

League of Women Voters of Thurston County
Virtual Meeting: June 3, 2020; 2:00pm-3:30 pm
Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Karen Tvedt, Carol Goss, Laurie Craig, Leslie Williamson, Patricia Harrigan, Shari Silverman, Peggy Smith, and Julie Frick

Absent: None

Guests: Paula Holroyde

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm, by Karen (President).

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Welcome and check in consisted of the two new to the board members, Patricia, and Shari, providing a little non-League information about themselves. All present spoke a bit about how they are “doing” in these upsetting times. People were generally anxious about the state of our nation and/or busy.

Talk About Race – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion:

Copies of the LWVUS and LWVWA Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) Policies had been sent by email before the meeting. Peggy reported that it is likely that local Leagues will be asked to adopt such a policy. She recommended that a DEI Policy be a first order of business as we start policy, procedure, and bylaws revisions, with the LWVUS and LWVWA as starting points for that effort.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Leslie spoke briefly about the Financial Report that had been emailed before the meeting. She indicated that we are in exceptionally good financial shape.

Having what might be considered an excess of cash-in-hand, it was suggested there maybe things we want to pre-pay with the balance in our 2019-2020 budget? The specific item that drew attention was the Voter Services “Be a Voter” video, which will be useful as soon as it can be produced. **Peggy m/s/p that we suspend whatever rules we need to allow the purchase the video before June 30, 2020.**

A request came from Voter Services related to approximately \$1,100 that may be missing from the 2020-2021 Budget. After a brief discussion, it was determined that this request needs to be held until after we begin the 2020-2021 year. Until there are expenditures made by Voter Services, and they can detail what additional money would be needed for, an informed decision could not be made by the board.

Karen suggested we create an *ad hoc* finance committee to make recommendations about our 2020-2021 budget and finances, given COVID-19 related uncertainties and our solid cash

position. One of their tasks will be to make recommendations about bylaw changes, needed policies and procedures. **Laurie m/s/p that an *ad hoc* Finance Committee be formed.**

Appointed Members:

As stated in the bylaws, “up to four directors may be appointed by the board” after elected positions are filled. These are all one-year appointments. Suggestions were provided from the board as well as other members. Fourteen individuals had been mentioned, some several times. After board discussion and sharing of what members know about these persons, an agreed upon ranked list of eight was established. Julie, Leslie, and Carol volunteered to contact them.

Communications and the Voter:

The bylaws say, “The main goal of communications committee is to ensure League members... are kept informed about the work the League is doing and to provide opportunities for member involvement in League-related activities and functions.” A discussion was held that briefly covered topics associated with: possible other communication priorities, who should get the Voter, how will the process work for having a non-board Voter editor (Cynthia Stewart has volunteered for this position), and the need to address communications in the afore mentioned policy and procedure development. Due to the shortness of time and the complexity of the issues, no decisions were made. Karen will send an email to current board members with questions about how we might proceed with the Voter in the short-term. Longer-term, we will establish a group to make recommendations about communication policies, procedures, and bylaws.

Calendar for the Summer:

- Candidate Forums: 6/13/20 (local); 6/20/20 (with Mason and Pierce); 7/8/20 (House Congressional 10); general election-9/12/20/
- Membership Happy Hours: 7/9/20, 5-6:30 pm; 7/30/20, 5-6:30 pm. Carol gave an overview of the agenda for the 9th. She said that the July 30 agenda is still being developed and will build on the outcome of July 9.
- Coffee with the League-Tuesday mornings at 10 (contact-Paula H)
- Board Retreat: It was generally agreed that an August date would be good. Julie, hoping for an outdoor, face-to-face meeting, will lead the planning, along with Laurie and Shari. This will be our next meeting, and members will be informed of the date and other details by email.
- General Meetings:
 - A Homeless Issues meeting will be pursued by Karen, Carol, and Leslie.
 - While Peggy is still holding out for a picnic, where there will be recognitions of Shelley F, Ralph C, and Sue Lean, others were doubtful. We’ll see as we talk about this further.

Proposal for 2020 Elections Task Force:

Charlotte Persons and Lori Doran had emailed a proposal to establish a task force that would meet weekly to explore how LWVTC might work with other organizations in the county to safeguard the national primary and general elections. Board members expressed concerns about

how such an effort could be conducted in a strictly nonpartisan manner. Some also expressed reservation about how such an effort would fit in the broader League framework. Karen and Karen Verrill will meet with these two members to discuss their proposal, board concerns, and how their proposal relates to LWVTC priorities and ways of doing business.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm

Respectfully submitted, Peggy Smith, Secretary

1st Draft, June 7, 2020, Draft for Board Review, 6/11/2020, incorporated Karen Comments
6/22/2020 Approved by email by Board on 6/25/2020