

October 2, 2019

League of Women Voters of Thurston County Board Meeting Minutes

2315 Division St NW, Olympia WA

Present: Sandra Herndon, President, Carol Goss, Sue Bredensteiner, Julie Frick, Mary Moore, Gail Wrede, Melissa Denton, Karen Tvedt, Laurie Craig, and Peggy Smith

Absent: Cathy Turk, Leslie Williamson

Guests: None

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order 2:05 pm by President Sandra.

Review our commitment to collegiality, inclusion, and trust --Carol had us pair up and review the document she prepared that summarized our discussion from the September meeting. Sandra suggested we add something related to good humor or spirit to the title of this documents. A number of additions and modifications were suggested to refine the document. They were accepted, we will move forward, and we will be able to review this document again as we do so.

Announcement – Sandra discussed a communication from Joe Hiss, representing Olympia Public Power. He suggested that someone from that organization give the board background information for this initiative. It was agreed that individual board members obtain document related to this, for their personal review. After November, we as a board may consider having them give us a presentation.

Approval of agenda—The agenda was approved.

Consent agenda – The following two items were approved by consent.

Minutes for the September 4, 2019 Board Meeting

Committee reports emailed to members prior to today's meeting.

Financial report -- the Financial Report was accepted, as mailed by Treasurer Leslie.

Policy discussion and plan -- Melissa spoke briefly about her opinion that it would be good for the LWV TC to have more written policies. She is not able to pursue this actively at this time, but she asked that we keep giving this some thought. Sue said that she should not be listed as being part of this effort.

Voter services --Chair Gail reported on three aspects of the Voter Services' portfolio.

** The committee is looking into the relative merits of devoting time and resources to Voter Registration vs. Get out the Vote (GOTV) efforts.

** TRY update will start in earnest as soon as the election results are final. The committee is still investigating the best approach to providing Spanish translated content in the TRY.

**The committee is wanting to buy four folding chairs to use at events. This was deemed a great idea by the board.

The topic of Voter Security was discussed briefly. It was suggested that the committee pursue providing information on this topic.

Development -- Julie led the discussion of several items.

**She presented the proposal for developing a Legacy Program. The board members were enthusiastic about this as a method of raising funds, especially in recognition of the Centennial. Members provided advice about the desirability of having a specific "purpose" for donated money and about the importance of making personal contact for the "ask."

** As often is the case, reservations for the Luncheon are coming in slowly. Julie needs to know the exact number of meals to order by Oct 18. This means she needs names and meal choices of "sponsored" (\$25 lunch) attendees by then.

** A grant application for \$2,500 that would be used for the Water Study has been submitted to the Nisqually Tribe.

Membership – Carol presented a proposal for scholarship options from the committee. There appeared to be strong differences of opinion about how scholarships should be awarded, how much people needing scholarships should be asked to pay, and how a scholarship proposal/change should be communicated. It was agreed that board members would like the committee to do more work on this and bring back a revised proposal for approval.

Programming -- Mary reported that she has been talking to TCMedia about the possibility of videotaping our events. In addition, it turns out that several LWV TC members will be attending an A/V Training session on Nov 2. Board members encouraged Mary to keep working on securing someone to do videotaping, given the desirability of posting event content after the live program.

Mary was asked to confirm the time slots for the 2020 programs at the Olympia Center. There may be a need to reschedule programs that now have Saturday evening room reservations.

Let's talk about race—Peggy had emailed some definitions and comments about reparations to African Americans as means to address past injuries. She expressed her opinion that bringing Affirmative Action back to state contracting and higher education admissions could fit under a reparations umbrella. She also suggested that board members making personal donations to the Approve I-1000 Campaign, which the LWVWA has joined, would be a nod to the notion of reparations.

Meeting with the League – Karen brought forward an idea, from LWV TC member Charlotte Persons, of starting a regularly scheduled meeting of members, modeled on Coffee with the League. This group, informally dubbed Mornings with the League, would meet from 7-8 am, or thereabouts. Board members encouraged further planning for such a program, with the understanding that they would need firm information about venue and facilitator(s), as well as how the event can be self-sustaining financially before approving this idea.

Timing of agenda items -- During the course of the meeting, it was suggested that upcoming agenda have time associated with the various items. Karen volunteered to be time-keeper.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Next board meeting November 6, 2019, 2-4pm