

MINUTES: Board Meeting

League of Women Voters of Mason County

September 8, 2023, 11:30-1:30 on Zoom

Attended: Board Members Dee Ann Kline, Amy Davis, Pat Carpenter, Cheryl Williams, Lynda Links, Lynn Busacca, Guests/ Advisors: Chris Mason, Peggy Morell

The Meeting was called to order by Lynn Busacca, co-President

The Agenda was approved unanimously.

The Minutes from June 2, 2023 Board Meeting were approved unanimously. Amy Davis moved; Dee Ann Kline seconded.

Question of the Day: "Let Freedom Read!" Banned Books Week is October 1-7. Board members contributed their lists of banned books they read, loved, and recommend.

Executive & Committee Reports

Leadership Team:

- Special thanks to Liz Ellis for publishing our first Voter newsletter of the season.
- Lynn asked about protocol for sending Board Zoom link to all members. Board suggested sending link to all members within a day or two before the meeting so it's easily accessed.

Treasurer: Pat Carpenter

- \$1617 current checkbook balance
- Presentation of draft 2023-24 Budget (501 c-4) for the next year, with income at \$ 7985 and expenditures at \$ 7985. Pat expressed concern that the carryover of \$1926 is less than last year. There will be some anticipated cuts and additional costs this year.
- The Education Fund (501 c-3) has \$4040 in it. We can use it for TRY Brochure and public education.
- Board suggestions: LT to consider how to raise funds; encourage members to opt for higher dues categories, such as Irene Davis or Jean Moore levels; look at raising our base membership fee of \$60.
- Dee Ann Kline moved and Lynda Links seconded to approve the annual budget as presented. Motion carried.

Voter Services: Dee Ann Kline

- The Governance Role of School Districts program will feature 6 panelists, all on Zoom.
- Members will have an opportunity to contribute questions for candidates at two Zoom meetings on September 26.
- There will be a separate flier for Speed Dating.

- Dee Ann presented a proposed budget for Voter Services civic education activities this Fall. Dedrick Allen of Mason Web TV charges \$100/hr with an additional \$25 for 2 hours. His business gets 2,000 hits/day. All civic education events (two school board candidate forums) come to \$376. Speed Dating will be live streamed at \$500, KMAS \$150, City reader boards \$30. Fliers donated.
- It was moved by Dee Ann and seconded by Lynda to allocate up to \$1055 for these voter services' civic education events. Most costs can be absorbed by the Ed Fund. Motion approved unanimously.

Programs: Amy Davis

- November: Athena Ayres with Community Lifeline. Book suggestions: Matthew Desmond books: "Evicted" and "Poverty by America".
- December: A close look at mobile homes. Who is investing, evictions, local situation?

By-Laws: Peggy Morell

- Peggy and Lynn have completed the final Draft. Process included research and consultation with WA Secretary of State, LWV of WA State and LWV-US, Thurston County LWV, and our Board.
- Although the term "Leadership Team" is not mentioned in Article IV, the language is elastic enough to incorporate this model.
- With Board approval, Lynn will forward the current draft to the members for review at the September meeting before a vote at our November member meeting.
- Peggy further suggests ensuring compliance with possible insurance requirements and finding a lawyer or another expert to review the final edition before the vote on amendments at the November 21 Member Meeting.
- Amy moved and Lynda seconded the motion to approve the Bylaws draft as presented and forward this document to the membership for review and vote at our November Member Meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Climate Change Committee: Lynda Links

- The recycling tour will be rescheduled. Tour limited to only 10 people.
- Landfill Tour will still be held on Thursday, Sept. 14.
- In October, the CCC meeting pm Zoom will feature SEPA (State Environmental Policy Act) with a focus on forestry and water issues. Liz Ellis is helping.

Advocacy: Amy Davis

- September 13: Banned books training with Moms Rising and Free to Read in Florida on ways to understand and disrupt politically-motivated book bans.
- Tamra would like to announce an event associated with Quixote Communities/Shelton Veteran's Village at our Member Meeting. It was suggested that such announcements, as long as non-partisan, are appropriate at end of our business meeting.

- Chris Mason has been attending LWV-WA workgroup on Multi Member Education Project.

New Business

Errors and Omissions/Directors and Officers Liability Insurance research:

- Dee Ann discovered that the LWV-WA does not carry an umbrella for local League coverage. However, they do offer coverage for special event liability.
- Dee Ann will consult with Snohomish LWV about their coverage.
- Amy will ask at the Presidents' Meeting.
- Chris mentioned that his homeowners association offers coverage for D&O.

Announcements: AB has joined the Pullman LWV while at WSU! Dee Ann is engaged!!

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Lynn B. at 1:30 pm.

Upcoming Events

September 14, 10 AM Landfill Tour

September 19, 11:30 General Membership Business Meeting; 12:00 Program on school district governance.

September 26, 11:30 am-1:00 pm or at 6:30-8:00 pm Members Brainstorm Candidate Questions on Zoom

October 2, 10 AM Voter Services Meeting on Zoom

October 4, 6:30 PM Candidate Panel from North Mason, Grapeview, Hood Canal and Elma School Districts on Zoom

October 6, 11:30-1:30 Board Meeting on Zoom

October 11, 6:30 PM Candidate Panel from Pioneer, Southside, Mary M. Knight, and McCleary School Districts on Zoom

October 17, Speed Dating with the Candidates at PUD on Johns Prairie

October 19, 11-12, on Zoom CCC Meeting with on SEPA

Respectfully Submitted by

Cheryl Williams & Lynn Busacca, Acting Secretaries