

Board Meeting Minutes
Feb. 27, 2018- 10:00 am, Daily Grind, Back Room

Attending: Mary Collins, Susan Daniels, Shelley Jones, Anne Lewis, Barbara Palmer, Bobbie Ryder, Alice Schroeder, Jane Sielken, Paul Spencer, Judy Stone, Libby Walker

Call to Order and Welcome: The meeting was called to order by President, Shelley Jones, at 10:07am. Shelley reminded the board of the League's non-partisan policy.

Routine Business: The January Board Meeting minutes were approved, with Secretary Alice Schroeder reminding members to please send her corrections when they receive the minutes by e-mail, rather than at the next board meeting. The next board meeting will be Tuesday, March 27, at 10:00am at the Daily Grind. Sign-ups are still needed for the April through June Chamber lunch meetings.

Today's board meeting will be followed by a meeting at noon in the Daily Grind of all interested and current observers.

Financial: Treasurer, Paul Spencer, reported on finances. The LWV of Pullman has \$5501.00 in the checking account and \$1731.86 in the Education Fund as of 2/27/18.

Paul Spencer, Shelley Jones and Mary Collins volunteered to be this year's budget committee. They will submit a budget for 2018-2019 to the March Board meeting for approval for consideration at the May Annual Meeting. Shelley and Mary also volunteered to do the biannual internal audit at the same time.

The Finance Drive will get underway when Diane Smerdon returns in March. Volunteers to personalize the letters will be needed.

President/Vice President Updates:

Non-partisan policies for the League and board members were approved by consensus after incorporating Alice's suggestions. There were no suggestions for changes to the By-Laws for the May 18 Annual Meeting. We need to use the registered trademark symbol as part of the LWVUS league logo. Shelley will send the current LWVUS requirements to Paul and Anne and anyone else who needs them. Susan noted that the images are available for download on the LWVUS website. If they do not contain the trademark symbol please let Shelley know.

LWVWA news: The League of Women Voters of Washington is now using the member list from LWVUS instead of requesting a separate list from us. This should solve some of the past confusion on who is a member. LWVWA is starting a revised Membership, Leadership Development program which will be called MELD for Membership, Engagement, Leadership and Development. It will involve 4-5 local leagues and two coaches, both from LWVWA, working together by phone or video. They will try to have both large and small leagues in each "pod". A pilot group will meet this spring. Results will be shared at council and a decision made at that time on whether to expand this

program state wide. Shelley will ask Deb Olson to be the contact. Libby Walker and Anne Lewis are willing to continue as well. Anne noted that ideas from these meetings do need to be discussed by the Board. It was also noted that previous information, Guidances, should be available on the LWVUS website.

The LWVWA is asking each local League to appoint a legislative liaison to keep us informed of legislative action we could take as a League. A discussion of having a local action chair who would keep the board aware of local opportunities for the League to write letters or speak at hearings occurred. Susan Daniels volunteered to look into local action. Alice Schroeder is willing to help with letters.

LWVWA Council is June 1-3 in Richland, WA. It will start at mid-day with MELD training. Shelley may be going to some of the meetings and possibly helping with an Education Fund Training workshop. Paul will be helping with recording some of the sessions. A third person who could attend the sessions would be useful. We have \$500 budgeted to help with costs.

LWVUS: The LWVUS Convention will be June 28 – July 1 in Chicago. Registration is \$450/person. We have only \$500 budgeted to cover all costs. We need to consider whether the best use of our money is to send someone to Convention or to Council and State Convention. Several felt sending someone to the National convention was important. It was suggested we ask for donations for this in our finance drive letters to members and also note this need on the Facebook page. It was already mentioned in our Finance Drive to non-member donors last year and should be this year.

Miscellaneous: Mary Collins reported that we have been asked to send a notice to members about a Breast Cancer fund raising event on campus called a CanCan Party. We do not send such notices to members. We have also been asked for financial support by the Community Action Center for a “Stakeholders and Community Needs Assessment” to be done this year. Members may want to volunteer time, but there are no funds available. There was also some question about whether this needs to be done only two years after our poverty study and the CAC needs assessment of 2016. Mary sent around two letters the League proposes to send. Rep. Joe Schmick has proposed returning tax receipts in excess of the budgeted amounts to taxpayers. A letter opposing this and encouraging the use of this money to fund the many unfunded needs at the state and county levels, will be sent to our State representatives, state senator and newspapers. A letter in support of the RTPO human services regional transportation plan will be sent after Bobbie Ryder researches the current needs of the Whitman County COAST system.

Art Walk: Libby Walker reported that Joanna Baily, director at Neill Public Library, has asked that the League participate in the street fair celebrating Art Walk and Pullman’s 120th birthday on May 19th. The cost for a booth is \$75. There was consensus to do this. Libby Walker will register us by March 19. Libby, Judy Stone and Bobbie Ryder will work on a display. Paul Spencer will arrange for insurance through the LWVWA. We will also offer voter registration, as this will be a good time before the July primaries for the fall elections.

Observer Corps: Observers will meet at noon. We still need observers for the Port, Airport Board and Parks and Recreation.

Community Outreach Update: There has been no newspaper coverage of our events since Feb. 2. Bobbie Ryder would like pictures of our events for Facebook. Please e-mail them to her.

Nominating Committee: Anne Lewis has nominations for several positions. There was a general discussion with several ideas presented for nominees for other positions.

Voter Service: Shelley reported for chair Deb Olson. The Civics class at Colfax HS would like a class. This will be discussed at the next board meeting. Volunteers are needed. The spring semester classes at Pullman HS were Feb. 16. Twenty seven students registered to vote. We were asked to provide polling officers for the Palouse conservation district elections. There were seventeen voters. Deb suggests a presentation from the district would be a good Brown Bag meeting.

Upcoming Meetings:

Monday, March 5, 2018. Health Care for All. 6:30pm, program starts at 7:00pm at the Umpqua Bank. Chair, Judy Stone. There will be a DVD recommended by LWVWA and a speaker for the Health Care for All group.

Thursday, March 15, 2018. Brown Bag, noon at the CCC (Community Congregational Church). Meeting with the new members of the Pullman City Council, Dan Records and Brandon Chapman. Chair, Deb Olson.

Monday, April 2, 2018. How to run for Local Office. 6:30pm, program starts at 7:00pm at the Umpqua Bank. Chairs: Libby Walker and Judy Meuth.

Thursday, April 19, 2018. Brown Bag, noon at the CCC. Francis Benjamin will speak on Civil Discourse and to give an update on the 2040 Visioning process. Chair: Libby Walker.

Other events:

Wednesday, March 14, 2018. **Pi Day**, 11:00am at Anne Lewis' home, 915 Skylark Ct. Bring a sweet or savory pie or just your appetite for some fun and socializing.

Monday, April 16, 2018. **League Book Club.** 1:00pm at Anne Lewis' home, 915 Skylark Ct. We will be discussing *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. It is available at NPL in audio, ebook, and print formats.

Meeting/Event summaries:

Feb. 5, 2018 general meeting with Friends of Hospice. There were about 20 attendees. Sitting in a circle worked well to encourage discussion with speaker, Annie Pillers, about

the new Serenity House. It is for those in hospice care who cannot die at home.

The **February Brown bag with City Planner, Pete Dickinson**, was very informative. We all learned that the place to have your say about planning is at the planning commission public hearing. City Councils are not allowed to hold public hearings on planning matters.

State and National Information. The new LWVUS Mission/Vision/Value statement is now finalized and on their website. Information on the LWVWA Strategic Plan and MELD is on the LWVWA website.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice L. Schroeder, Secretary