

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**LWV Pullman**  
**January 28, 2020, 10:00 am, Daily Grind, Back Room**

**Attending:** Helen Catanese, Mary Collins, Susan Daniels, Sue Hinz, Anne Lewis, Deb Olson, Bobbie Ryder, Alice Schroeder, Paul Spencer, Judy Stone, Libby Walker and first time attendees: Carolyn Joswig-Jones, Karyn Hardy and Lennis Boyer-Watts.

**Call to Order and Welcome:** The meeting was called to order by President, Bobbie Ryder, at 10:00 am. Bobbie reminded the group of the League's non-partisan policy, especially that the President, Vice President and Voter Services Chair should not be publicly supporting or aligned with any political party.

**Routine Business:** The December Board Meeting minutes were approved with one spelling correction. The next board meeting will be February 25, 2020 at 10:00am at the Daily Grind.

**Old business and Updates:**

**Past Events:** Despite the time of year, the December meeting on Transportation and the Brown Bag with the newly elected City Council members were well attended, including several non- members and also very informative. The Jan. 9 National Planning Brunch Meeting at Zeppoz was also well attended, including two new members. It was probably worth the \$75 cost of the private room. The group found the presentation by Helen and Susan on alternate forms of voting very useful in considering whether to support a national concurrence to produce national positions at the National Convention. The Concurrence was supported. No additional program ideas were submitted as the action items already proposed will be a great deal of work.

Congratulations to Sue Hinz on her award as Volunteer of the Year from the Chamber of Commerce.

**Centennial Display and MASC:** Judy Stone and Helen Catanese reported that the Centennial display is almost done and will be up next Saturday, Feb. 1, at Neill Public Library. They will ask the Library to make a display of books about women's suffrage nearby. Libby Walker will send information to the Daily News and the library will also have publicity. Anyone who has old LWV pins is asked to loan them to Judy for the display.

Mary Collins has arranged for the library to pick up the sorted archives from the President's Files after the Centennial Display is dismantled. We will also ask the MASC (Manuscripts, Archives, Special Collections at WSU libraries) what work is needed to sort the League collection with the idea of helping find funding for a student to do this work.

**Membership Roster Report to National:** Judy Stone reported that this information has been submitted to LWVUS. We now have 51 members, including three new members. The new members have been sent membership packets and all members have been sent the new list.

**Presidents Call:** President, Bobbie Ryder, was able to join the monthly call meeting of presidents of LWVWA leagues. Activities by Leagues on Feb. 14 to celebrate the centennial of the founding of the League of Women Voters were discussed. Snohomish is celebrating with a post card writing party to their US representatives and senators urging the elimination of the deadline to ratify the Equal Rights

Amendment to the Constitution. The Pullman board would like to do something similar. Mary Collins and Bobbie Ryder will work on a post card. Libby Walker suggested a celebration of the founding and a kickoff event for the post cards on February 14 at the Library with cake and postcards. She will arrange this.

**New Business:**

**Finance Drive:** Chair, Libby Walker, is working on the letter and will work with committee members, Paul Spencer, Anne Lewis, and Judy Stone, to organize donor lists and printing and mailing of letters. Please give names of potential donors to Libby.

**WSU Common Reading Event:** The WSU common reading book is “*Refuge: Rethinking Refugee Policy in a Changing World*,” by Alexander Betts and Sir Paul Collier. The League has strong positions on immigration, including accepting refugees. Therefore, Libby Walker has worked with Karen Weathermon of the WSU program to have the Pullman League co-sponsor a speaker. We have contributed \$250 to the speaker’s expenses. The Speaker will be Louis Cortes Romero, an attorney and expert on DACA and Immigration. He will speak at two public events on the WSU campus: Monday, March 2 at 7:00 pm in the CUB ballroom and Tuesday, March 3, at 12:00 noon at the Foley Institute in Bryan Hall. The public is invited and all League members are urged to come.

**School Bond and Levies:** The Pullman League supports the school bond and levies in the Feb. 11 election. President, Bobbie Ryder, has sent a supporting letter to the Daily News.

**Census:** Deb Olson has been in contact with the district supervisor for the census. This person has just changed. She will work with her to possibly have the League organize an informational presentation on the 2020 Census. This will be in addition to our regular meetings.

**Reports:**

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Paul Spencer reported that we have \$7466.14 in checking and \$3,152.54 in the Ed. Fund for a total of \$10,618.68 with the LWVWA PMP still to be paid. This is about \$2700 more than at this time last year and puts us in a good position to pay expenses for National Convention Delegates.

**National Convention:** Bobbie Ryder and Helen Catanese will be our delegates to National Convention. The Convention is in Washington DC, June 25-28. We can send a third delegate. If you are interested please let Bobbie Ryder know.

**MELD:** Paul Spencer joined the monthly conference call. Ways to increase diversity in the League was the main discussion.

**Community Outreach:** Libby Walker reported that our events are being covered though she would like to see reporters at some of our meetings. The Evergreen has sent reporters to some meetings.

**Social Media:** Bobbie Ryder continues to post our events. Carolyn Joswig-Jones offered to help.

**Voter Services:** Chair, Deb Olson, will contact the civics teachers at the high school. There will be a small piece on how the Presidential Primary will be conducted for our page in the Community Update and the next Voter.

TRY: The next TRY will be after the 2020 elections are validated in late November, 2020. Sue Hinz suggested we go to an electronic TRY on our website, as few printed TRY's are now being taken. In spring 2019 almost as many 2017-2018 TRY's were still present at the various locals as had been originally delivered. Sue Daniels, Mary Collins and Deb Olson, the TRY committee, will look into this. It was pointed out that this would take some advertising to alert people to the new format. However, it would also save the printing costs of about \$500 and time spent delivering them. It would also allow an additional page listing elected and appointed officials in the small towns, which many have requested. It was noted that having this information all in one place is still very useful as it is difficult to extract from the City and County websites.

LWVWA Council: The state council will be held the last week of May in Yakima.

Observer Corps annual report: Judy Stone presented the attached annual report. During 2019 we had 14 observers attending 6 city and 4 County governmental organizations. Starting in 2020 there are 11 observers attending 9 agency meetings. The board meeting was followed by the annual meeting of the observers.

TWIL: Judy Stone reminded members they can sign up for this weekly newsletter from the League. Bobbie Ryder has sent a list of our activities celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage and the founding of the League.

Legislative: Susan Daniels urged members to sign up for and use the Legislative Newsletter. We have received a request to appoint an Action Chair. Bobbie Ryder will send the job description to all members and this will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Community Update: Susan Daniels is working on the League page. It will contain information on the Presidential Primary and future meetings. She needs all information by Feb.2.

Nominating Committee: Chair, Mary Collins, has a full slate as most officers and chairs from 2019-2020 agreed to serve again. Helen Catanese has agreed to be Vice President.

The Voter: Anne Lewis, voter editor, plans to have the voter out the first week in February. She needs all information by February 2.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Month of February: Public display at Neill Public Library celebrating the centennial of the founding of the League of Women Voters in 1920 and the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Pullman League of Women Voters in 1950 and Women's Suffrage in the US and WA.

February 11—Chamber Lunch. Deb Olson will attend.

February 14—Hecht Room, Neill Public Library: LWV birthday cake and post card writing to support the ERA.

February 18: Hecht Room, Neill Public Library, Noon; Brown Bag discussion of the Presidential Primary process with Sandy Jamison, Whitman County Auditor.

February 20: WSU Floyd Cultural Center, 7:00pm, Suffragette re-enactment by Eva Abrams with a reception following. This performance is supported by a Centennial Votes for Women grant to LWV

Pullman from The Washington State History Museum. This performance replaces our usual 1st Thursday evening meeting.

**Other Business:**

Paul Spencer has received a note from Lou Ann Taylor of Neill Public Library thanking us for our website page with links to other information. She is teaching a class on Civic Engagement for teenagers. They have found our website very useful. One student suggested adding a link she found, which Paul has done.

Judy Stone reminded us that planning for the May annual meeting needs to start with the February Board. This includes such actions as considering any by law changes, approving the nomination slate, selecting convention delegates, constructing a budget, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43am.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Schroeder  
Secretary

**Observer Corps Activity End of Year Report 2019**

**Agencies Observed in 2019**

**City of Pullman**

- Arts Commission – Uta Hutnak
- City Council – Libby Walker and Anne Lewis(backup)
- Library Board – Zuma Lee Staba and Franci Bose
- Planning Commission – Alice Schroeder, January; Helen Catanese, February

forward

- Regional Hospital – Judy Stone
- School Board –Carol Ndambuki

**County**

- County Commissioners – Paul Spencer and Mary Collins(backup)
- Planning Commission – Shelley Chambers-Fox
- Port – Bobbie Ryder, January through June
- SWAC – Deb Olson

**2019 Summary:**

There is one agency that meets twice a month, one that meets 2-3 times per month, and one that meets 2-4 times per month.

The average meeting length was 1 1/2 – 2 hours. The longest meeting reported this year was 3 1/2 hours.

Each month an average of 9 hours (5 1/2 – 12) of agency meetings, 7 City and 4 County, were observed by 14 observers.

**Percentage of meetings attended by our Observer Corps**

Of the meetings that were available to attend, meaning.....they were not cancelled by the agency and, the observer did not give notice they would be unavailable to attend (ill, kids, out of town, weather, etc.) and, a report was submitted or the observer attended but chose not to submit a report (nothing of import to share); Some members reported from the meeting video or minutes when they were unable to attend.

<b><u>% Meetings attended</u></b>	<b><u>2019</u></b>
<u>January</u>	<u>39 %</u>
<u>February</u>	<u>50</u>
<b><u>March</u></b>	<u>80</u>
<u>April</u>	<u>73</u>
<u>May</u>	<u>64</u>
<u>June</u>	<u>62</u>
<b><u>July</u></b>	<u>40</u>
<u>August</u>	<u>67</u>
<b><u>September</u></b>	<u>82</u>
<u>October</u>	<u>50</u>
<u>November</u>	<u>50</u>
<u>December</u>	<u>64</u>
	<b>60 %</b>

**Issues/Concerns reported by Observers in 2019 that resulted in some form of follow-up:**

- o Pullman Warming Center > A letter of support for a warming shelter in Pullman was sent to the County's Poverty Awareness Task Force.
- o Pullman Regional Hospital Bond Issue > evening meeting.
- o Pullman School Board, new principals, state funding > Brown Bag
- o District Court > A letter was sent and read to the City Council supporting keeping the District Court in Pullman.
- o Poverty > letter to MPDN encouraging support of the Community Relief Fund
- o Transportation > evening meeting
- o CAP Trail > Brown Bag
- o Poverty, homelessness, housing > Brown Bag
- o New City Council members > Brown Bag
- o Art Fest participation > booth
- o Library – use of rooms by LWV > report to Board and people who schedule meetings.
- o Information sent out to all members concerning: new zoning requests, Pullman High School employee issue, educational meetings by PRH concerning their bond proposal.