

LWVMC Board Meeting March 1, 2024, via Zoom

Present: Lynn B., Sandy M., Peggy M., Lynda L., Amy D., Eileen P.

I. Lynn called the meeting to order at 11:33 am.

Peggy led a game of Fact or Fiction, using LWV historical information. She will post Women and Voting Rights on the Facebook page.

II. The agenda was approved.

III. The minutes were approved.

IV. Executive and Committee Reports

A. Leadership Team.

Amy gave an update on the LWVWA Council, May 31 to June 2.

May 31 will be a tour of the Capitol campus. June 1 meetings start at 10:00 am at South Puget Sound Community College, Lacey campus, with Mary Coltrane, LWVWA President; Darlene Hein, LWVTC President; Amy Davis, LWVMC Leadership; a Thurston County Commissioner; and a Squaxin Tribal Leader. Lynda L. suggested Charlene Krise. Workshops: Voter Services, Tabling for the 21st Century, Tribal Affairs, Rank Choice Voting, Conflict Resolution, What does it mean to be non-partisan, the myth of the far right and left, Water Study with Karen Frasier, Initiatives, Civics Education. The Saturday dinner includes a Civics Bowl with prizes. Registration is \$120. Volunteers from our League are needed. There will be room to set up the Mason County Women Leaders poster exhibit.

Lynn gave an update on the LWVUS national convention, June 27 to 30, in person in Washington DC or by Zoom.

LWVMC members can be reimbursed up to 60% from our 501 c-3 Education Fund. Also, our 501 c-4 local League budget has \$800 set aside for conferences. So far, Eileen and Dee Ann have indicated interest in attending on Zoom. Nationally, we have been contacted by other state Leagues to support policy positions on three issues: Journalism, Privatization, Reproductive Rights. Amy pointed out the difference between attention and concurrence. Concurrence involves a vote of the members. Since we have already voted on Journalism, we will concur on that.

B. Treasurer's Report.

Sandy reported a bank balance of \$6642.14, a CD of \$1103.79 and Education Fund balance at \$4205.26. It's time to renew our CD, and Sandy offered three different rates of interest options: 6 months at 4.64%, 9 months at 4.5%, 1 year at 3.78%. Board approved 6 months by consensus, so Sandy will make that change. In the next year, dues will be collected differently, all going directly to national and then distributed to local Leagues. They are recommending an individual membership fee of \$75 and Stripe as an online payment method, with an option for automatic renewal. Lynn was wondering how long it would take to get membership money to the local Leagues. Dues would be divided up 30% to National, 40% to State, and 30% to local.

The TRY brochures printing comes from the Education Fund. The corrections on the brochure have been given to Linda W., and she will print them at The Shopper. Eileen moved, and Lynda seconded, that we print 300 brochures for distribution to the schools and community. We will look into putting stickers on the brochures that were printed with errors.

C. **Member Services.** Lynn is considering organizing another League 101 in April. New members are being recruited. Let Lynn know who needs to be invited. Keep inviting friends to join.

D. Advocacy. Amy reported that March 7 is the last day of Legislative session. The League Monday ACT Zoom at 10am will continue through March. The March 4 session is on sustainable forests.

E. Programs. Amy reported the following general membership meeting schedule:

March 19, Housing, Colleen Carmichael

April 16, Evergreen Promise, Sandy Kaiser

May 21, Auditor, Steve Duenkel. Carol Washburn will create questions.

June, day to be determined, Harmony Hill annual meeting, Paddy McGuire is asked to be speaker.

F. Climate Change Committee. Lynda reported making inroads with the county commission consultant on including climate in the county planning, as required in Bill 1181. The League has a position on Economic and Environmental Justice, but we can also support as individuals. We want the commissioners to see us as stakeholders. The planning committee is meeting March 18.

G. Communications. Peggy introduced the Messaging Strategy at the January Board meeting, then it was introduced at the February general meeting. At this meeting, Peggy walked through the document. Peggy will bold Local News and Democracy and add media literacy. She will fill in Climate Change actions in the calendar. She will also prepare a poll for members, including what other organizations they belong to. Members circled back to the March general membership meeting on housing. Would we like to invite the Chamber, City and County Commissioner? We will advertise in the Journal Community Calendar by Monday, March 11.

V. New Business.

A. Criteria to move an ad hoc committee to a standing committee. The procedure was not included in the bylaws. A committee of board members will develop criteria.

B. Nominating Committee. Lynda will chair. Dorothy Oetter, Karen Rice, and Karen Herr have been approached to serve. Eileen and Sandy volunteered to serve another year as secretary and treasurer, respectively. Amy suggested we need new recruits for the leadership team.

For the good of the order, Dee Ann was congratulated on her wedding and Sandy was wished a safe and enjoyable trip to Asia. An Education Fund benefit luncheon will be held in Thurston County on Saturday, May 11, at 11:30 am. The speaker is Mary Yu, the Washington State Supreme Court Justice. It would be great to send a delegation to this event.

Lynn adjourned the meeting at 1:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen P.

Secretary