

**LWV of Pullman Board Meeting**  
**November 24, 2020 - 10:00 am to 12:00pm**  
**Via Zoom**

**Attending:**

Mary Collins, Anne Lewis, Shelley Jones, Carolyn Joswig-Jones, Karyn Hardy (could listen only), Sue Hinz, Kat Odell, Deb Olson, Bobbie Ryder, Alice Schroeder, Paul Spencer, Judy Stone, Libby Walker, Lennis Watts, new member Leah Zulas and guest speaker, Beth Pelliccioti from the LWVWA board and Spokane LWV

The meeting was called to order by President Bobbie Ryder at 10:04am. Bobbie reminded us of the League's non-partisan position.

**Approval of the October Board Meeting Minutes:** The minutes were approved.

**New Business:**

**Special Thanks:** Bobbie thanked the organizers of the November meetings for great presentations: Kat Odell and Carolyn Joswig-Jones for the presentation on Mental Health on the Palouse for the Tuesday, Nov. 17 brown bag meeting and Judy Stone for November 5<sup>th</sup>'s general meeting updating us on Pullman Regional Hospital's work on preparing and treating COVID 19 patients. Shelley Jones noted that the LWVWA has an affinity group for those interested in Mental Health. Contact Linda Benson at: [lbenson@lwvwa.org](mailto:lbenson@lwvwa.org). if you would like to join.

**LWVWA Nominating Committee:** Shelley Jones, who is on this committee, reported that the committee is gathering nominations for next year. The committee particularly needs to make the boards for 501(3) Education Fund, which is tax exempt, and 501(4), general LWVWA fund, which is not tax exempt, distinct. as required by the IRS. Thus, a number of new board members are needed. Please send names to her if you are interested or know someone who would be good.

**LWVWA Adult Civics Education:** Beth Pelliccioti presented information on the committee's work to examine League efforts in adult civics education. This is important because, until the 2020-2021 school year, Civics had not been required in Washington Schools for 30 years. Thus, many of our adults do not know how our government works. Early work shows that League adult civics education efforts fall into six categories: courses, educating League members, helping with voting and elections, action on issues from observing public meetings to letters, helping people communicate effectively and action on local issues and explaining how government at all levels affects our daily lives. Currently, the LWVWA committee is asking local Leagues to fill out a brief inventory highlighting examples of activities aimed at adult civic education. They would also like a wish list of activities the Leagues would like to see at Local or State levels. If you would like to participate in this effort at the State level please contact Beth at: [pelliccmb@gmail.com](mailto:pelliccmb@gmail.com) Or Bev Austin at: [bjAustin46@gmail.com](mailto:bjAustin46@gmail.com). The following committee will work on filling out the Pullman inventory: Libby Walker, chair, Bobbie Ryder, Carolyn Joswig-Jones, Deb Olson, Judy Stone and Alice Schroeder. They will meet by Zoom Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 2:00pm. A recording of Beth Pelliccioti's presentation is on the LWV Pullman website.

### **Board Old Business and Updates:**

**Ballot Sorting:** Libby Walker thanked the 21 enthusiastic League members who volunteered to help with ballot sorting. She has received a very nice letter from Whitman County auditor, Sandy Jamison thanking the volunteers. When the first volunteers noted that many people at the elections' office were not wearing masks, auditor Jamison was quick to fix this. Sue Hinz noted that volunteering was a great way to see how many precautions are taken to make sure the process is secure. She suggested that the League work with the auditor to make a video showing the procedures used. This might be a good high school, WSU internship or Boy Scout project. Paul noted that there is a video on the Washington Secretary of State website. Unfortunately, at this writing it is no longer available. Alice suggested that we contact LWVWA and the Secretary of State for information on other efforts. Sue and Bobbie will put a proposal together.

**LWVWA Presidents' Report:** President Bobbie Ryder attended the LWVWA Presidents' call with LWVWA president Lunell Haught. Numerous topics were covered. The 3-5 grade Civics textbook is now available. State Convention will be June 23-27 on Zoom with the theme: "The Next 100 Years; Defending Democracy." The State League has written a letter thanking all the county auditors for their work making this a safe and secure election. The Spokane League has gone from 100 to 136 members. All Leagues are asked to scrub their websites of any graphics which they don't have permission to use. Paul Spencer is doing this. Carolyn and Bobbie will check social media posts for such graphics as well. LWVWA is sponsoring a "Speak Up School" to teach volunteers how to testify before government committees, especially the redistricting committee. Several Leagues reported on their activities.

**Position Statements:** Alice Schroeder reminded the group that the proposed changes in local positions and proposed studies to update other positions will be presented for discussion at the January "Local and state planning" meeting. Mary Collins will meet with the Poverty Study committee to draft a broad general position for the Poverty positions. It will be presented at the January meeting.

### **Board Maintenance:**

***Finance Drive:*** Libby Walker explained that the purpose of the finance drive is to support our local activities. She and Paul Spencer are working on clearing the non-member donors list of people who have not responded. They would like names of new, likely donors. They are beginning to work on the finance drive letter which they hope to send in January. Sue Hinz offered to join the committee.

**Membership:** Membership chair, Judy Stone noted via chat, that the Pullman League has added 21 new members this year, bring our total to 71.

**Calendar Updates:** Meetings for December and January will be as planned. See upcoming events below. Libby Walker will notify Civics and Social Studies teachers at the Pullman and Colfax schools and the libraries of the December, 15, noon brown bag about the LWVWA textbook, "The State We Are In". She will add them to her e-mail list for notices. Shelley Jones will join Paul Spencer and Alice Schroeder to plan the January 7, local and state planning

meeting. Anne Lewis reminded us to start reading “White Rage” by Carol Anderson for the January 19 brown bag meeting.

**Reports:**

**MELD:** Libby Walker reported that the call covered much the same material as the presidents’ call. (Libby, you talked about a bipartisan group called ?? Angels. What would you like to say here?) She and Deb noted that the calls have been very useful and informative and they are glad to participate.

**Community Outreach:** The Daily News continues to make mistakes in the announcements. Libby is working with management on this.

**Social Media:** Carolyn Joswig-Jones showed some of her posts. She can also arrange to have them show up on Facebook. A general discussion on updating the website ensued. It needs to be less cluttered yet keep all the information. Paul Spencer, Leah Zulas, Helen Catanese and Shelley Jones will meet and ask Brandon Chapman to join them. Bobbie will set up the meeting sometime in January.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer, Paul Spencer, reported that as of November 23, 2020 we have \$7528.68 in the general fund and \$3253.34 in the Education Fund for a total of \$10,782.02. Most income was dues. Our total funds are about \$700 greater than last year at this time. Libby Walker pointed out that we need to return the \$400 grant for Forum in a Box to the LWVWA education fund, since we were unable to use it. Paul will do so.

**Observer Corps:** Judy Stone, Observer Corps chair reported that she is working with LWVWA president, Lunell Haught to make a statewide tool Kit of Observer Corps information, forms and activities. The State strategic Plan Research Committee will be randomly interviewing observers about their experience. Ten of our observers have agreed to include their names.

**Upcoming Events:**

1. “Local Newspapers, Democracy & Healthy Communities” – Rob Curley, Spokesman Review, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 7 pm over Zoom. Chair: Bobbie Ryder.
2. Action Workshops: Saturday Dec. 5 and 12, 9:30am-1:00pm over Zoom. Register at: LWVWA.org.
3. “The State We Are In” –Tuesday, December 15 at noon over Zoom. Speaker, Karen Verrill. Committee: Lennis, Deb, Susan.
4. Local and State Planning, Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 10:00am over Zoom. Committee: Paul Spencer, Alice Schroeder, Shelley Jones.
5. Book Club, January 19, noon over Zoom. Book: “White Rage” by Carol Anderson. Chair: Anne Lewis.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Schroeder, Secretary