

# Voter Services and Programs Subcommittee

Oct 20, 2020 - 1:00 PM

## MINUTES

### ***Our Mission: Empower, Engage & Educate Voters***

Attendees: Kathy Reim, Carol Sullivan, Kate Dahlstedt, Amy Erie

#### 1. Reports/Updates

- a. Candidate Forums—Wende reported that it takes a lot of people, energy and commitment to produce these events. We created 4 local forums on our own and collaborated with Bellingham/Whatcom LWV on 3 forums where districts overlapped. We also publicized the LD 10 forum which was produced by Whidbey League and Sno-Isle Library. Our forums are extremely professional looking and many thanks to all involved (and there were LOTS!)
  - i. Print Publicity—Barbara Robinson, Ed, Andrea, PFLAG donated Concrete Newspaper ad
  - ii. Social Media-Kathy
  - iii. Questions and Script preparation—Kathy
  - iv. Moderators—Lory, Don, Wende
  - v. Timer for all our local sessions—Ed
  - vi. Posting forums to the website—Ed and Steve Johnson
  - vii. Contacts with Candidates, tracking who had been contacted/when, who's responded, reminders the day before, and thank-you's —Nancy Jenny
  - viii. Tech partners—City of Sedro-Woolley (Bill Chambers), City of Mount Vernon (Candy Galindo) KSVR radio (Joseph McGuire). Eric Johnson for technical help at Reim's "Studio" location for two of the forum events
  
- b. Voter Registration Poster/Flyer Distribution—Kathy Reim reported that 150 posters have been distributed and are displayed in local businesses, thanks to the efforts of Andrea Doll, Peggy Raterman, Becky Rosencrans, Jay Bowen and many PFLAG volunteers. These are PERMANENT resources and the businesses have been enthusiastic to help. Also, Barbara R took the QR code flyers to many of the local school districts for display there.

Many thanks to Ed West who created the QR Code poster and to Kathy R who created the Be A Voter car sign—both of which are featured and downloadable from our website. And thanks to PFLAG who contributed to some of the production costs of the sturdy, laminated QR code poster

- c. Translation of State League flyers for students in Elementary, Middle, and High Schools was provided by our League through the volunteer donation of translation services of Lourdes Benet. The translations of the documents were then made available to all Leagues in the State.

- d. Voter Registration Drives at Food Banks—Kate Dahlstedt  
Kate reported that Voter Information and Registration activities have been conducted at 4 different Helping Hands distribution sites during Sept and October.
- i. Tri Parish Food Bank—Amy Erie and Interpreter volunteers from Latino Advisory Committee
  - ii. Food bank in Anacortes is located at the Christian Church and Voter Services volunteers included Andrea Doll, Anne Sidbury, Margaret Colony and Bob Doll.
  - iii. Helping Hands Food Bank distribution site in MV is at the High School—volunteers include Kate Dahlstedt)
  - iv. Sedro-Woolley’s Food distribution location is a Food Pavilion where Kate D has been heading up the effort.
  - v. Interpreters from Community Action’s Latino Advisory Committee have volunteered at the food bank sites as well as interpreters Jo Beecher, Katie Carson, Katherine Myrvold, Vicki Hawkinson, Anna Chotzen, Kate Smith, and Jonathan Gutierrez.
- e. Postcarding project is now underway to thank those running for political office (Carol Sullivan provided the PostCard kits.) Article on this project will appear in the State League’s Voter publication on November 6!
- f. Speak up Schools planning has begun—joint effort between Snohomish and Skagit Leagues to prepare community members to give effective testimony when Redistricting Commission public hearings are held early next year. Skagit participants in the planning are: Barbara Carson, Carol Sullivan, and Paula Young
- g. We discussed that Oct 26 is the last day to register to vote either on line or via mail. Voters wanting to register between Oct 27 – November 3 at 8PM will need to go in person to Elections Dept (700 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor—Courthouse Annex building)

2. Program committee items

- a. Wonderful turnout for our Play (Mary Jane Golden), and possible repeat performance so we can record the event.
- b. Don’t miss the November 7<sup>th</sup> general meeting—Our program is on “Digital Literacy, Separating Fact from Fiction Online” presented by Katherine Murphy
- c. Suggestion from Kathy Reim for December 5th meeting—Skagit Gleaners director Morgan Curry will present an Introduction to Skagit Gleaners, and we’ll have time to brainstorm some possible partnerships between our organizations
- d. We discussed an idea for a future program on Policing—possibly involving Keith Williams from WWU (see article at this link: <https://window.wvu.edu/article/118165>) and our County Sheriff’s department to talk about local policing—how can we support our departments and work together to engage and educate the community? Please let me know if you are interested in working on this meeting idea.

3. Upcoming events and meetings:

- a. Program Meeting--—November 7<sup>th</sup> 10:30 AM. Our program is on “Digital Literacy, Separating Fact from Fiction Online” presented by Katherine Murphy

- b. Next Board meeting: Oct 28rd at 1:00 PM via zoom
- c. Next Voter Services/Program Subcommittee meeting: Nov 18th, 1:00PM via zoom;

(Placeholder for next year--WE Ignite for ½ 6 foot display table @ \$250-Feb 2021)