

April 1, 2020

League of Women Voters of Thurston County Board Meeting Minutes

Virtual, ONLINE. Electronic via ZOOM

Present: Sandra Herndon, President, Carol Goss, Melissa Denton, Mary Moore, Gail Wrede, Karen Tvedt, Laurie Craig, Cathy Turk, Leslie Williamson, and Peggy Smith, Julie Frick

Absent: Sue Bredensteiner

Guests: Patricia Harrigan

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by President Sandra.

Call to order and announcements—check-ins Members talked about they have been faring during this time of COVID-19 crisis and directives to stay at home.

Approval of agenda Sandra asked that the agenda be amended by moving the Annual Meeting Planning discuss to right after the Treasurer’s Report and to add an item C. Awards to this discussion. The agenda was **approved as amended**.

Consent agenda The following two items were approved by consent.
Minutes, March 4, 2020
Committee/board reports for March

Treasurer’s report and proposal for 2020-2021 budget Leslie reported that the income and expenditures during March were not extensive, reflecting the number of postponed events and the place we are in our Budget Year.

The Proposed Budgets for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year, as recently revised and email to members was discussed. In response to a question from Cathy about there being identical amounts in both Operating Fund and Education Fund for Dues to LWVUS Leslie confirmed that was indeed the case. (Note from Peggy: LWVWA Ed Fund Policies allow up-to half of a local League’s dues to National to come from that League’s Ed Fund. It is a matter of what the local League wants to do.)

There was more discussion of a request from Voter Services that money for a “Be A Voter” Campaign be included in the Operating Fund Budget. Some points of discussion were whether it is suitable to fund this voter services project with operating funds, the assumed timeline for the project and the availability of 2020-2021 budget funds, and the possibility of obtaining a grant to pay for the project. It was agreed that the money for this campaign would remain in the proposed 2020-2021 Operating Budget. At the same time, a LWVWA 2020 Civic Education Grant should be applied for. If that is funded, that a revision in the budget could be made before it is sent to members for action at the Annual Meeting.

Planning for the Annual Meeting

Sandra began this item by proposing that either Zoom or Email (using the LWVThurston.org Eblast capability), or a combination of both be considered as the format for the meeting. It is very clear that

an in-person meeting is not likely to happen. The ability to use Zoom was generally deemed a good thing, although certain aspects of business, such as “asking for nominations from the floor” and voting on required items would be tricky. Using Email for selected activities was seen as necessary.

The format discussion was augmented by suggestions and comments about possible content, beyond the required business. The bits and pieces of this part of the discussion resulted in the following: **m/Melissa/s/p that a committee made up of Sandra and 2-3 others continue the planning of a Zoom meeting, lasting no longer than an hour, which would use electronic voting, as suitable, and include 2 relatively short, spiffy program items.** Karen, Melissa, and Julie will join Sandra on this committee.

Nominating Committee—proposed 2020-2021 Board slate Laurie reported that the following will be the slate proposed to the Membership for 2020-2021 LWVTC Board positions.

President – Karen Tvedt

Vice-President – Julie Frick

2 Year Term – Laurie Craig

2 Year Term – Shari L Silverman

1 Year Term – Patricia Harrigan, to complete the 2 Year Term being vacated by Gail Wrede.

Karen and Laurie again noted how difficult it has been to find members willing to serve on the Board. They will, nonetheless, be seeking members to fill the Nominating Committee slate that needs to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Board and Nominating Committee members may be identified during the Annual Meeting when members are “asked for nominations from the floor.”

Membership committee Carol reported that the committee feels that due to the idiosyncratic nature of the LWVTC dues structure and payment schedules of the last couple of years, it would be a good thing to extend renewal dates for people who joined after the 2020 count date for members.

m/Carol/s/p to extend to May 31, 2021 the renewal date for members who paid a full membership after February 1, 2021.

Awards Sandra that in past years, awards have been given to members during the Annual Meeting. The names of three persons who are good candidates for an award were mentioned. The desirability of presenting awards at the upcoming meeting was questioned, given the format that will be used. The idea was floated that giving awards at a summer picnic would be a good idea. **m/Mary/s/p to present awards at a picnic this summer.**

It was suggested that during the Annual Meeting we acknowledge having had our first Intern, Gracie, working with us this year.

Candidate Forums Karen noted that there will be a meeting, on April 8, 2020, at 10:00 am to work on the upcoming Primary Election forums.

Let’s Talk About Race Peggy received an affirmative response when she suggested she would be asking the 2020-2021 Board to maintain this agenda item.

Good of the Order Melissa expressed her appreciation for the positive experience she has had being on the Board this last year. Others echoed that sentiment.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Next meeting will be Annual Meeting as soon as feasible in May (deadline May 31).

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Smith, Secretary

Approved by Consent, via email, 4/25/2020