

Report from the Nominating Committee

"We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate." League of Women Voters' vision statement.

It's been a pleasure to chair the 2019 Nominating Committee, working over the past few months with fellow committee members Marcia Radey, Penney Van Vleet and Margie Whitmore. Our assignment was to recommend a slate of officers to the membership for the election at our upcoming annual meeting on May 4. The four offices are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. We have carefully reviewed the entire membership list and we communicated with many if not most of our members. We sought volunteers at the Program Planning meeting in February, we sent out solicitations in the Voter, and the President sent out another request via email. We are pleased that several people have expressed tentative interest in holding office in a year or two, and we look forward to their increased involvement in the near future.

BYLAWS AMENDMENT. The Nominating Committee agrees with the current Board of Directors that the alignment of the officers' terms should be staggered such that the President and Secretary serve concurrent terms (i.e. both terms would expire in Year A) and the Vice President and Treasurer serve concurrent terms (i.e. both terms would expire in Year B.) The membership will be asked to vote on this amendment to the Bylaws at the May 4 meeting. To insure that all four offices are not vacated at the same time, and to achieve this new alignment, we are recommending on a one-time basis that the nominees for President and Secretary serve a one-year term, and the nominees for Vice President and Treasurer serve a two-year term.

OUR RECOMMENDED SLATE OF OFFICERS. *Linda Benson* has agreed to serve as our President for one more year.

We have the great good fortune to have two candidates who have volunteered to share the responsibilities of Vice President, each serving a two-year term. *Rebekah Miller* works as Development Coordinator at Peninsula Behavioral Health and *Jessica Hernandez* who works as Tribal Liaison and Food Assistance Coordinator for the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

Secretary Elaine Baker is stepping down, and *Margie Whitmore*, who is currently an at-large member of the Board of Directors, has agreed to serve as Secretary, also for one year.

Mickie Vail has indicated her willingness to continue to be Treasurer for another two-year term.

Paula Barnes, current Vice President, has told us she would be willing to serve this coming year as President, Vice President, Communications Chair or Voter Services Chair, but only one of those jobs. President Linda Benson agrees with us that chairing the Voter Services Committee is a very important responsibility, and since Paula has done it before and enjoys this work, it makes sense for her to be appointed Voter Services Chair for one year. The Nominating Committee therefore recommends the next Board of Directors appoint Paula to Chair Voter Services.

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE. I am willing to chair the Nominating Committee again next year. We still need a volunteer for this committee, and we hope someone will come forward at the annual meeting on May 4. In July or August the new Board of Directors will appoint the third member of the Nominating Committee. In accordance with our Bylaws, the third member needs to be a board member.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennie Peterson, Chair, LWVCLA Nominating Committee