

**Minutes June 6, 2023, Business Meeting**  
**Annual Meeting at Harmony Hill**  
**Secretary: Dee Ann Kline**

Present:

**Members:** Sandy M., Lynn B., Dee Ann K., Cheryl W., Lynda L., Mac McL., Linda S., Mariah R., Arlene A., Dorothy O., Diana Findley, Connie S., Linda W., Amy D., Peggy M., Karen R., Carolyn M., Cindy S., Francesca R., Polly H., Ellen S., Randy L.

**Guests:** Shaun Tucker from Alderbrook, Nancy Johnson from Hood Canal Improvement Club, Quentin Christie from McReavy House, and Delores Irwin

The meeting was called to order by Cheryl Williams at 12:30pm  
Minutes were taken by Dee Ann Kline, Acting Secretary

**The Annual Report was presented to the membership. (Full report is at the bottom of the minutes)**

- Voter Services and Civics Education: Dee Ann
- Programs: Amy
- Climate Change Committee: Fran & Lynda
- Membership & By Laws: Lynn
- Women Leaders/Centennial Project: Cindy
- Studies: Dee Ann
- Advocacy: Amy

**Treasurers Report: Sandy Miller for Pat Carpenter**

We will be ending the fiscal year with a bank balance of \$3814 in checking, \$1080 in a CD, and \$4300 in our ED Fund that is held by LWVWA. We received several generous donations for the ED Fund. This year we used our ED Fund to pay for our TRY brochures. We also wrote a grant to buy new tech equipment for hybrid meetings. The state dues have been paid, but the national dues for our 67 members are still outstanding. The bill will be around \$2144. This year 22 members paid dues online via the SQUARE option from our webpage. Be thinking about how and when you want to pay for this upcoming year. Fall is the best time, but Jan 31st is the cutoff date.

**Slate of Officers: Amy Davis**

The nominating committee presented the following slate of officers for the 2023-2024 program year.

Leadership Team: Lynn Busacca, Amy Davis, Dee Ann Kline.

Secretary: Eileen Perfrement.

Co-Treasurers: Pat Carpenter and Sandy Miller. Co-Treasurers Pat Carpenter, Sandy Miller and Lynn Busacca from the Leadership team are authorized signatories on the LWV Mason County Account at Our Community Credit Union.

Back up for Treasurer: Diane McLean.

There were no nominations from the floor.

Lynda Links moved and Francesca Ritson seconded to approve the slate of officers.

Motion passed.

### **Procedure for Distributing Minutes**

Francesca Ritson recommended that minutes of Board Meeting and General Meeting be sent only once a month when notifications for the Board and General Meetings are sent.

Cheryl Williams moved, and Lynda Links seconded.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 1:00pm

## **League of Women Voters of Mason County**

### **2022– 2023 Annual Report**

For a century, women have found a home in the League where they can learn about issues, communicate with a diverse membership, and provide community leadership. Just as our Centennial Project provides an avenue for understanding women throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>

century (and still ongoing today!), the League has used the suggestions found in various publications that we've studied as a method to try to find common ground among members of our community. All our committees this year have provided members with opportunities to learn and lead by following local government entities and keeping members informed about issues that have an impact on Mason County citizens.

Thanks to a Washington State League of Women Voters Education Fund grant, we began offering hybrid meetings to our membership. Using the technology of a Meeting Owl Camera and a laptop, members can now watch and participate in monthly educational programming, whether in person or via zoom.

Following is the work of our committees in program year 2022-2023:

#### **1. Voter Empowerment.**

- Held Forum for county candidates for Auditor, Clerk and Assessor
- Hosted our world-famous Speed Dating Forum, with 100% turnout of candidates
- Received nationwide coverage by the Associated Press of Speed Dating Forum
- Formulated questions for the candidates at various Neighborhood Meetings
- Set up Voter Registration tables at Allyn Days, Matlock Old Timers Fair,

- YMCA, Forum for County Candidates and Speed Dating with the Candidates
- Visited 10 high school classes at CHOICE, Cedar, Mary M. Knight, North Mason, and SHS
- Registered 15 students and passed out 250 to 300 TRY brochures
- Put together a training packet for League of Women Voters members working at Voter Registration tables
- Distributed “The State We’re In” civics textbooks to all Mason County high schools

## 2. Member Services.

- Stabilized our membership at 67, with 10 new members
- Engaged 72% of our membership in League of Women Voters’ activities
- Held two League 101 orientations for new members
- Printed 400 TRY (They Represent You) brochures for distribution
- Donated over 1,200 menstrual products to CIELO and Turning Pointe as part of a local action against period poverty and stigma
- Authorized a committee to review and recommend updates to organization’s Bylaws

## 3. Program.

- Presented Future Climate Risks, speaker Steve Kolk, ACAS, MAAA
- Presented Why Fire Districts Matter, speaker Curt Bennett, Fire Protection District 4 Commissioner
- Presented On the Decline of Local Journalism, speakers Dee Ann Finken and Delores Irwin, Study Leaders
- Presented On Trauma, speaker Marilyn Roberts, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Director
- Presented Food Forests, speakers Julianne Gale and James Landreth, Mason County Climate Justice
- Presented Housing the Unhoused, speaker Colleen Carmichael, Executive Director, Quixote Village

## 4. Climate Change Committee.

- Took a historic step toward eliminating environmental and health disparities among communities of color and low-income households, the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act, presented by Front and Center’s Guillermo Rogel Jr.
- Conducted Washington state League’s Shoreline Study with City of Shelton’s Senior Planner Jason Dose, Squaxin Island Natural Resource Department’s Erica Marbet, and Mason County Planning Commission Advisory Board’s Mac McLean
- Led a forestry best practices meeting with state and nationwide participants
- Held a meeting where Chief Scientist of the Geos Institute Dr. Dominick A.

DellaSala, author and guest speaker spoke on “To Thin or not to Thin”

- Reviewed food forest projects and the sale of the Sure Wood Tract located in Sherwood Forest with the Climate Justice Group
- Discussed Mason County’s Growth Management plan with Squaxin Island Natural Resource Department’s Erica Marbet and Community Development Director of Mason County Planning Department’s Kell Rowan
- Learned about using fungi as a valuable ecosystem recovery restoration tool from Fungi Perfecti’s Ruth Idunn
- Advocated for climate remediation and other environmental, social, and economic measures on the local and state levels

#### 5. Observer Corps.

- Attended meetings and informed membership of meetings and actions taken in local government
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#### 6. Centennial Committee.

- Worked to complete Women Leaders project
- Transitioned to new ideas for honoring women leaders throughout Mason County history
- Added tribute of Squaxin Island Tribal leader and rememberer Joyce Cheeka to growing number (8 so far!)
- Presented poster of Joyce Cheeka to Charlene Krise, Director of Squaxin Island Tribal Historical Museum
- Presented poster to Mary M. Knight school district to be displayed at museum in Matlock, WA
- Planned presentations of Clara Eastwood, Xinh Dwelley, Maggie Velasco, and Anne Pavel

#### 7. Other Activities.

- Wrote letters to the Editor of the Shelton-Mason County Journal
- Broadcast candidate forums and voting information on KMAS and Mason WebTV
- Presented to Salish Seas Rotary
- Attended Action Workshops, Lobby Week, MELD Sessions, and Convention
- Took the Skokomish Estuary Walk
- Conducted online member survey with a good response rate
- Published The Voter newsletter quarterly
- Held two League 101 orientations for new members
- Printed 400 They Represent You (TRY) brochures for distributions and mailings
- Continued the Leadership Team model for local League decision-making
- Participated in the Shoreline Study and the Decline of Local News Study
- Truth matters and the League has shown a century of willingness to speak truth to power. We

- will continue in 2024.

Yours in democracy,

Lynn Busacca, Dee Ann Kline, Francesca Ritson, Cheryl Williams

Leadership Team

League of Women Voters of Mason County