LWVMC General Membership Meeting February 18, 2025 Hybrid at Olympic College Shelton and Zoom

Present in Person: Chris M., Sue U., Lynda L., Lynn B., Peggy M., Patti B., Terri P., Jody H., Lynn N., Ross Gallagher (guest), Randy L., Janel A-F., Rosemarie Y., Michael Siptroth (guest), Brenda H., Linda W., Mark T., Sherri D., Sky Blue (guest), Gordon Weeks (Mason County Journal reporter)

Present in Person for the Presentation: Timothy Gazo (guest), Julianne Gale

Present on Zoom: Dee Ann K.P., Gloria S., Diana F., Elinor L., Karen R., Toni D., Tamra I., Dorothy O.

Lynn called the meeting to order at 11:34.

The members introduced themselves.

With the addition of Studies following Programs, the agenda was approved.

The minutes of the January 21, 2025 General Membership Meeting were approved.

Executive and Committee Reports

Leadership Team. Dee Ann reported the new membership portal for the National League Chapter Spot has is now live, but the inauguration did not go smoothly. Dee Ann had to fix the membership reporting for existing members, and also new members are now accepted. Dee Ann is hoping for a smooth process as members receive emails from National. Let Dee Ann know if you discover a glitch as you answer the membership email.

Treasurer. Dee Ann shared the budget report on line. Many members thought it was too small to read and Dee Ann agreed to send it in an email to all members. At the end of December, 2024, the income was \$4122. 38, with \$720.52 new membership dues, \$120 from donation to Irene Davis Fund, \$120 to Jean Moore fund. Expenses were \$64. The Education Fund has a balance of \$4650.16, after paying for speed dating. The CD has a balance of \$1141.12.

Member Services. Lynn announced 77 members, a new record, with more interested in joining. With so many new members and potential members, League 101 will be held in April, to include 10 new members at least.

No Voter Services Report.

Advocacy. In Amy's absence, Peggy announced the State League's efforts to empower voters and defend democracy by encouraging members to call their elected National and State representatives and senators. Your voice will be recorded by an aide, tallied, and reported to the official. If you call when the office opens, which is undetermined, you may get a live person, otherwise you will get a recording, which is not ignored. The Act coming up is the Safeguard American Voters Eligibility (SAVE) Act, which the League opposes. The national numbers are included in the TRY brochure, and Peggy will send an email with the local office numbers for the national officials.

Programs. The March 18, 2025 meeting will be on immigration.

Studies.: Eldercare Dee Ann reported the completion of the Eldercare Study and is writing the report, including terminology. Participants were forthcoming with personal stories.

Welcoming Immigrants to Washington State: Lynda reported that the first session will be held on Zoom on Friday, February 28 at 11:00, followed by an in-person session at Olympic College on March 4. There is a study guide available.15 members have signed up. Lynda requested members who are participating in the Immigration Study to meet following the membership meeting today.

No Climate Change Committee Report.

No Communications Report.

Adjournment: The business meeting was adjourned at 1:40

Lynn turned the meeting over to the program "Planning Affordable Housing for a Changing Climate." Julianne Gale, Mason County Climate Justice, and student leaders Cedar Stewards from Cedar High. Julianne presented many statistics on affordable housing, with the latest numbers from 2022. To update the report, the Cedar Stewards are conducting an on-line survey, closing February 28. So far, 700+ surveys have been completed. They want a large variety of housed and unhoused community members to respond, and asked for assistance from the members present, encouraging members to post the flyers in public places throughout the county.

Respectfully submitted, Eileen Perfrement Secretary