

League of Women Voters of Mason County Board Meeting January 9, 2026 11:30 am on Zoom

Present: Lynn B., Patti B., Dee Ann K.P., Peggy J., Jim P., Amy D., Lynda L., Peggy M., Eileen P

Lynn called the meeting to order at 11:31 am.

Members introduced themselves along with the last book they have read that they would recommend.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the December 5, 2025, Board meeting were approved.

Leadership Team. Dee Ann reported on the follow up to the concern raised at the November General Meeting regarding a donation from LWV Mason County to a political candidate.

The PDC website showed a contribution of \$250 from the LWV Mason County to a candidate for Shelton City Council. The sister of the candidate (who was involved in the campaign) was contacted and she said she was not aware of this.

Dee Ann filed a complaint with the PDC. The PDC contacted the candidate directly and he responded that this was an error. The contribution was not from the LWV Mason County, He corrected it on the PDC website. His letter of explanation is also posted on the PDC website. Dee Ann also reported the outcome to Karen Crowley, LWV-WA President.

Amy will fill out the survey on behalf of LWVMC that the LWVWA is sending to all local units.

Treasurer. Patti emailed a Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2025, to all members. The balances went up by \$1941.01 in the month of December. We received the \$2000 grant payment from the LWV-WA Education Fund for the Storytelling Project, had membership renewals of \$96.22, and donations of \$650, which includes the boot pass at the December, 2025, meeting. We made a donation of \$100 to Faith Lutheran Church for meeting space. We paid one half of the State membership dues. The other half is not due until 2027. We have sent in payment for our National dues, but the check has not cleared yet, so it is not reflected in this report. The report will be updated for the January 20, 2026, should it be cleared by then. Lynn would like a list of members who have not paid dues yet so they may be contacted.

Voter Services. Dee Ann reported the next Voter Services meeting will be on Zoom on January 26, 2026. Lynda reported that Thurston County LWV is interested in learning about our Speed Dating format, and she will work with them. Peggy M. also reported that Cynthia Stewart from LWVWA also wrote an article on our Speed Dating. Peggy M. also reported that the Mason County Auditor's Verified Voter Project has been postponed from the February 10, 2026, Special Election, to the April Special Election. Peggy J. announced a trip to the printer of the ballots with Auditor Duenkel on January 13, 2026. She will try to include Auditor Duenkel in the January 20, 2026, General Meeting, but does not want to cut the time short on the guest speaker already arranged for that meeting. Amy will work on the agenda to include him.

Eileen reported a visit to the Civics Class at Mary M. Knight in December.

Eileen reported that she has completed her revisions to the TRY brochure and needs to get it to Karen H. for editing. Then Linda W. will get it printed.

Programs. January 20, 2026, General membership meeting presentation will be David Lund on restoring voting rights to the incarcerated and recently released inmates. Peggy J. has organized the program.

The February 20, 2026 General membership meeting will feature Kim Danke on supporting local immigrants.

The March meeting may be on Women's History.

Peggy M will get the announcements of the meetings in the Journal.

Special Projects: Civic Storytelling. Peggy M. reported the spring effort to collect stories will be focused on the general public and the Growth Management Act, including the Cedar Stewards. The Education Fund grant of \$2000 will be for one year. Other community members under consideration are the Girl Scouts, Connie Simpson on the battle against the Adage incinerator next to the soccer field, Bill Busacca on his involvement with the first 75 member County planning committee, and others we can get from the Mason County Historical Society. Dee Ann Finken from LWVWA also reached out to us for information.

Special Projects: Mason County Economic Health Planning. Lynn reported some members have started gathering information on a possible study. Lynn is willing to bring people together to get the study underway. They will need to find a leader and members to be involved. Amy knows of a study in Whatcom County she will find more information about.

Observer Corps. Peggy M. announced the directory of all public meetings is complete, including dates of the meetings. She also updated the observer survey. The directory will be available on the website. Discussion of prioritizing the organizations to follow may be helpful. Terry P. has been following PUD 3. PUD 1 should also be observed, along with the Port of Shelton. Lynda will present these three priorities at the January general membership meeting.

Advocacy. Amy reported on four actions members can take that are authorized by the State: 1) Take action on Venezuela by contacting your national congressional representatives; 2) Lobby Week is January 26 to 29, by Zoom in the evenings, 6:30 to 7:30.; 3) The Legislative Newsletter is emailed Sunday evening for action on bills until March 12; 4) The "Decline to Sign" campaign to stop signatures on the measure to interfere with voter rights was successful. Not enough signatures were gathered, but they may still be trying. The next LWV-WA media and news literacy workshop on Techniques to Sway Public Opinion will be held on January 20, 4:30 to 6 pm via Zoom. The following workshop will be on February 24 and features an introduction to AI. You can sign up for these free sessions at the LWV-WA website.

Climate Change Committee. There is no active committee, but several bills on Climate Change are being considered this legislative session. Lynda announced the Bottle Bill on

recycling. Action to take is sent weekly by email if you are signed up. Dee Ann will post the Climate Change article from the State on the website. Perhaps a new leader on Climate Change could be identified from the general membership.

Nominating Committee. Lynn shared the job description for the Nominating Committee. Interested members will be invited to Board meetings to get a feel for the positions. She will add time commitments. A Board member should serve on the Nominating Committee. Patti will sit on the committee, but not lead it. Lynda will also sit on the committee. Jim is interested in learning about the Leadership Team.

Good of the Order. Patti requests a review of the financial records. This is not an audit. Eileen announced the Mason County School Retirees' Association is hosting State Treasurer Mike Pellicciotti on February 3, 2026, at El Puerto de Angeles Restaurant at 11:30 am. The community is invited to attend.

Lynn adjourned the meeting at 1:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Eileen Perfrement
Secretary