

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of THURSTON COUNTY**  
**Board of Directors-Minutes**  
**3729 Griffin Lane SE, Olympia (Child Care Action Council)**  
**February 18, 2016**  
**5:30 – 7:00 pm**

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Pat Dickason, President. Directors present included: Pat Dickason, Allyson Brooks (Vice-President), Kathleen Downey (Treasurer), Karen Tvedt (Secretary), Dawn Brooks-Gibbs, Peggy Bruton, Valerie Hammett, Ruth Harms, R Peggy Smith, and Karen Verrill. Barb Theiss was absent.

***Minutes (Pat Dickason)***

- The January Board minutes were accepted as submitted.

***Updates***

- **Voter Services (Karen Verrill)**
  - The Board supports exploring options for sponsoring presidential “debate watch” this fall which is an eligible use of LWVTC education funds. The Olympian has partnered with us in the past, paying a portion of the costs. Valerie will talk with the Washington Center about usher requirements.
  - Tour of ballot counting facility: Board members met recently with Mary Hall and her voter outreach person, Valerie Watson, which included discussion about how to reach out to kids. A good place to start would be asking kids what they think would work. There’s another meeting on this topic on February 25<sup>th</sup> at Haggan at 10:00 am.
- **Annual Meeting (Kathleen Downey)**
  - The Board approved scheduling the LWVTC annual meeting at Olympia Manor on May 19<sup>th</sup>. There is a charge of \$100 for use of the facility.
- **Climate Change (Peggy Bruton)**
  - Upcoming events include a meeting February 21 at 2:00 pm sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation; this is a follow-up to the January 31<sup>st</sup> showing of the film, “This Changes Everything.”
  - The LWVTC is co-sponsoring a conference of Olympia climate activists on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Pat will ask for a waiver of the \$250 fee for a table at the conference.
- **Racial Equity (Pat Dickason)**
  - Initiated, at least in part, by the Black Alliance of Thurston County, HB 2908 establishes a joint legislative task force on community policing standards. *(NOTE: as of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, this bill has passed both the House and the Senate and needs to go back to the House for final approval because it was amended slightly in the Senate.)*
- **Other Community Collaboration**
  - The League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County is sponsoring a public forum on February 20 at 1:30 pm on the topic, “Money & Civility in Politics: Are They Related?”
  - RESULTS celebrates INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY 2016, “Empowerment through Advocacy.” This event will be held on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Woman’s Club of Olympia, 1002 Washington St. SE, Olympia 6:30-8:30 pm.

- **Membership (*Kathleen Downey*)**
  - We received an application for membership from someone in Elma with a request for a low-income membership. The Board agreed to grant a one-year scholarship. We will let her know that we expect some volunteer involvement in exchange.
- **State League (*R Peggy Smith*)**
  - The State League is doing a survey of presidents, members and organizations related to the League's strategic plan.
  - It has plans to do candidate forums on congressional races as well as statewide races such as Governor.
  - The State League is likely to endorse a statewide initiative on campaign finance. Allyson Brooks questioned whether the initiative will be found constitutional.
  - This year's Council meeting will be held in conjunction with the Oregon League early in June at the Vancouver Hilton. Allyson suggested the possibility of an archeology tour in Vancouver.

### ***Other Business***

- **Summer Picnic (*Pat Dickason*)**
  - The Board supports moving forward with a summer picnic with nearby Leagues being invited. Pat will follow-up on place and date.
- **Equipment Purchase (*Pat Dickason*)**
  - Pat asked about the possibility of purchasing equipment (laptop/projector) for presentations such as our general meetings. The Board decided against moving forward at this time.
- **February Program (*Allyson Brooks*)**
  - The subject of our February general meeting will be Tax Fairness at Traditions Café. Wolfgang Opitz, Assistant State Treasurer, will talk about the inequities/inadequacy of the Washington State tax system and discuss a constitutional amendment being proposed to reform the system.
- **March Program (*Karen Verrill*)**
  - The March general meeting will be at the Olympia Community Center March 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-9:00 pm and focus on the topic of Homelessness. Darlene Hein is taking the lead on planning. There will be a panel that includes five experts involved with local programs that serve people who are homeless.
- **April Program (*R Peggy Smith*)**
  - In cooperation with the Mason LWV, the April general meeting will focus on minimum wage/economic equity issues. It will be at Traditions, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.
- **Promotional Materials (*Dawn Brooks Gibbs*)**
  - Dawn presented information regarding promotional materials including bags. Karen V will call Michelle Valentine at LWVWA for additional information.
- **Nominating Committee (*Karen Verrill/Pat Dickason*)**
  - Board representatives will include Dawn and Kathleen. We still need to find three non-board representatives.
- **Web-Site Update (*Pat Dickason*)**
  - Network Solutions designs websites and maintains them for a small fee. Pat is pursuing.
- **VOTER Assignments (*Dawn Brooks Gibbs*)**
  - VOTER assignments were agreed on.

- **Other: Thurston County (*Peggy Bruton*)**
  - Peggy briefed the Board on the Thurston County land use enforcement plan (Title 26) which is necessary to enforce the county's Critical Areas Ordinance. She will send out an email regarding county enforcement authority.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10