



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GRAND COUNTY

2019-2020 Presidents Report by Carey Dabney

Grand County LWV is currently 75 members strong and had a busy, although abbreviated year due to the Corona Virus.

In 2019 we partnered with the Grand County Census 2020 Complete Count Committee to provide an information booth at the Fourth of July in the Park celebration and developed and put on our local web-page a Census 2020 power point to help educate and raise awareness about what the census is, why it is important, and what you need to do to make sure you and your family and friends get counted.

To better organize our work, we created an electronic Plan of Work document for our committees, programs, and events to use to determine activities, timelines, costs, responsibilities and volunteer needs. A completed plan of work document also serves as an historical record and road map for any future board of directors and committee chairs to follow.

We reorganized our calendar to include outreach to recruit, educate and engage members by hosting an annual member (and interested guest) social in September, along with designating member specific business meetings twice a year to get input for consideration at our annual Board of Director retreat in May.

To better communicate with our members and our community, we continued to maintain our LWV-GRC website and added "What's Up with the League" a monthly member email with Items of interest, program updates, and action alerts. As part of our outreach, we recruited several members to participate in the *Ballot Initiatives in Utah* study. In January, February and March our local papers published press releases related to the Centennial Celebration and the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. We also participated in the ERA petition and the For the People postcard campaign and contributed to a Women's History Display at the local library.

In October we hosted our 39<sup>th</sup> annual Candidate Forum for Candidates running for City Council. November we continued our partnership with the Grand County High School Debate Team who put on a mock congress to discuss and debate Tax Reform. December we hosted our members and their partners for an annual Holiday Party.

January 2020 we held a member business meeting and approved a plan of work for a Legislative Alert Committee for the 2020 legislative session.

Our February program was on tax reform with a legislative update, hosting a bi-partisan panel for a behind the scenes look at what was happening at both the local and state level.

The March program was titled, *Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy* and we were thrilled to have GiGi Brandt and Catherine Weller come to speak about the People Powered Fair Maps campaign and about Proposition 4, "The Utah Independent Redistricting and Standards Act".

Our April Silent Auction Fundraiser was cancelled as was our hosting of the State Convention in Moab due to Corona Virus restrictions.

We are currently in talks with our local radio station to partner on the 2020 Candidate Forum, and with a local paper to partner with them on voter information. Over the next few months we will continue to plan and build on the efforts begun in previous years to improve and strengthen our ability to "empower voters and defend democracy" at this critical time in our history.