

LWVCLA Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: May 19, 2018

Location: Olympic Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Port Angeles, WA

Meeting Called to Order at 10:32 AM by President Linda Benson

Welcome: Linda

Emergency exits and restrooms, schedule for the day, committee sign-up sheets

Sustainability lesson from geese – when the lead goose gets tired it drops back and another one takes its place.

Introductions of Board:

- Vice President - Paula Barnes (co-president)
- Recording Secretary - Elaine Baker
- Treasurer - Mickie Vail
- At-Large board members - Marcia Radey, Helga Montgomery, Nell Clausen, Margie Whitmore
- Past President, mentor and consultant to board - Candace Pratt

Gifts to Board members stepping down: Helga Montgomery and Nell Clausen

Welcome to new LWVCLA members.

Recognition of past Board members and Committee Chairs.

Board Needs:

The Board needs the following for sustainability:

- Corresponding Secretary
- Shadow Partners for current Board members
- Nominating Committee
- Events and Fundraising Committee

2017 Annual meeting Review: Linda

Discussion: Corrections

Motion: Approve 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes

M/S

Approved

Review of strategic planning and action plan: Paula

Discussion: How to encourage membership involvement, invigorate existing membership, and recruit new members.

Committee Reports

Tech Team: Paula

- September: Implemented new Facebook page; new posts and comments at least every 2-3 weeks
- October: Launched monthly Voter e-newsletter
- Election season: News releases, flyers
- December: Migrated website from Weebly to My League Online (MyLO); Members are encouraged to get their own log-ins; those members needing help to do this should contact the Tech Team.
- February: MyLO “Birth-day” event;
- 50th Anniversary: News releases
- Year-round: took photos!
- June: Transition to “Communications Committee” which is a more accurate description of what the committee has been doing

Voter Services Committee: Mickie

- For sustainability, we need a chair or co-chairs
- Election season: Forums for primary and general elections
- Election season: Sequim ballot box collections
- Throughout the year: Voter registration events
- We would like to do Electoral College presentations and we will mentor presenters

Vote 411: Penney Van Vleet

- Online voter guide
- Provides chance to ask questions

Membership Committee: Nell

- 22 new members this year; total membership 110
- Developed orientation packets and orientation program for new members
- Hosted membership tables at all Voter Services forums and 50th Anniversary event

Healthcare Committee: Janet Nicklaus

- Goal: Access to needed healthcare
 - Affordable healthcare for all
 - Local availability of all legal services, e.g., reproductive, end of life services, mental health
 - Maintain OMC as a public, secular hospital
- Current study areas:
 - Local barriers to reproductive health care services
 - Local availability of Death with Dignity
- Activism this year:

- Urged OMC Board to make secular status of hospital a topic in Commissioner interviews
- Lobbied Congressman Kilmer to support Healthcare for All bill in the House
- Worked to block excessive expansion of hospital beds by Harrison/CHI-Franciscan in Silverdale
- The committee needs new members.

Water Study Committee: Carrol Hull

- Long range goals: create an educational outreach program on the future of water in Clallam County and suggest policy recommendations
- Studied: basic hydrology, water law, governing bodies, public/private water systems, tribal water rights, recent legislation, proposed projects, working models, stakeholders' interests
- June 14: Agricultural use of water
- July 25: Future of Water and Planning - Clallam County Planning Department.

Students in the Community: Carrol Hull

- Sponsored by Sequim High School and Connect 4
- Erin Dwyer and Allison Van de Wege are current members; another student is needed.
- Program is continuing with more organizations joining

Observer Corps: Sue Erzin

- Attend public meetings, take notes and write a summary to be emailed to members
- Board of County Commissioner Work Session meets every Monday morning, Lynn Muench and Katie Woodin
- Sequim City Council meets twice a month on Monday night, Laura Dubois and Margie Whitmore
- Observers needed - PA City Council (Tues, semi-monthly); PUD (Mon 1:30pm, semi-monthly); Port of PA (Mon. 9:30am, semi-monthly)
- Why be an Observer?
 - Learn about local government
 - Inform League about what local government is doing
- Skills Needed
 - Listening and note-taking
 - Ability to summarize information
 - Knowledge of word processing

Archives Committee: Vicci Rudin

- Goal: to maintain an ongoing record of the activities and important documents of the LWVCLA
- Activities: files were completely reviewed, sorted, and organized in preparation for the 50th anniversary celebration and display
- After the 100 Anniversary the Archives will be stored locally

- Need: new leader to assume responsibility for future archiving
- Materials from Board meetings, Committee meetings, etc. will go into the Archives after 5 years
- Contact: Vicci Rudin if you are interested in chairing or serving on this committee

Book Discussion Group: Vicci Rudin

- Goal: Continuing and expanding participation by League members
- Activities: Read and discuss books that stimulate a broader understanding of the current American political and socio-economic scene as well as the historical events and figures which contributed to it
- Benefit: Sharing points of view and broadening your League friendships
- Contact: Vicci Rudin for more information

Walking Group: Marcia

- Meet for exercise and conversation on Tuesdays at either the west end Carlsborg parking lot at 9:00 am and walk east or at the Audubon Center at 9:30 am and walk west
- Contact Marcia for more information

Adoption of Program - Kids Voting: Bonnie Bless-Boenish

- Explanation: Why the vote is out of order. The Program was presented at the Program Planning meeting in January; consensus was reached that this is a good program for our League to support. Taking action to join Kids Voting USA was time sensitive. We needed to obtain Board approval to pay the \$450 fee before the 2018 Annual Meeting with the understanding that the issue would be brought to the whole membership at the Annual Meeting.
- At the end of this presentation we will take a vote from the whole membership
- The Problem: The United States trails most developed countries in voter turnout and Clallam County experiences low voter turnout among parents of school-aged children.
- A Possible Solution: Our League sponsors a pilot Kids Voting USA program in schools in the county.
- Currently active programs in 23 states
- Kids Voting USA is a nonpartisan, grassroots-driven voter education program whose mission is to:
 - Create lifelong voting habits in children
 - Increase family communication about citizenship
 - Encourage greater adult voter turnout
- Key Components of the program
 - Strong curriculum for grades K-12, aligned with Common Core
 - Choice of paper ballots or electronic software for mock elections and school/classroom voting
 - Activities to involve families in learning about voting
 - Educator support through local affiliates (required, tax-exempt, nonpartisan organizations responsible for the “nuts and bolts” operation of Kids Voting USA)

within their defined areas) to provide assistance with ballot creation, volunteers for activities, and resources for teaching civic lessons and creating voting habits.

- What's happened so far and what's ahead
 - January 2018 – consensus at Program Planning Meeting
 - March/April 2018 – board approval, payment of \$450
 - April/May 2018 – contact teachers/schools in Clallam County
 - May 2018 – write Beta Nu Community Education Grant to cover other costs
 - June 2018 – presentation to State Council
 - Summer 2018 – deliver curriculum to teachers, professional development day
 - Fall 2018 – implement curriculum, coordinate activities with League support, mock election, on-going professional development and collaboration, mid-year evaluation
 - January 2019 – Present results of first semester implementation to Program Planning Meeting with recommendation for next steps
 - Spring 2019 – continue to implement curriculum, coordinate activities with League support, on-going professional development and collaboration, final evaluation
 - Work with State Board to establish LWV-WA as statewide affiliate
- We have 30 interested teachers with 700 potentially participating students
- For sustainability, we need an Education Committee
- Bonnie Bless-Boenish will chair the committee and facilitate implementation.
- Committee responsibilities
 - Secure guest speakers
 - Help teachers with activities, coordinate volunteers at schools
 - Assist with ballot creation, information on mid-term election
 - Support at professional development meetings

Motion: Adopt Kids Voting USA

M/S

Unanimous Approval

Election of nominating committee: Linda

- For sustainability we need a Nominating Committee
- From the LWV Bylaws, Article IX: The Nominating Committee, which serves for one year, shall consist of three members, one of whom is a member of the board. The chair and one member, who shall not be members of the board, shall be elected at the annual meeting. The board member shall be appointed at the first board meeting of the new local League year. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the board.
- Margie Whitmore and Marcia Radey will be the Board representatives.
- From the floor: Jennie Peterson and Penney Van Vleet volunteer to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Motion: Elect the Nominating Committee

M/S

Approved

2018-2019 Budget: Mickie
Discussion: Budget line items

Motion: Approve Proposed 2018 – 2019 Budget

M/S

Approved

Other Discussion Items

- Donations to the LWWCLA Education Fund would support Kids Voting USA in Clallam County
- Advice to the Board:
 - Thank you to the Board
- Discussion of 2020 Census: Members can sign up for LWWUS/US Census for information
- Clallam.net is a good resource for information
- Request: Comment period against rules on defunding abortion providers, support reproductive rights
- There will be three primaries with three candidates.

Announcement of Speaker:

After lunch our speaker will be Dr Therese Stokan discussing a proposed initiative to establish a single payer health care system and a trust fund to support it for the State of Washington.

Meeting Adjourned At 12:00

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Elaine Baker