

League of Women Voters General Membership Meeting December 19, 2023
Shelton Fire Hall, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. In Person Only
Minutes

Present: Lynda Links, Eileen Perfremment, Lynn Busacca, Sherri Dysart, Collin Dysart (guest), Karen Rice, Dorothy Oetter, Sandy Miller, Nancy Snyder, Dee Ann Kline, Randy Lewis, Diana Findley, Patti Bradley, Amy Davis, Linda Woytowich, Guest Speaker Phyllis Farrell, LWVWA Lobby Team Climate and Energy Advocate

1. Amy Davis called the meeting to order at 11:35 am.
2. The agenda was approved, with Visit to the Auditor added to New Business
3. The minutes were approved.

4. Executive and Committee Reports

4.1 Leadership Team. Amy Davis reported on her meeting with the Thurston County League President and the LWVWA Administrator on planning for the LWVWA Council 2024. LWVMC will co-sponsor with Thurston. The date will be determined, but early May is being considered. The venue will be the Capitol grounds.

4.2 **Treasurer.** Sandy Miller reported \$5256.93 total in the bank, \$4653.97 in the education fund, with a payment of \$500 pending for speed dating advertising. Of the \$60 dues, \$9 comes to our League chapter. We have 47 members, soon to be 48.

4.3 **Member Services.** Lynn Busacca explained the process for recruiting memberships for those who have not renewed. A general "Pay Your Dues" email has been sent. Individual calls will begin in January, as the list is due by January 31. Membership was suggested as a holiday present. She moved on to the TRY brochure. She asked for volunteers to update the brochure, and then Linda Woytowich will get it published. Randy Lewis volunteered to visit the Auditor to get the updates. Eileen Perfremment, Dorothy Oetter, and Karen Rice will visit the six high schools in Mason County to distribute the brochures while speaking to Civics classes

about

voting.

4.4 **Advocacy.** Amy Davis spoke of the LWVWA Lobby Team Action Workshop December 2. A followup Speak Up School is offered January 6, 9 am to 12:30 pm on Zoom. It will provide training on how to use the legislative website to support important bills in the legislative session Action Coffee Time will begin January 8 on Zoom, and every Monday throughout the session through March 11, to explain how to advocate for bills that week. The sessions are an hour long and if you have registered, you can hear the recording of the discussion.

4.5 **Programs.** Amy Davis reported the January 16, 2024 general membership meeting will be on Public Hospital Districts. Location will be announced later.

4.6 **Climate Change Committee.** Lynda Links reported the January 15 Lobby Day meeting at United Churches of Olympia near the Capital Campus, 9 am to 2:30 pm, on the Re-Wrap Act. Phyllis Farrell added that this Act is a top priority of the LWVWA. Various ways of carpooling and transportation were discussed.

4.7 **Communications.** Peggy Morell was unable to attend, but she encouraged members to open the LWVMC post on Facebook and click on like.

5.

New Business. Dorothy Oetter and

Karen Rice reported on their meeting with Auditor

Steve Duenkel on December 7, 2023. Mark Tuson also added to the questions. They asked 4 questions and summarized his responses in a hand out. They also added questions for a follow up meeting with him. One of the main concerns was rejected ballots based on signatures. They are using a new machine Tritex that does initial signature verification. The machine identified many ballots that required manual signature verification and/or curing by trained staff.

Mr. Duenkel hopes to have more trained election workers in the future. He was also concerned about the vulnerabilities in the voter registration system, deceased and those who have moved out of the precinct. Some Coroners automatically report deceased to the Auditor, but not when the death is in another county. There was also concern among the League members about the unhoused and students studying away from home. There was discussion on inviting him to a general meeting.

6.

Amy Davis adjourned the business

meeting at 12:10 pm.

7.

The Program “Strategies for Climate

Resiliency in Mason County” began with Phyllis

Farrell. The second speaker was unable to attend, and there was plenty of opportunity to ask questions of Phyllis. She suggested we invite the county and city planners to our meetings and other groups as well.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Perfrement
Secretary