



2022 ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

In Attendance:

Francesca Ritson –President of the month (POM), Leadership team; Visibility Committee, and Climate Change Steering Committee.

Eileen Perfrement – Board Secretary, Climate Change, Voter Services

Liz Ellis – Board Secretary, Local Chapter Member.

Amy Davis –Advocacy and Voter Services; Climate Change Steering Committee. Has done everything except for Treasurer and Secretary.

Dee Anne Kline – Leadership team, Voter Services Chair, Newsletter and Publishment, Website, and LWVWA State Treasurer.

Lynda Links –Climate Change Steering Committee, Voter Services, Program Committee. Oldest member, past President

Nancy McMahan –Voter Services, Centennial Event, Past President, member since 2005,

Cindy Shotts –Observer Committee, Centennial Event, Past President

Sherry Dysart – Climate Change Chair, member since 2019

Lynn Busacca – Leadership Team, co-chair Membership Committee, past treasurer, and LWV-WA MELD coach.

Cheryl Williams –Leadership Team

Absent – Pat Carpenter, Treasurer; Karen Herr, Nancy Snyder

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 11:49 BY FRANCESCA STATEMENT OF GRATITUDE

As well as a thank you to Lynda for hosting this meeting, thank you to Francesca for stepping in as one of the leadership team, thank you to the group for all that we have accomplished during the past year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Amy Davis on Advocacy –

The Advocacy Committee advocates issues that the LWV has taken a position on locally, statewide and nationally. For example, MLWV advocates at the state level on climate, social and health care issues. Report: We should search for new ways to become visible in the community. In the 2023 year, when new issues come up, how can we advocate our position publicly?

Perhaps explain more on how the LWV “chooses” an issue – in response to a comment about all issues we advocated on were partisan issues. We do research and studies on issues. Discussion led to decision we table this conversation for another time (suggest we try new restaurant downtown, MasonWebTV, and post cards).

Sherri Dysart – Climate Change (See Attachment A – Climate Change Committee Report)

How have we done?

The members of the committee have become highly informed. Many attempts to increase awareness of climate change and its projected impacts were made (see Action Items). I think we have laid a good foundation for continuing our work. It will take time and commitment to our mission to make changes in local policies.

Suggestions for 2022-2023 Program year: Focus on action by organizing working groups e.g. Electric school buses; Solar installations on schools, etc.; Earth Day fair 2023; Bright Action



team; BOCC hearing (for climate resiliency planning). Also go on outings: Skokomish Tribe estuary restoration project tour; legacy forest hike.

The CCC will reconvene on Thursday, 9/29 @ 11:00 AM, via Zoom. Review the Bright Action program; determine if the CCC wants to pilot this program in Mason County (initiate a LWVMC team).

Conduct a survey of members for suggestions on the scope of work, commitment for the coming year.

Challenges/Opportunities:

- Unwavering and universal support by the Leadership Team/Board is necessary.
- Need more engagement from committee members, e.g. LTE (letter-to-the-editor) writers, identifying and contacting guest speakers, hosting Zoom meetings on occasion, building relationships with allied organizations in the County, brainstorming strategies for impact.
- Establish ongoing relationship with MasonWebTV for coverage of CCC meetings.

Lynn Busacca – Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is the backbone of the organization, with a focus on a continuum of outreach to potential members, welcoming and orienting new members, engaging members in meaningful activities and developing future leaders.

During the last program year, we welcomed 8 new members, raising our total to 72. We held one League 101 orientation, engaged nearly 40 members in a variety of activities, and stayed in touch with our membership using the Voter newsletter phone calls, Zoom meetings, book talks and programs, emails, and six neighborhood gatherings during the summer. We have been quite visible in the newspaper this past year, with letters to the editor and climate articles, and we held a spectacular museum open house featuring the Centennial Display of 8 notable



women. Over 100 attended! Our primary challenge was keeping members connected and involved during the pandemic.

Goals for the next program year include:

- Incorporate more fun and social time, such as hikes, meet & greet events, and tours.**
- Better coordination of outreach efforts and messaging. Develop a cadre of speakers.**
- Develop and strengthen community allies and partners.**
- Offer hybrid meeting formats so more can attend.**
- Keep members connected in new ways.**
- Increase membership and offer League 101 more often.**

We welcome new ideas and committee members!

Dee Anne Kline – Voter Services

Primary work of the Voter Services Committee has been the Speed Dating event, currently working on logistics of running event and expectations of behavior and less worried about contentious behavior. The Candidate Speed Dating and Forum Policy was approved by those in attendance. It is posted on the website and a copy is being sent to all candidates. Lynda Links will handle the September event, Dee Anne will manage the October event. After Speed Dating, want to keep the momentum going. Lynn Busacca – relationship with the YMCA with active participation in September 20th event: Citizenship, Naturalization and Voting Rights included, Eileen will have a voter services table at the event. South Sound Learning is another possible outreach.



The Voter Services Committee is planning two big candidate events this year. The Forum with candidates for County Auditor, Clerk and Assessor will take place Sept 17 12:00 pm at the Shelton Civic Center. This is in lieu of our September General meeting. Speed Dating with the Candidates will take place on October 13th, 6:30 pm at the Shelton Civic Center. Participants in the Summer Neighborhood Meetings are thinking of questions to ask the candidates.

The Voter Services Committee's challenge is to continue to maintain member interest after the National Elections. We will continue to meet as a committee to determine future Voter Services and Civic Education activities.

Cindy Shotts – Observer Corps Committee

This past year the Committee developed a handbook on best practices for observing public meetings. As the public meetings were postponed during Covid, the Observer Committee is considering options.

Goals:

1. Work to increase LWVMC member participation as observers at public meetings.
2. Produce training manual for new observers.

Accomplished:

1. Interested members met using zoom to discuss League policies for observing meeting and what meetings to prioritize.
2. A draft Observers Manual was produced.

Challenges:

1. No in-person meetings were offered by elected officials.
2. Members can observe live or recorded public meetings, but we did not pursue.

Plans for 2022-23:

1. After General election in November, work again on a recruitment strategy.
2. Complete training manual.
3. Plan member observer event----observe together and discuss after

Submitted by Cindy Shotts



Cindy Shotts – Centennial Committee

Goals:

From last retreat:

1. Four events to present women leaders
2. Coordinate with County organizations

Accomplished:

Events

- Open House at the Mason County Historical Museum, attendance more than 100!
- Featured Irene Davis at Allyn Days.
- Planned event, Aug. 27, at the Tortilla Factory 25th Anniversary to feature Maggie Velasco-Lucero.

Coordinating with County Organizations

- Mason County Historical Museum hosted our open house and displayed Women Leaders posters for 2 months.
- Arranged for Mary M. Knight display at Old Timers Fair, but had to cancel. We hope to present Mary M. Knight poster to the school district fall of 2022.
- Llyn DeDanaan interviewed Squaxin Island tribal historical and family members to research information about Joyce Simmons Cheeka. a
- Families of the 7 women were invited to the open house.
- County commissioner was invited and attended the open house.
- Mason County Historical Preservation Commission members attended the open house.

Goals and plans for 2022-2023:

1. Plan to display the women leaders posters at 2 events.
2. Widen and continue collaboration with families and organizations in Mason County.
3. Add Joyce Simmons Cheeka posters and materials.

Budget request:

\$400 for fees and supplies for event displays

\$200 for formatting and printing Joyce Cheeka poster and materials

- *Submitted by Cindy Shotts*



Program Committee - Lynda Links and Amy Davis

Possible future programs: Voting rights, Gardening in a time of climate change or Resilient Gardens, Juvenile justice system, Fire districts, Shoreline study, Journalism study, Income inequality.

It was decided to move the Technology Committee report to the Board Meeting.

Programs of Study – Shorelines and Journalism

Upon receiving the reports, a series of questions will be asked (the same for each report). The answers will determine whether recommendations from the reports will be adopted and help to shape a policy for the League.

The group discussed how the Journalism report was being authored by professionals and may be a way to improve the business relationship between the League and local newspapers.

Nancy suggested in **future study ideas**, we examine income inequality. This topic has been taken up nationally under the term “Monetary Principles to make Democracy Work”. We could look to National for ideas. The group reflected upon how successful past speakers were when asked to discuss on this topic.

Reminder to the group the Anniversary of Jalisco’s on August 27 at 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. as part of the Centennial Committee’s work.

Nancy brought the table the idea of future discussions on a multi-county, multi-League (Kitsap, Thurston and Mason County) effort on a Climate Fair. This event would showcase the latest technology, ideas, green products, and show how living carbon free is not difficult and can save you money at the same time.

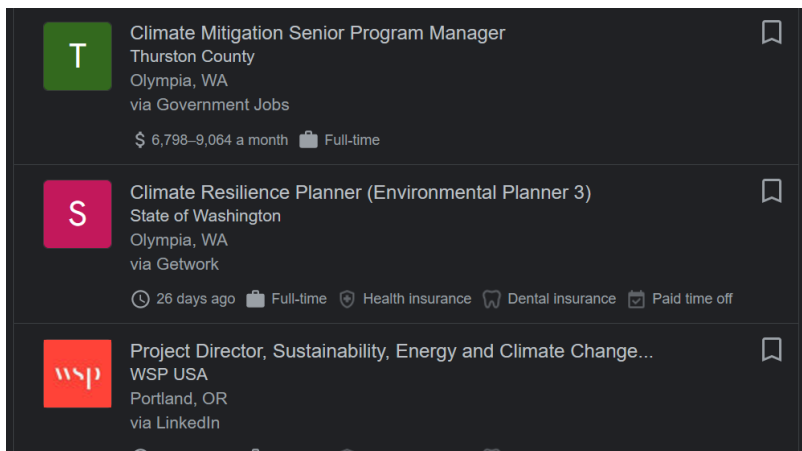
Examples of Climate Fairs:

[Alaska](#) – Climate Fair for a Cool Planet

[California](#) – Take Action on Climate Change

[Ireland](#) – Climate Fair: Find out how to “green” your lifestyle

Another idea is to ensure employers of jobs related to climate change and sustainability are invited to this fair (job fair). A quick look today, August 16, shows the following positions are open under “climate change jobs” in the immediate area:



The group adjourned at 2:20 p.m.