will be sent out to members. Cindy S.

announced that the next meeting will be 1/10/2021 at 10 am. You can reach her at cindyshotts@hotmail.com

Lynda L. reported on the continuing work and conversation between the public and various county government officials and institutions to address two (2) controversial and long standing (20+) year topics. First, the Belair Transportation Bypass and second, the Mason County Waste Water and Reclamation System (System). Commissioner Randy Netherlin's involvement in the controversial and complex projects was reported. The next phase of the Proposed Belair Sewer Extension will connect North Mason County households and businesses to the system. There will be a tax increase for this connection which is intended to enhance the transportation and health and safety of north Mason County and Hood Canal water quality. A public meeting will be held on Zoom on January 31, 2022. Contact Lynda L. for more information.

Lynn B. reported on Member Services by offering to call past members who have not renewed their membership, encourage recent new members, reconnect with members who we have not seen and those members who hosted Neighborhood Gatherings. The goal is to share information about LWVMC's recent actives and offering ideas that are motivating resulting in increased attendance and participation. Would you like to help? Call Lynn B.

Amy D. reported on Program Development by reminding us that in January, 2022, Marty Gibbins will speak on "How to Use the League's Legislative ("Sustain Hope and Take Action") Newsletter. In February, a partnership with Thurston or Kitsap Counties may offer a suggestion to invite a local Tribe to speak to us on the delivery, access and affordability of Tribal Health Care. In March, the "Sunshine Laws" including the Freedom of Information Act, and WA Open Meetings Act passed first in 1971 followed by amendments and court cases that call for government actions/ activities to be transparent to the public, are tentatively on the agenda.

Sherri Dysart had a conflicting meeting, left the meeting early and submitted the following written material on Climate Change for the Executive Board's review:

LWVMC Climate Change Committee
Report to Board of Directors by Sherri Dysart
Jan 7, 2022

CCC Regular Meetings

- Jan 27, 2022 @ 1:00 PM: Linda Shrum, Oakland Bay Cleanup
- Feb 24, 2022 @ 6:30 PM: Julianne Gale & Zephyr Elise, The Lorax Coalition

League Environmental Newsletter - Our Climate Radar

- First issue on 11/1/21
- Subscribe if you are interested (contact Marty Gibbins)

Suggestions for future meetings

- James Landreth, Food forests, regenerative agriculture, faith-based organizing

Focus of CCC

Discussed program/advocacy steps at the 10/28 meeting: **Take Action**

- Advocate for climate resiliency planning (e.g. Kitsap County)
- Write letter to **City of Shelton** requesting initiation of climate resiliency planning
- Advocate for responsible building in public buildings (e.g. new jail)

- Investigate water quantity/quality issues (status of Hirst decision)
- Investigate science/climate change curriculum in Mason County

Projects/Actions

- Wrote letter to BOCC; signed by Leadership Team; delivered on 11/15/21
- Sent copy of letter to Kell Rowen (Community Development Administrator)
- Contacted Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group; Executive Director, Mendy Harlow alerting her to the BOCC letter
- Nancy Snyder held an online meeting of community members interested in climate change issues

Raise Awareness

- Book study: *Saving Us*, by Katharine Hayhoe
- SMCJ - Nancy Snyder has been interviewed by Kirk Boxleitner at SMCJ regarding her odyssey to doing Climate Reality training; expected publication of article on 1/13/22
- Arrange for more presentations of Nancy's Climate Reality slideshow
- SMCJ - Continue to ask for coverage by The Journal
- Regular Guest Editor columns / LTE / Press Release articles covering the LWVMC meetings
- MasonWebTV
- Interviews on KMAS

Outreach/Collaboration

LWVWA:

Collaborated with Marty Gibbons to organize a webinar on "*Attribution Science*"; defined as follows: Attribution science figures **out the likelihood or severity of a particular event happening today** compared to how it might have unfolded in an imaginary world that humans have not warmed. We are also collaborating with WA Physicians for Social Responsibility, Union for Concerned Scientists and the Center for Climate Integrity. Webinar occurred on Jan 5, 2022 @ noon-1:00 PM. Approximately 165 people attended. Follow up events are being explored.

Washington Can't Wait: *NEED LEAGUE MEMBERS TO WRITE TO 35TH LEGISLATORS, AND/OR TESTIFY IN SUPPORT.*

I'm following the Washington Can't Wait (Futurewise) campaign:

- Pass HB1099 to ensure Washington cities and counties are planning for climate-resilient communities while reducing our contributions to the climate crisis.
- Fully fund HB1220 to ensure that the state legislature does not short-change housing equity and that we are doing everything we can to address race and income-based housing discrimination.
- Close the GMA's 'vesting loophole' to protect farmland, forests, and critical habitats from unnecessary sprawl by passing SB5042.

The Green Amendment (HJR 4209):

I hope to garner support for this bill from the LWVWA. Attended a meeting with Reps. Lekanoff and Fitzgibbon on Dec 17, 2021 and other supporters of the legislation (350 WA is a prime supporter).

Kitsap Connections:

Kitsap Environmental Coalition: interacting with Beverly Parsons, Executive Director

LWV-Kitsap County: The LWV Kitsap has a robust Climate Solutions committee. They are the driving force behind "Our Climate Radar" monthly newsletter.

Education:

I established a connection with Miriam Bertram, Assistant Director of the UW Program on Climate Change (continuing collaboration). TO DO: Investigate science/climate change curriculum in Mason County. Nancy Snyder has established a connection with Deena Alley at the Shelton High School [Natural Resource Academy](#).

Forestry:

I am now a member of the **LWVWA Lobby Team, Issue Chair-Forests**. I will continue to chair the Climate Change Committee for Jan - March 2022, but only on a limited basis. I will be following forestry related bills in the 2022 legislative session, writing portions of the Legislative Newsletter, and testifying on behalf of the LWVWA.

I am working with the **LWVUS Wildfire and Forest Policy Group**. This group aims to write Forest Policy for LWVUS adoption.

I have am now a Board member of the **Center for Responsible Forestry**.

I am attending the **DNR Board of Natural Resources (BNR)** meetings which are held the 1st Tuesday of each month (except for August) at 9:00 AM. The BNR sets policies to guide how the WA State Department of Natural Resources manages our state's lands and resources.

I am attending the **Olympic Climate Action (OCA)** meetings (OCA is a chapter of 350Seattle). OCA has a Climate and Forestry committee, which I am leading.

PNW Forest Climate Alliance - WA State Lands Forestry Working Group

I've established a Working Group to advance an Ecological Preserve proposal, applicable to WA State trust lands (proposal crafted by former land commissioners Peter Goldmark and Jennifer Belcher).

I've joined (as an individual) the **PNW Forest Climate Alliance** organization, and their **Wildfire Working Group**.

I'm maintaining contact with **Mason County Climate Justice** (they have formed the Lorax Coalition).

Amy D. reported on Advocacy by asking questions?

How are we going to handle fossils fuel in Mason County? Is natural gas the low tar cigarette of the day? If you wish more information please call Amy D. WA State LWVWA Lobby Days are January 24-27, 2022. Call Amy D. if you wish to be involved.

Amy D. reported on a request from LWVUS to include a review and discussion of LWCNY's two year study of single public payer health care in their annual conference health care reform agenda. LWVMC voted, by a show of hands, in the affirmative, to include that review and discussion in the 2022 national conference agenda.

Cindy S. and Lynn B. reported on very recent correspondence related to Voter Services. The Principal of Cedar Hills High School has requested writing that the LWVMC assist in registering Seniors to vote starting 1/14/2022. She is requesting the League's services in each of the school's Citizenship Classes and is looking for someone trained in voter registration (or willing to get trained) to help her run the program. If you are interested call Lynn B. or Cindy S.

Upcoming Events (all are virtual)

1. January 13, 1-2:30 PM and January 20, 1-:30 PM: Book Study "Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope & Healing in a Divided World" by Katharine Hayhoe "
2. January 17: Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.
3. January 18 11:30-1:30: LWV-MC General Meeting and Program "How to Use the Legislative Newsletter" with Marty Gibbons (LWV Climate Change and Energy Chair)
4. January 20, 1-2:30 : "Saving Us" Book Study
5. January 24-27: Lobby Week with Fix Democracy First & LWV-WA
6. January 27, 1:00: Climate Change Meeting with Linda Schrum on Oakland Bay Cleanup
7. January 31, Mason County Waste Water and Reclamation System, Proposed Belair Sewer Extension, Contact Lynda L. or Mason County
8. February 4, 12:30-2:30: LWV-MC Board Meeting
9. February 15, 11:30-1:30: LWV-MC Membership Meeting & Program
10. February 24, 1:00: Climate Change Meeting with The Lorax Coalition

Adjournment