

League of Women Voters of Skagit County

June 6, 2020 (via Zoom)

Minutes

*The League of Women Voters of Skagit County is a registered non-profit, nonpartisan political organization. We encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League acts in support of, or in opposition to, selected governmental issues which its members have studied. We do not endorse candidates or political parties. Our mission is to **Empower Voters and Defend Democracy** and we welcome women and men who share our mission to join as members,*

Attendees: Wende Sanderson, Ed West, Mary Ellen West, Kathy Reim, Margaret Colony, Barbara Carlson, Andres Doll, Britt Wisniewski, Kathryn Longfellow, Doris Brevoort

Welcome and group check in

Wende Sanderson

Wende read the State League President's statement regarding our current climate and unrest. The round robin evolved around this topic: what can the league do about the current national and local problems involving racism. The members had a good conversation and mentioned many points that could become monthly program presentations.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes from May 2nd meeting were approved

Treasurer's Report was accepted

Membership Report: currently 39 members

Discussion of separating meeting purpose:

It was approved to separate the Board meeting and the General meetings. All are invited to attend the Board meetings where the subcommittee reports and financial reports will be submitted. The General meetings will focus on discussions and programs. A proposed calendar for the remainder of the year noting meeting dates and times was submitted with the agenda. Generally, the General membership meeting will be the first Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m., Voter Services meeting will be the third Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. and the Board meeting will be the fourth Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m.

Voter Services Activities Report

Kathy Reim/Wende

Local candidates will be the first focus of the virtual forums. There are three: PUD to be moderated by Don Wick on June 29, commissioners to be moderated by Wende Sanderson on July 6, and judges to be moderated by Lori Lawson on June 30. Kathy and Wende are working with TV10 for taping and filming. Due to Ed West's expertise the videos will be on our website and then can be linked to social media, next door, and municipalities. Ed has opened a YouTube channel which allows posting to the other sites. This should enable the candidates' presentations to reach a much larger audience than the 100 who attend in person at the PUD building. There will be no live audience for these forums – just the candidates and moderator.

The other forums involve working with other leagues. Information attached to the agenda shows the complexity of the other campaigns.

Kathy Reim is requesting that questions for the candidates be sent to her at kreim@earthink.net. The questions should be wide ranging and seek input as to what voters need to know regarding the candidate and the applicable issues. Questions are also needed for 411 for all candidates seeking offices in the primary. The statewide committee for 411 has a deadline of June 10

Program Committee Report

Wende

The group is still seeking a chair for this committee.

June 7 the Council will hold its last sessions called the Market Place. Wende and Kathy will be facilitating a presentation on forums in the virtual setting.

June 8 at 6:30 Alternative Voting Methods. A study has been completed and reviewed by the state league of various voting methods used around the world. This study has a link on our website – thanks to Ed. Fair Vote Washington will present their approach. Please solicit friends and acquaintances to watch.

June 15 for 20 weeks join Katherine Murphy, Kittatas County League President and our own Wende Sanderson as we explore Washington, the State Were In interspersed with pod casts “On Being”. The title is Cultivating Civic Conversations The purpose is to enlighten us on civics education and help in better communication. There will be two opportunities a week: Mondays at 11 a.m. and Tuesdays at 7 p.m. A facebook group will be established for additional conversations. There is no fee, however, registration is required. Wende will forward the link to our league members. It was suggested a contact to our local social study teachers might be applicable. One does not need to be a league member to participate.

Without a chair in place, it was suggested that members could each take a month and present a program on an area that engages their passion.

Parking lot items and Good of the Order

The statement at the top of the agenda is a draft. We will be looking at our mission, the state’s and national missions to suggest proposed language for the members to decide upon. It was suggested that the accepted version be on all league correspondence.

Next general membership meeting date and location-- Sat. July 11th—Zoom 10:30 AM

Next Board Meeting (all welcome to attend): Wed. July 1st—Zoom—1:00 PM

--Adjourn--