

**League of Women Voters of Thurston County  
Minutes, Board meeting, January 9, 2019 1:30-3:30pm**

Olympia Unitarian Universalist Church, 2315 Division St. NW, Olympia 98502

**Present:** Sandra Herndon, Mary Moore, Shelley Ferer, Annie Cubberley, Valerie Hammett, Cynthia Pratt, Sue Bredensteiner, Connie Christy, Paula Holroyde Julie Frick, Zena Hartung & Carol Goss

**Time-keeper:** Annie Cubberly

**1. Call to order** - President Sandra Herndon called the meeting to order at 1:31pm

**2. Agenda review, announcements**

**Sandra Herndon**

Agenda review, announcements (*be sure to read TWIL and Voter*)

**a.** Shelley Ferer announced the League's Diversity Event: Book/Movie/Talk. Read the book: "If Beale Street Could Talk." This novel by American novelist and social critic James Baldwin is a love story set in 1970s Harlem. See the movie: IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK at the Olympia Film Society, 206 5th Avenue SE, Olympia. January 25 – 31. There are two showings that League members might attend, Tuesday 1/29 at 7:00pm and Wednesday 1/30 at 4:00pm. See the front page and scroll down to "Confronting Racism, a LWV-TC Charge."

At: [http://www.lwvthurston.org/?utm\\_campaign=cwtl5\\_2\\_2017&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=lwvthurston](http://www.lwvthurston.org/?utm_campaign=cwtl5_2_2017&utm_medium=email&utm_source=lwvthurston)

**b.** Zena Hartung announced that the Nominating Committee is working on the 2019-20 slate of officers. Current board members are being consulted re: interest in continuing in current board positions. Also, please refer names to add new leadership (asap). Officers are confirmed at Annual Meeting May 16<sup>th</sup> 2019. For more info on important dates see LWV-TC website.

**c.** WA Center play Feb. 14-18. Allison McCaffree invites our group to attend her one-woman play, "Many Maps One Voice" and **League reception on 5:30 on Feb. 15.** WA Center play Feb. 14-18. (Black Box Theater) Ticket prices:\$32 Adult and \$27 Senior. See website for Washington Center for the Performing Arts for more info:

<https://www.washingtoncenter.org/event/18-19-potpia-many-maps-4/>.

**d.** Centennial grant opportunity/committee needed? – Sandra referred to an announcement re: opportunity for our League to receive a \$500 grant from the Votes for Centennial Grants Program. Grant criteria state that applicants must be 501c3. **There are two rounds of grants with a second having a deadline on April 30, 2019.** For more information on festivities and projects celebrating Washington Women who dare, including grants up to \$500 are also available. See the WHS website at <https://www.suffrage100wa.com>.

Carol Goss has been meeting with Sue Lean and various community members, historians and performance talent along with League members Sandra Herndon & Karen Fraser working on Centennial Pageant planning. To date, one event is confirmed. A Silver Tea Service is scheduled on May 11<sup>th</sup> honoring Abigail Scott Duniway, Mother of Northwest Suffrage and Catherine Booth, Mother of the local Salvation Army. The event will be celebrating *Winning the Vote, a Centennial Pageant*. Carol sent the board a report on 11/26/18, summarizing the planning to date. Upon further discussion, the concern that the Salvation Army's treatment of LGBTQ populations is not aligned with the League's practices of equity with respect to LGBTQ populations was determined. This information was not apparent to all board members. Sandra stated that this event is not a League function. Individual League members may participate but the LWV-TC is not a co-sponsor of the Centennial Silver Tea Service. Sandra has followed up with Sue Lean and she understands the separation of league versus individual involvement with planning the Salvation Army sponsored event. Cynthia shared that funds raised will go toward opening more beds to homeless populations. Carol disseminated an updated report on Centennial planning, which includes performing an abbreviated version of the Pageant's timeline reenactment at the LWV-WA Convention in Tacoma next June. Mary proposed involving the Mason County League in LWV-TC Centennial planning.

She and Carol will collaborate about the grant and 2020 Centennial ideas that support our League's stance of embracing diversity and equity. A draft plan will be sent via email for discussion and consensus at the next Board meeting on 2/6/19. Late Note: Parts of this Centennial pageant which will be presented at the LWVWA Tacoma convention in June is supported by a grant from LWV-Tacoma-Pierce. The convention will be emphasizing the upcoming centennial of LWVWA as well as women's suffrage in 2020.

e. Program of Work Planning Meeting - Sandra reminded us how important it is for us to attend the Program Planning meeting on February 2, 2019 from 2-5pm at the Olympia Center. Address 222 Columbia St NW, Olympia, WA 98501. RSVP via the website under Upcoming Events. The League uses Program Planning meetings to develop recommendations for both local and state-level study and official positions. Members will review existing LWVWA Positions, consider ideas that are presented and talk about resources needed to carry out proposals, and then decide which Recommendations to send forward to the June 2019 State Convention.

### 3. Financial report

Cynthia Pratt

Board members asked Cynthia to go through the budget report rather than accepting it by consent agenda for approval. Cynthia sent board members detailed reports with Budget vs. Actuals, expenses and income accounts. She asked that everyone who submits reimbursement forms to note which category it belongs, i.e. Ed Fund, general fund etc. And lead us through the Treasurer's Report Summary for December 2018 as follows:

December 2018 Bank Balances:           Checking = \$9,832.82 (includes \$0.67 interest)  
                                                  Savings = \$4,368.72 (interest=\$1.67)  
                                                  Burns CD = \$2,956.12 (interest=\$2.97))

Membership Dues (PayPal & mail):       December = \$390.00  
                                                  Year to Date = \$8,530.00 (86.16%)

Education Fund:  
Balance as of December 14, 2018:       \$10,007.86

Ed Fund reconciliation = \$ 3,960.43 (Final Reimbursement for Ed Fund Luncheon)  
Luncheon donations:   \$8,235.00  
Silent Auction at Lunch= \$793.41

Two minor corrections - \$208.72 in printing is for the membership directory printing and mailing and not the TRY brochure and move supply costs from Ed Fund to operations. Zena asked Cynthia if she has met with Leslie William. Mary reported that the first meeting of the newly formed Financial Committee (including Leslie Williams) meets the next day, 1/10/19.

**4. Long-range planning—goals/agreement** - Mary Moore corrected the typo on the handout on developing long-range goals. "SWAT" should be changed to "SWOT" (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats). At the last meeting, Sue Bredensteiner and Annie Cubberley recommended adding Advocacy. Annie sent a comment that Mary used in formulating goal statement #5 so that it aligns with our nonpartisan statement. Goal #5 reads: "To encourage more League members to advocate for LWVWA and LWV positions in the state legislature." Sue and Annie agreed that this was OK; Sue moved and Julie seconded support the proposed goal statements. All voted to approve.

## 5. Update on water-study programs for spring

Paula Holroyde, Sue, Zena & Julie

a. Sue reported that meeting logistics, topics, speakers and PR are in progress for community events. At its November 2018 meeting, the board extended the Water Study to 2021 so that it can include the WRIA reports now in progress so as not to be out of date on publication.

The Water Study committee proposes adding the originally scheduled public meeting on Streams, Salmon and Orcas as its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting in the “Where’s the Water?” series within the Phase 1 Ed Fund Budget. This meeting will be on Tuesday, May 7 at the Olympia Center at 5:30 pm. Annie will continue as lead contact for this meeting and has joined the core committee. Karen Verrill is checking on the space. Amy Hatch-Winecka, Salmon Recovery Lead Entity Coordinator, Thurston Regional Planning Council since December 2018, and formerly Deputy Director of TCD, has voiced interest and offered her considerable expertise and help. Sue moved and Paula seconded adding the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. All voted to approve.

Cynthia suggested adding septic tanks to the Water Study. Paula agreed and added that we are getting ideas for more meetings from the community, but feel our hands are full this year. Perhaps next year we can address other related topics.

Sandra asked that the WS group remember that there will be other topics to address as well as the Water Study in 2020. LWV-TC may or may not want to have this topic (Water Study) program planning in 2020. Program topics for 2020 will be deliberated at the Annual Meeting in May.

b. Karen Verrill and Julie Frick met with Dusti Demarest, Executive Editor of The Olympian, last week and the paper is excited to sponsor the series and play an active role in outreach to the community and associated coverage. The Water Study Core Committee will have its next meeting Thursday, January 10. Speakers, logistics and meeting details, including PR will be finalized very soon. The first program is on 2/5/19, entitled, *Where’s the Water: Reality Check*. Karen Verrill is Lead planner/contact.

Cynthia recommends that we use more than the Olympian to get the word out. All agree to spreading the word beyond utilizing the paper and there is an area PR contact list that will be recirculated to coordinate promotion aimed at attendees as well notable community representatives. (Done) Julie added that the Olympian will be publishing stories and Op-Ed pieces regarding the programs as a co-sponsor to this series.

c. Mary asked that when working with the Community Center, remember that she is the contact, not others. She reiterated that as VP, her job is to plan the programs. Sue acknowledged how this confusion has happened and it’s unfortunate. **As program planning evolves, please communicate with Mary. Also - remember to forward event planning to R.Peggy as she posts events on the website.** Sandra added that it is very important to change the subject line when sending out messages from various sources to avoid confusion about what is in each message (and easier to find later).

## 6. Committee reports

a. **Membership**—update on member-engagement workshop & Roster Valerie Hammett & Sue Bredensteiner  
Valerie reported on the Engagement Event on 4/6/19 at the Olympia Center involving new and current members to become more informed and engaged on the League’s principles, positions and on-going work to support these concerns. To track attendance for the Engagement workshop and other programs, Mary prompted us to use the website’s RSVP system linked with each event under “Upcoming Events.” Sandra asked that we all attend the Engagement Workshop. Sue reported that are now 160 members.

**b. Communication—Voter, website** Sue reiterated the Voter deadline for submitting articles is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month to get the newsletter out on the 15<sup>th</sup>. She reported that website volunteers met with new folks, Ralph and Katrina along with Annie, Pat and R.Peggy to coordinate optimal ways of utilizing website and other means to promote LWV-TC work. New members can be valuable to help with work on various committees and involve them in a meaningful way – i.e. to “step up.” Zena has volunteered to be our PR lead and consolidate resources and practices for effective strategies and programming.

**c. MELD update**-No December MELD Conference call to report. Shelley stated she made 9 phone calls to new members informing them of volunteer opportunities. She mentioned one name in particular to consider inviting to join the board. Zena will take the information back to the board’s nominating committee.

**d. Development**—Julie Frick reported that 59 members attended the last luncheon and the Development Committee are considering names of possible Keynote Speakers for the LWV-TC Luncheon October 2019. Please forward recommendations to her such as Sally Jewell, former Secretary of the Interior, who now works as a fellow with the UW College of the Environment and serves in a volunteer capacity as chair of the advisory council for EarthLab. For more info on EarthLab see <https://earthlab.uw.edu>. Sandra asked Julie to work with the Development Committee to determine if we want to consider a Treasure Sale for 2020 or consider other fundraising options, i.e. a Silent Auction, etc. and make a recommendation to the board.

**e. Voter services: TRY update** - Connie Christy has been trying to get the Auditor’s office assistance for updated names and contact information for latest 2019 office holders to complete the brochure. Mary Hall, TC Auditor will be contacted to assist getting this completed. The GOTV Committee is looking for help with Candidates Forum. Connie will have an article in the next *Voter* to get volunteers to facilitate the Candidate Forums. Zena will make contacts to compile pertinent questions for the Forums.

**f. Advocacy/issues Update on Coffee with the League** - Paula Holroyde reported that Paul Pickett, Supervisor stated the funding on Rates and Charges which was approved last month by the BoCC, will not go into effect until May. The lawsuit and counter-suit holding up much of the functions of the TCD, is currently at an impasse. There are serious budget constraints and the TCD board and staff are examining costs to fund the 2019 election. More will unfold.

*Update 1/15: A hearing rescheduled from 12/7/18 with WA State Commissioners to address the lawsuit, is on Weds. February 20th. More info to come.*

Mary Hall should be contacted to advise on the election process. After conferring on who and what action needs to happen, Zena moved and Paula seconded to create an ad hoc committee to explore information and examine current conditions, election procedures and report back recommendations to the LWV-TC of best ways of supporting the TCD in the interim. All voted to approve. Zena will take the lead on creating the ad hoc committee.

Paula also reported that Governor Inslee will be conducting the State of the State address next Tuesday, 1/15.

**g. Women’s March** - LWV-TC is one of several Thurston County organizations co-sponsoring the 2019 Women’s March on Olympia on Saturday, 1/19/19. Participants will meet in the area near the North Steps of the Legislative Building at about 10:00am. The march will start around 11:50 and end at Heritage Park.

## **7. Sandra adjourned the meeting at 3:30pm**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carol Goss, Secretary