

League of Women Voters General Membership Meeting November 19, 2024 **Olympic College Library, Shelton and Virtual, 11:30am to 1:30 pm**

Present: Cheryl W., Dee Ann K., Mark T., Lynda L., Amy D., Sandy M., Patti B., Diana F., Peggy M., Tom D., Karen R., Sue U., Arlene A., Randy L., Kamryn M., Rosemarie Y. (visitor), Speakers Melissa Casey and Emily Layman from Public Health and Human Services, and Dylan Helser from the Sheriff's Department

No one joined virtually.
Members introduced themselves.
The agenda was approved.
The Minutes of September 17, 2024 were approved.

Executive and Committee Reports

Leadership Team Amy reported that three initiatives on the November 5 ballot were defeated, which was the League's position. Amy also reported the League's National Federal Judiciary Study on reforming the Supreme Court is underway for 2025. The final position is set to be announced at LWVUS Council in June 2025. Members were encouraged to attend a Webinar on November 20, 2024, 3pm PST, or at least register so they would have access to the materials shared. DeeAnn mentioned the two State League studies on Welcoming Immigrants and Elder Care-giving will be sent to the Local Leagues in mid-December for feedback in March.

Treasurer's Report Sandy reported October 31, 2024, balances of \$3471.04 in the bank account, \$1133.93 in the certificate, and \$5736.87 in the Education Fund. The speed dating expenses will be taken from the Education Fund.

In Lynn's absence, there was no member services report.

Advocacy Amy shared the League's letter to President Biden urging certification of the Equal Rights Amendment. The State League action workshop is Saturday, December 7, on Zoom, 9 am to 12 pm. Members were encouraged to attend or at least register to listen to the recording later.

Programs Eileen reported on the December 17, 2024, general meeting on the Civics Education panel of Mason County Civics teachers. Karen Rice will join her to meet with Evan Brees at North Mason High on November 21. Hannah Palmer of Cedar High has expressed interest as well. The Civics teachers at Choice High, Shelton High, and Mary M. Knight will also be invited.

Climate Change Committee Lynda reported continuing attendance at the Commissioners' Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee meetings the third Monday evening of the month. We keep reminding them it is state law to address the climate in the comprehensive plan. Peggy commented that we are getting encouragement from the consultants to the committee. Lynda will meet with interested members after the meeting to discuss future plans.

Communications Peggy reported 20 new followers on Facebook, with the hope of getting new members from those followers. There were 16 posts on the initiatives, and Karen thanked Peggy for her

interpretation of the pros and cons of the initiatives.

Voter Services Dee Ann reported on Speed Dating. A report on the debriefing will be circulated to members. There were 71 participants, including League members, and 8 candidates. Noise was the outstanding issue, so it will need to be addressed for the next event.

The voting posters project placed in public areas throughout the county was a success. 230 posters were placed in all high schools, most elementary and middle schools, buses, restaurants and stores, and other public areas. 16 members participated in the posting. Many thanks to Carole and Esther in organizing this campaign.

Dee Ann also thanked Dorothy and Peggy for organizing the Vote Center volunteers in both Shelton and Belfair.

Voter Services was also active in tabling at community events of Allyn Days, Pride Parade in Belfair, and other events to be added next year.

Amy turned the meeting over to the guest speakers to address the Health and Safety First program. Mason County Detective Dylan Helser of the Sheriff's Department advised on essentials of observation, awareness, and taking necessary precaution as we navigate our surroundings at work, home and travels.

Melissa Casey and Emily Layman from Mason County Department of Public Health and Human Services shared their efforts in the community and provided insights and self-care tips on keeping healthy. They generously provided a swag-bag including a reusable water bottle and pen. All panelists answered questions in addition to their presentations. The presentation was recorded.

Amy adjourned the meeting at 1:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Perfrement
Secretary