League of Women Voters of Mason County, General Membership Meeting, September 15, 2026, Faith Lutheran Church, Shelton, 11:30 am

Present In Person: Dee Ann K.P., Sue U., Patti B., Cheryl W., Lynn B., Amy D., Anna B., Peggy M., Nancy S., Debbera C., Lynda L., Vikki V., Deborah W., Toni D., Diane M., Peggy H., Mark T., Karen H. Randy L., Jody H., Cindy S., Diana F., Eileen P.

Present On Line: Laurie D., Kim D., Francesca R., Esther R., Dawn S., Brooke Q.

Amy called the meeting to order at 11:37 am.
The agenda was approved.
The minutes of the June 16, 2026, Annual Meeting were approved.

Officer and Standing Committee Reports

President. Amy asked members to view the Governance Video from LWVWA. The LWVMC is looking for a Vice-President following the resignation of Peggy J. League 101 is being planned for new members. It is time for a regular review of the By-Laws and Procedures. Amy pointed to a mission focused leadership.

Peggy M. handed out and reviewed the Summary of Retreat Outcomes for the 2026-27 LWVMC Work Year. Three areas of focus were identified: 1) Defend Democracy by mobilizing members to direct action, 2) Educate ourselves first on voting issues so we can effectively educate voters, 3) Strengthen internal systems to improve coordination, communication, and effectiveness across committees and leadership.
Ten LWVMC members took the Election Observer Training. Letters to the Editor are effective. Six members attended Observer Corps events. We need to encourage youth to attend Speed Dating.

Action. Members are encouraged to view the Governance Video from LWVWA.
League 101 needs to be planned. The By-Laws and Procedures need to be reviewed. Leadership needs to be mission focused using the three areas of focus from the retreat. Continue with the Letters to the Editor. Encourage youth to attend Speed Dating.

Treasurer. Patti reviewed the proposed budget she had emailed to members. She itemized the expenditures and income in the 2025-26 fiscal year, listed the actual spending differences, and included the 2026-27 recommended budget. The total income for 2026-27 is projected at $6030, expenses are listed to match, and the balance is listed at $7260.60 The CD is projected at $1242.26. The Education Fund is projected to be $6553.29. Cheryl W. moved to approve the budget, and it passed. Patti then went over the August 31, 2026, Report which was also sent to members. There are 96 members as of August 31, 2026. The checking account has $7419.44, Savings $1.00, CD $1213.33, and Education Fund $7003.29, for a total of $15,637.06. The

income was $315.13, expenses $187.22, for a net balance of $165.91.

Action. The 2026-27 budget was approved.

Voter Services. Dee Ann reported on the upcoming Constitution Day event at the Timberland Library on September 17, 2026. Lyn D, and Debbera C. will present a reading and discussion of the U.S. Constitution, entitled “Voting, It's Your Right.”

Lynda L reported on Speed Dating, scheduled for October 15, 2026, at 6:30 pm, at the Public Works Building off Highway 101. She sent around a sign- up sheet for volunteers to set up, tear down, and table monitoring. She will arrive at 5 pm, so members could arrive any time after that. One table this year will have MasonWeb TV broadcasting the discussion live. There is a Zoom meeting for all LWVMC members who wish to contribute questions for the candidates on September 18 at 10 am and 2 pm. Members can also send questions to the Board.

Messaging on the Vote Early campaign was discussed. Gloria S. handed out information at tabling events over the summer, along with Speed Dating with the Candidates cards and other League information. Esther, Carole and Anna prepared a flyer on planning your vote, including vote early, use a drop box instead of the mail, and what to do if you don't get your ballot. Cardboard holders will be set out in businesses and offices, and candidates will be asked if they want to use them in campaign activities. Dee Ann thanked the committee for their thorough presentation of voting information. Dee Ann asked for future letters to the editor on signing up for text messages from the Auditor's office on tracking your ballot, vote early, and use drop boxes. Since the Editor only allows one letter per month, and the League has already submitted one, the letters would need to be in their own names, and not part of the League. Anna agreed to write one.

Randy pointed out that the Auditor's office has to pay the post office for ballots sent by mail, so using a drop box saves taxpayer money.

Vikki spoke of Indivisible events planned. The No Kings rally October 17 will be focused on Voting Early and using Drop Boxes.

Dee Ann reported the Auditor's Office does not need the League's assistance this year on election day.

Eileen reported visits to all high school districts in Mason County for Constitution Day and Week September 17 to 23. She visited 3 Civics classrooms at North Mason High on September 14 Visits are scheduled for Mary M. Knight High and Choice High's Pathways Class in Shelton School District on September 17, 2 classes at Shelton High on September 18, Cedar High in Shelton School District on September 21, and Choice High regular class on September 23. She had other volunteers from the League join her on many of the visits. They handed out pocket constitutions, TRY brochures, invitations to Speed Dating with the Candidates, and voting information.

Actions. Constitution Day September 17, 2026, will be honored with

presentations at Timberland Library in Shelton. Members need to submit questions for the Speed Dating Candidates either at Zoom meetings September 18 or email to the Board. The Voter Information brochure will be printed and handed out at businesses, offices and candidates. League members should attend Speed Dating with the Candidates Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 6:30 pm.
Eileen P. will continue to schedule visits to Civics classes and other senior level classes at all high school districts in Mason County.
The League is encouraging members to **write letters to the editor under their own names and not use the League name.**

Member Services. Lynn B. welcomed new members Brooke who joined us on Zoom. Lynn announced League 101 is scheduled for October 29, 2026, at Lynn's, 11am to 1 pm. Refreshments and beverages will be served. She handed out cards for League members to fill out on what they wish to focus on this year.

Action. Lynn will host League 101 at her home October 29, 2026, at 11 am.

Programs. Lynda L. announced no October general membership meeting, as the Speed Dating with the Candidates will be the October meeting. Our programs for the year will revolve around what the LWVWA is doing. Lynda is encouraging members to suggest ideas to her. Observer Corps may come up with some programs following attendance at County meetings. Clean Water looks like a promising topic.

Action. Lynda is soliciting general membership meeting ideas from members.

Advocacy. Amy is monitoring the LWVWA actions. There is an event on September 16, 2026, "Stop Big Money in Politics" in Tumwater at ASHHO Cultural Community Center. A national speaker and two state speakers are featured. Amy encouraged members to contact their legislators on the SAVE Act. Lobby Day is February 5, 2027.

Climate Change. Report is tabled to November meeting. .

Story Telling. Peggy M. announced the next interviews will be on Clean Water.

Action. Clean Water interviews are solicited.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports.

Governance. Peggy M. announced findings of the 8 page report review. 1) Clarify the

decision making authority to align with League by-laws. 2) Member trust 3) Board roles.
The minutes should include actions. All members are encouraged to watch the Governance Video to be sent as attachment to members. It is required for all Board members. Board Structure Chart lists the description of positions.

Actions. The minutes will include actions clearly marked. Board members are required to watch the Governance Video.

New Business. There was no new business.

Amy turned over the meeting to the speaker Allison McCaffrey, the League of Women Voters Democracy Issue Chair, at 11:55 pm. Amy adjourned the meeting at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Eileen P.
Secretary