



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN WASHINGTON

www.lwvpullman.org

April, 2013

The League of Women Voters of Pullman is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Officers

President: Alice Schroeder, 334-2470; **Vice President:** Shelley Jones, 432-3428, ; **Secretary:** Paul Spencer 332-6699, Backup: Deb Olson, 332-2114; **Treasurer:** Joan Folwell, 332-3946; **Voter Service Chair:** Diane Smerdon, 334-5413; **Voter Editor:** Susan Daniels, 332-6699; **Finance Drive Chair:** Lenna Harding, 332-7749; **Membership Chair:** Janet Kendall, 332-4268; **Scheduling Chair:** Barbara Hammond, 332-4104; **Observer Corps Chair** Deb Olson, 332-2114; **TRY Editor:** Lucy Linden, 332-2755; **Webmaster:** Paul Spencer: 332-6699.

Meetings and Events

Please check the date and place when you get the meeting notice a week before the meeting.

Annual Meeting

Date: Monday May 13th, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Karen Kiessling, 332-4755.

Program: Catered dinner 6:00-7:00, optional (if you are coming bring a check for \$15.00 made out to LWV).
7:00 – Short conversation with Jeff Guyette, director of the Community Action Center;
7:45 – Business meeting.

Place: Home of Karen Kiessling, 510 SE Crestview St.
Chair: Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428

Board Meetings

Wednesday April 24th

Time: 1:00-2:45 p.m.

Place: Daily Grind, back room

Chair: Shelley Jones, 432-3428

Contents

Page 2 – [Annual Meeting](#)

Page 2 – [GMOs](#)

Page 3 – [Health Care](#)

Page 4 – [Brown Bag Lunches](#)

Page 4 – [Vote 411](#)

Page 5 – [Open Meetings Act](#)

Page 5 – [LWVWA Convention](#)

Page 6 – [Title IX](#)

Page 7 – [Annual Mtg. Agenda](#)

Page 7 – [2012 Minutes](#)

Page 10 – [Treas. Report](#)

Page 11 – [Budget](#)

Page 12 – [By-Law Change](#)

Page 12 – [Nominating Comm.](#)

Page 13 – [Changes to Positions](#)

Page 14 – [Deep Water Port](#)

Other Dates of Interest Washington State Convention

Date: Monday May 31st – June 2nd

Program: Members of the State League decide on studies, updates, citizen education, etc. for the next two years. Special program: Tribal Traditions: Culture, Commerce and Governance.

Place: Little Creek Casino Resort, Shelton, WA

Delegates: Pullman can send three voting delegates and as many observers as we like. We have some monies to help with expenses.

Contact: Shelley Jones, 432-3428 or Karen Kiessling, 332-4755

Annual Meeting Monday, May 13th Alice Schroeder

We have done it again! Another busy and rewarding year with the Pullman League of Women Voters has gone by! Before we take a well earned break in June, we need to have our Annual Meeting. This is our yearly chance to collectively consider what we've done in the past year, elect officers, visit and think ahead to the next League year. Please, please plan to come. We need a quorum of 1/3 of our local members to adopt the budget and elect next year's officers and committee heads. That is 19 members (56/3)!! We have many members who are living elsewhere this year, can't come due to age related problems or are traveling. Thus, we need everyone who is in Pullman to come. Call Shelley or Karen if you need a ride. You can also skip the dinner and come at 7:00 for the program and business meeting. Many of you support us with your dues. That is great, but this is one time we need you to support us with your presence as well!

We will have a catered dinner, followed by a conversation with Jeff Guyette, the new head of the Community Action Center and, last but not least, our usual, but important, annual business meeting.

June Crawford and Deb Olson have worked to hard to find a slate of officers and committee heads to lead us next year. Joan Folwell, Susan Daniels and Shelley Jones have worked on the budget to be adopted for the next year. There is a By-Law change to consider. We'll get caught up on current finances and finally we'll elect our delegates to the Washington State convention and give them directions. This includes how to vote on a concurrence on deep water ports in Puget Sound. A letter from Bellingham/Whatcom County giving background and asking for concurrence is on [page 14](#).

Look for the Agenda and Committee Reports starting on [page 7](#) in this VOTER.

Report on March 4 Meeting on GMOs, Joan Folwell

Dr. Michael Neff, Associate Professor and Director of the Molecular Plant Sciences Grad Program in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, gave a very informative presentation on March 4th entitled "Transgenic Crops – the Methods, Pros and Cons of GMOs and Biotechnology" to a large and varied

audience. Because of the many misconceptions that the public has about GMOs, Dr. Neff has made it his goal to discuss the science behind the technology so that knowledgeable opinions can be developed on a case-by-case basis.

Dr. Neff said that GMOs were introduced in the mid 1990s. He defined a GMO as an organism having genetic material (DNA) that is changed by genetic engineering. This does not include cloning, breeding techniques, or any process that includes sexual reproduction. He reminded us that human insulin and taxol used to treat certain cancers are now manufactured by using genetically modified bacteria. Currently, soybeans, cotton, and corn are the only crops being commercially produced that are GMOs. They have been modified to be Roundup resistant and/or resistant to some insects.

Dr. Neff explained how the specific genetic material to change the genetic character of the host organism is inserted: 1) by using a particular bacterium which naturally can enter the host DNA; 2) by inserting the genetic material into the host DNA as part of an infection; and 3) by “shooting” a piece of DNA into a host’s DNA with a “gene gun.” He emphasized that opponents of GMOs use faulty science and scare tactics to make their case; but, at the same time, Dr. Neff pointed out that GMOs may not provide the best solution for a problem. So the public needs to educate themselves to make rational decisions for the future. This presentation also provided the beginning of a series of discussions that will lead to an update of the LWVUS consensus on agriculture.

Report on April 1 Health Care Meeting

Lucy Linden

It may have been April Fool’s Day, but there was no fooling those attending the Health Care Meeting that Canadians have a very different approach to health care from us, their U. S. neighbors, and that we should not fear a national health care system. Two panelists spoke following *The Health Care Movie* narrated by Kiefer Sutherland.

The Health Care Movie compares the Canadian and U.S. health care systems and tells how health care in Canada and the U.S. developed into such different systems, when at one time they were virtually the same. It recalls the political strategies that resulted in establishing a universal health care system supported by taxes in Canada—first in one province and then throughout the country. In the U.S., public relations firms hired by the opposition in the early 1900’s coined such terms as *government takeover* and *socialized medicine*, terms still widely proclaimed today to frighten people from supporting a national/universal health care system different from the for-profit model of health insurance companies.

Linda Pike, a Moscow resident and retired lawyer recalled getting medical care in Canada with little or no extra cost—she paid a \$5.00 administrative fee for having each baby--and had the service of a public health nurse for follow-up baby care even in a rural area. It had been a while since she lived and received health care in Canada, so Linda contacted former neighbors and people with more recent experience for how it is viewed today. They were consistently pleased with their system and wondered how we in the United States got it so wrong.

Chuck Richards, president of *Health Care for All—Washington* reported on his organization's work on the single payer bill which was heard in the WA legislature this session, the Washington Health Security Trust. This trust would be funded by many sources of money currently spent on health care and would cover all state residents. Information about his organization is available online at www.healthcareforallwa.org.

Our League has a copy of *The Health Care Movie*, and if you missed the meeting and would like to borrow the DVD, contact Lucy Linden at 332-2755.

Brown Bag Lunches Update

Deb Olson

As you should know Pullman League began a new informal information sharing meeting each month with an initial meeting December. These meetings were scheduled the third Thursday of the month at noon (12:10 to be exact) for one hour at the Congregational Church. We scheduled them for this time in the hopes that members who could not come to our evening meetings could attend and that people would have an hour of time at noon. Unfortunately, this hope has not been realized. The same faces are present at the noon meetings as at the evening meetings. The church was chosen due to its proximity to campus and its large parking lot, so that members of the community on campus could attend. We have been very fortunate in the publicity Janet Kendall has arranged for these events as well as our evening meetings. A Big Thank You to Janet. The Pullman Board would like to see a committee head these meetings up next year and if you are interested in chairing or being a committee member please contact Deb Olson.

To summarize the meetings so far:

2012 Dec - the three Whitman CO Commissioners attended. A reporter from the paper attended and wrote a nice piece. The meeting was the best attended and several people from the community came.

2013 Jan - Paul Kimmel from Avista brought the resources game he mentioned during the energy study meeting. Although only seven members were present it was a good meeting, lots of information and discussion.

Feb – The county auditor Eunice Coker came to this meeting with lots of information about new legislation being considered that affects voting in the state – affecting all auditors offices but not increasing budgets. Some are very silly and some are impossible to do with mail-in ballots. Nine members attended this meeting.

March – Joanne Bailey, Neill Public Library director, came and talked about the library, services offered, and funding problems and how cuts are affecting services. Again only nine members attended but there was a very lively and interesting discussion.

April – this meeting is scheduled for the 18th (hasn't happened yet) so don't know attendance yet.

Devon Felsted is coming and talking about single stream recycling, where Pullman is in the process etc.

Help Needed with Vote 411

Help our local candidates be part of *Vote411*. This nationwide League website helps citizens get voting

and candidate information and helps candidates get their information out cost free. To make it work for Whitman County we need two volunteers to contact the candidates and upload their information. It can be done from any computer anywhere. Janet Kendall has volunteered and will help the other volunteer. Time: from June filing date to receipt of candidate information for the primaries. Also, contact winning candidates and upload any changes after the primary. Duties: Help compose 2-3 job specific questions for each office. Contact candidates—usually by e-mail. Nag candidates—these are busy people. Upload information. Reward: Get to know the movers and shakers in Pullman and Whitman County.

Workers Needed for fall meeting on Washington law

Good Government = Transparency!

Open Meetings Act is the law in Washington

Karen Kiessling

The League of Women Voters of Pullman wishes to host a public meeting on the Open Public Meetings Act of Washington State. This law applies to every rule making body in the state and requires that those elected and appointed officials do the public's business in front of the public. It means that officials are not to discuss or decide issues outside the public meeting place because then there is no way for the public to be part of whatever decision is made. Some elected officials find this a troublesome delay in taking care of business and may try to avoid making sure their decisions are arrived at within the requirements of the law.

The Pullman League wants to educate the public and the elected and appointed officials to the law and its requirements. We can do this by working in conjunction with the Washington Coalition for Open Government, a group of specialists in the area, officials and attorneys who live with this rule in their work daily. They would be providing the expert panelists for the public discussion.

We need a committee to work on this program for the fall. We have an opportunity to help newly elected and long time officeholders have confidence that they are following the law and are protected by correct procedure. We can all think of recent examples where ignoring these mandates ended careers in public office. League wants leaders to know the law in all its ramifications. So....we need you to say you will help with making that meeting a reality.

The Coalition is very specific in what it wants us to do -- things we always do for League public meetings so it is not arduous but it is a grand time for you to join a committee. In League we have to volunteer to make things happen. If we do not get a commitment from at least three volunteers we cannot manage the meeting. Please let Karen Kiessling or Shelley Jones know that you will help with this program. It will be educational and fun to do.

CONVENTION -- CONVENTION -- CONVENTION

Karen Kiessling

Calling all Leaguers to State Convention in Shelton, WA, on May 31 to June 2. The Pullman League is

entitled to send three voting delegates and as many other members as wish to go as observers (cannot vote but can attend all sessions, meals and special events). New members Anne Lewis and Mary Collins have volunteered to go, as has vice-president, Shelley Jones. These delegates will be elected and instructed at the annual meeting.

Research on Title IX

Congratulations to Tammy Crawford, sports management faculty at WSU, and Amy Cole, graduate student member of the Pullman League, who will be presenting the findings from their study on the impact of Title IX from the perception of undergraduate students at the North American Society for Sport Management annual conference in Austin, Texas. Tammy is League member June Crawford's daughter-in-law.

These researchers gave nearly 1200 students a questionnaire consisting of several questions including a short true or false 'quiz' about Title IX. Of these questionnaires, over 400 of them could not be included in the analysis because the respondents did not know what Title IX was. Tammy and Amy were interested in looking at the difference in responses across gender, academic field, and status as an NCAA student-athlete or non-athlete. Sampled athletes had lower actual knowledge than non-athletes, while females had higher knowledge than males. Compared with male students, women scored significantly higher on all of the dependent variable scales, meaning women were more satisfied with their participation experience and were more likely to believe Title IX has been successfully implemented.

If you have questions about the study, please contact Amy Cole at ancole@wsu.edu or 408-476-8064.

The rest of this VOTER is materials for the annual meeting. Please read before the meeting.

Annual Business Meeting Agenda

1. Call to order and declaration of quorum (1/3 of 56 members=19) – Shelley Jones
2. 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes Report – Janet Miller and Zuma Lee Staba
3. Appointment of readers for the 2013 Annual Meeting Minutes
4. Treasurer's Report – Joan Folwell
5. Finance Drive Report – Lenna Harding
6. Budget Report – Shelley Jones
7. By-Law Change
8. Nominating Committee Report – June Crawford
9. Election of Officers
11. TRY report – Lucy Linden and Karen Kiessling
12. Observer Corps Reports – Deb Olson
13. Election of Delegates to State Convention
 - a. State Convention Topics – Shelley Jones
 - b. Directions to delegates.
14. Other Business
 - a. Discussion of noon brown bag meetings.
 - b. Local Program Positions
 - c. Discussion of summer plans.
 - d. Volunteer Opportunities

2012 Annual Meeting Minutes – Monday May 14, 2012

The meeting was a dinner catered by Swilly's at the home of Joan Folwell. It was followed by the annual business meeting. Materials for the meeting can be found in the April, 2012 Pullman VOTER.

Alice called the meeting to order as a quorum of 1/3 of members was present. Members Present (16/49): Alice Schroeder, Shelley Jones, Lenna Harding, Joan Folwell, Shantel Martinez, Lucy Linden, Susan Daniels, Paul Spencer, Diane Gillespie, June Crawford, Janet Miller, Richard Law, Karen Kiessling, Annette Pettenger, Zuma Lee Staba, and Deb Olson.

Council 2012: June 1 – 3, 2012 – Shelley Jones, chair.

Shelley reported on activities of the Council 2012 committee and invited all League members to the Judicial Diversity Panel Saturday afternoon followed by Dinner with Supreme Court Justice Charles Wiggins as guest speaker. She also sent around a volunteer sign-up sheet and briefly discussed the State Board Agenda, i.e. the LWVUS Membership-Leadership-Development program and Vote 411 which are open to all members.

The 2011 Annual Meeting Minutes Report readers, Barbara Hammond and Lucy Linden, approved the minutes, Janet moved to accept, Diane seconded, all approved. Janet Miller and Zuma Lee Staba were appointed as 2012 Minute readers.

Treasurer's Report – Joan Folwell explained the treasurer's report (see April 2012 Pullman Voter) which is now being done on an April 1 to March 31 schedule so we can better compare year to year. This is important since our largest expenses are usually sending delegates to

conventions which occur in May and June. Note: the fiscal year remains July 1 – June 30.

Finance Drive Report – Lenna Harding

Previous Donors(26): regular fund \$566, ed fund \$515 Total \$1081

New Donors (4): regular fund \$139, ed fund \$62 Total \$201

Members (1) regular fund \$50

Total \$1332.00 (more continue to be received)

Budget Report – Susan Daniels and Joan Folwell (see April 2012 Voter)

Proposed Annual Budget for July 1, 2012 through June 30 2013. Our expenses are proposed to exceed income, but we anticipate a carry over of funds which will cover them. However, it is unlikely that we will use the total budgeted amount because we rarely do all the activities budgeted. For example, no one may be able to attend various LWVWA workshops or we may not need to pay for any venues for public meetings. Also, we usually receive a number of in-kind donations, such as support for the TRY. However, by budgeting for most possibilities we are more flexible and the Board need not formally approve those areas when we use the budgeted funds. Lenna moved to accept the budget, Paul seconded, all approved.

Nominating Committee Report – June Crawford

All officers agreed to continue in current office with the exception of the secretary. Paul Spencer will be our new secretary and Deb Olson will become Observer Corps chair. June Crawford was added from the floor as Nominating Committee chair. Karen moved to accept the slate of officers as corrected, Susan seconded, all approved

2012-2013 Officers:

President – Alice Schroeder

Vice President – Shelley Jones

Secretary – Paul Spencer

Backup Secretary – Deb Olson

Treasurer – Joan Folwell

WebMaster – Paul Spencer

Voter Service Chair –Diane Smerdon

VOTER Editor – Susan Daniels

Finance Drive Chair – Lenna Harding

Membership Chair – Janet Kendall

Scheduling Chair – Barbara Hammond

Observer Corps Chair – Deb Olson

TRY Editor - Lucy Linden

Nominating Committee Chair – June Crawford

Alice brought up the possibility of changing the by-laws to make positions 2 year instead of 1 year. After discussion it was decided to leave officers as 1 year terms.

TRY Report – Lucy Linden

The 2012 TRY (“They Represent You” or “Know Your Government”) was designed for one year to get in sync with the election cycle. The next TRY will be for two years, 2013-2014,

Lucy thanked all the volunteers for calling to check names and contact information and Karen for taking the lead and getting money for publishing from the Columbia Bank. The TRY is now on the website and corrections will be made as changes occur.

Observer Corps Report – Lucy Linden

Observers are formally introduced by letter by the President or the Observer Corps Chair. At meetings they wear an observer button and just listen, though they may ask questions for clarification. They alert the LWV president if action needs to be taken and may write a brief report for the Voter.

Paul covers the Whitman Co. Commissioners.

Amy Cole expressed interest in Parks and Rec

Diane Smerdon-Arts Comm.

Helen Stiller -Hospital observer will be able to attend meetings but not write reports.

We really need someone or a team to cover the City Council meetings and the Planning Commission meetings.

Election of Delegates to National Convention

Shelley Jones, voting delegate for Pullman, and Deb Olson (voting for the Yakima League), will be supported by the Pullman LWV. The board feels the Pullman LWV gains a lot by sending two delegates.

Topics at Convention

Proposed increase in National PMP (Per Member Payment) from \$30 to \$31: after discussion the general consensus of the Pullman LWV is to approve an increase.

Citizens United Decision: The Pullman LWV supports an action program rather than a study.

Department of Peace: Proposed study for establishing a Cabinet level Department of Peace (Missouri League): after discussion the Pullman LWV supports a study.

Sentencing Reform: a study to provide judges more flexibility and options other than imprisonment was also supported by the Pullman LWV.

Other Business:

July 4th we will walk in the Johnson parade and hand out flags.

July 9th Planning Meeting

Possible programs -health care movie comparing Canada vs US

Open meetings training, especially at the County level

The group, Voices for Planned Parenthood WSU, asked League to join them in a voter registration drive. There were no objections, so Alice will explore further.

Karen brought up that 9 bills passed the Legislature this year on sex trafficking and children. The bills were passed by both houses unanimously. When we see Legislators we should thank them. Karen will write a letter to the editor.

Janet moved to adjourn the meeting, Paul seconded, all approved!

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Olson, Secretary

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT
April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013

INCOME

Dues (30 indiv, 10 hshld, 2 student)	\$2700.00
Total Donations	\$667.00
American West Bank Donation for the TRY	\$455.00
Refund	\$30.18
Annual Meeting	\$225.00
In-Kind Donations - denoted by []	\$989.50 [\$750 from DN, \$217.32 from delegate]
TOTAL	\$5066.68

EXPENSES

Operating Costs:	
P. O. Box Rental	\$70.00
Gifts	\$150.00 [\$15 gift basket]
Venue/Amenities Costs	\$84.08 [\$4.00 Xmas Party supplies]
Miscellaneous	(web domain fee paid until 1/2014)
Administrative Costs:	
Membership	\$10.05
Finance Drive	\$74.50
Affiliations	\$210.00 (Cham. Of Com., Friends of NPL)
WA News Service	\$50.00 (paid from Ed Fund)
Annual Meeting	\$210.21 (actual cost of food)
Delegates, Travel:	
LWVUS Convention (2 delegates)	\$2402.46 [delegate paid \$217.32 out of pocket]
State Council (2 delegates)	\$160.00
Other Workshops, Travel	\$290.50
Per Member Payments (PMPs)	
State	\$798.00
National	\$1302.00 (\$651 paid from Ed Fund)
The Voter:	
Supplies	\$58.51
Postage	\$32.43
Educational Activities:	
Voter Service	\$1023.17 [\$750-DN ads, \$3.18-pens]*
Other Programs	\$156.06
They Represent You (TRY brochures)	\$480.30 (printed every 2 yrs)
In-Kind Donation Expenses	\$989.50
TOTAL	\$8551.77

Total Donations from 3/14/12 to 10/25/12 **\$1467.00 (\$942-regular, \$515-Ed Fund)**

BALANCES AS OF 3/20/2013:

Working Assets	\$4399.15
Reserve Assets	\$3000.00
Educational Fund	<u>\$1739.47</u>
TOTAL	\$9138.62

(March 31, 2012 balance: \$10,792.77)

*\$1023.17=\$311.25(pencils,flags)+\$274.03(large banner)+\$9.35(forum flyers)+\$30.18(sponsor poster)+\$11.32(forum flyers)+\$363.24(forum Gazette ads)+\$23.80(forum expenses)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN
Proposed Budget July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014

EXPENSES

	<u>2013-2014</u>	<u>Actual Costs 2012-2013</u>
• Operating Costs	\$555.00	\$304.08
P.O. Box Rental	80.00	70.00
Thank You Gifts	150.00	150.00
Venue Expenses	200.00	84.08
Miscellaneous	125.00	<i>(domain paid 1/11 to 1/14- \$65.23)</i>
• Administrative	\$750.00	\$344.55
President/Board	50.00	0.00
Administrative Committees		
Finance Drive	120.00	74.50
Membership	110.00	10.05
Public Relations	150.00	0.00
Affiliations	210.00	210.00
WA News Service	[50.00]**	[50.00]**
Miscellaneous	60.00	0.00
• Delegates and Travel	\$2700.00	\$3743.00
Nat'l. Convention (1 del)	1700.00	2402.46
State Council (2 dels)	500.00	0.00
State Convention (3 dels)	0.00	1050.00
Action Workshop***	300.00	0.00
Other Events/Travel (.35/mi)	200.00	290.54
• Per Member Payments (PMPs)	\$2327.50	\$2100.00
National PMP	1425.00	1302.00 [637.50]**
State PMP	902.00	798.00
National PMP: \$30.00 for individuals and 1 st householders; \$15.00 for 2 nd householders and students State PMP: \$19.00 for individuals and 1 st householders; \$9.50 for 2 nd householders and students March 1, 2013: 30 individual, 11 household, 2 student, 2 honorary		
• The Voter	\$120.00	\$90.94
Printing, supplies	75.00	58.51
Postage	45.00	32.43
• Educational Activities	\$900.00	\$1659.53
Publications	100.00	0.00
They Represent You (TRY)	0.00	480.30
Program	200.00	156.06
Voter Service	600.00	1023.17
• Position/Action Activities	\$200.00	\$0.00
• In-Kind Donation Expenses	\$200.00	\$989.50
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$7752.50	\$9231.60

**[] Expenses paid for by the Ed Fund

***Includes both fees and gas mileage

Nat'l. Conv. (even years) – \$1700/del; State Council (even years) – \$250/del; State Conv. (odd years) – \$350/del

INCOME

A. Dues	\$2785.00	<i>\$2700.00</i>
30 individual	1800.00	<i>1800.00 (30 individual)</i>
11 household	935.00	<i>850.00 (10 [11] household)</i>
2 student	50.00	<i>50.00 (2 student)</i>
B. Contributions	\$2800.00	<i>\$1467.00</i>
Regular Fund	2000.00	<i>942.00</i>
Ed Fund	800.00	<i>515.00</i>
C. Sales of Publications	\$0.00	<i>\$0.00</i>
D. In-Kind Donations	<u>\$200.00</u>	<i><u>\$989.50</u></i>
TOTAL INCOME	\$5785.00	<i>\$5156.50</i>

Proposed By Law Change
Alice Schroeder

Current text:

Sec. 3. Quorum: One third of the paid membership as of January 1 shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum at all other meetings.

The board unanimously approved submitting the following Change for member approval at the annual meeting:

Sec. 3. Quorum: One ~~third~~ **quarter** of the paid membership as of January 1 shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum at all other meetings.

Discussion: This change was proposed because is usually difficult to get 1/3 of the membership to a meeting. This year, for example, at least 1/3 of our members are living elsewhere, cannot come due to age related problems or support us with their dues but do not attend meetings. Several others will be traveling.

Nominations for 2013-2014
June Crawford

President: Rotation of Board Members, each responsible for one meeting.

Vice President: Karen Kiessling

Secretary: Paul Spencer; Backup Secretary: Jen Heim

Treasurer: Joan Folwell

Webmaster: Paul Spencer

Voter Service Chair: Deb Olson

Voter Editor: Susan Daniels

Finance Drive Chair: Lenna Harding

Budget Chair: Shelley Jones

Membership Chair: Janet Kendall
 Scheduling Chair: Barbara Hammond
 Observer Corps Chair: Deb Olson
 TRY Committee: Lucy Linden, Barbara Hammond, Paul Spencer
 Nominating Committee: Shelley Jones; Anne Lewis

Changes to “Local Positions and Action” Shelley Jones

Below are the changes to our Local Positions and Actions that are a result of our Planning Meeting which was held in January. The changes are highlighted in yellow and underlined. At our Annual Meeting we will have discussion and will ratify these changes. Please review these prior to our Annual Meeting.

Positions and Action For 2013-2015 Biennium

1. Whitman County Health Services: Support for a public health program for Whitman County which promotes the physical and mental health of all residents of the county.
2. Environmental Quality. (a) Land Use: Support of policies and procedures which promote coordinated planning and method of enforcement for the conservation and development of land. Support of policies to promote coordinated planning and implementation of solid waste management procedures which conserve natural resources, are ecologically sound, and aesthetically pleasing. (b) Waste Management: Support of policies to establish city-wide curbside recycling and composting, to maintain a Recycling Center, to hire a recycling coordinator, to encourage procurement of recyclable materials, and development of markets for recyclable materials.
3. Whitman County Transportation: Support of a system of transportation for the Pullman area which will adequately serve all segments of the population.
4. City and Regional Planning: Support of principles of planning, subdivisions and zoning. Support of Neighborhoods, parks and recreation areas, business and retail areas connected directly for ease of access with a variety of transportation modes. Support of more restrictions on developments for both contractors and private land owners. Support the principle of making land use decisions through a process that requires both a Planning Commission and City Council or County Commissioners. Support of growth within carefully defined areas for commerce and light industry. Support of annual review by the City Council of a Capital Improvement Program for the City. Additional consensus on development in 2002-2003 study. *Possible Study Update: Design standards for new construction and historic preservation of existing building stock.*
5. Local Government Budget and Finance: Support (1) tax measures necessary to maintain an adequate level of financial support for Pullman City Government, (2) long-range Capital Improvement Plan for the City of Pullman, and (3) finance implementation of long-range capital improvement.
6. Schools: Support of measures for a school program adequately financed by the State Basic Education Act. Support of special levies for specific purposes unhampered by a levy lid. Support of

the following criteria for schools: (1) Given the present economic constraints of the levy lid law, basic education funding and fluctuating enrollment, it is important to have quality instructional programming and low student teacher ratio. (2) Energy efficiency (fuel & transportation) is an important criteria in considering use or lack of use of a building. (3) In any major redistribution of students, the maintaining all neighborhood clusters of children should be considered. (4) Complete financial estimates of each option should be made available when considering changes in the use of facilities.

7. City Government: Support of the principle of separation of administrative and policy-making functions.

8. Library Services. **Support:** (1) equitable salaries for library employees in comparison with other city employees. (2) Additional sources of funding and any expansion to maintain at least the present level of services, **and** (3) cooperative relationships with other area libraries while maintaining local autonomy.

A Brief History of Our Deep Water Port Positions Letter from Bellingham/Whatcom League

In April of 1974 the Bellingham/Whatcom League completed a port district study in conjunction with the PSI Puget Sound League. At that time the big concern for Puget Sound was the proliferation of oil tankers with the possibility of oil spills. LWVWA did not have a unified state position on ports until the adoption in 1989 of the first part of the State's position (see Program in Action 2011-13 – Government Port Districts). In 1991 the State adopted a further study on Port Governance. This is not a study that addressed the environmental deep water port concerns.

Meanwhile there were on-going attempts to build a third pier at Cherry Point near Blaine in Whatcom County. In 1997 the Bellingham/Whatcom League was part of a coalition group who sought better protections for the environment if a new pier proposed by SS Marine was going to be built at Cherry Point. One result of this activism was the Settlement Agreement between SS Marine and the environmental groups which included the League and the Departments of Ecology and Fish and Wildlife. This agreement included the mandating of studies and environmental protections that are still in force today.

The other result was a study committee who updated our own Port Position using the work they did during the Settlement Agreement talks. We do not have a study as such, but we do have a copy of their recommendations that were passed by the membership at our annual meeting June 16, 1998. These positions are in line with the Natural Resource Management positions and actions the League has taken for our forest and water management.

Below is LWV Bellingham Whatcom's Deep Water Port position. This is the position we are asking you to concur on.

Deep Water Port Position

(adopted by LWVBW at the annual meeting on June 16, 1998.)

Position: We recognize Puget Sound and Georgia Strait as an important resource with multiple uses. It is a unique resource and probably the least spoiled estuary in the United States. With its excellent water quality, Puget Sound and Georgia Strait are capable of providing food and recreation important to the economy of Whatcom County and the nation. These uses should not be supplanted or eroded by shoreline development of a single purpose nature. The surface of the water belongs to the people of the State. Piers as well as vessel traffic lanes take up space reducing its use by boaters and fishers (both commercial and pleasure) and degrade important habitat for species such as herring. We recognize that fossil fuel quantities are finite and reliance on these should not be increased, but preferably reduced. Transport of fossil fuel should not be accepted as a reason to expand use of Puget Sound. Policies and standards should be enacted emphasizing the wise management of natural resources in the public interest and which promote an environment beneficial to life. These policies and standards should recognize the interrelationships of air quality, energy, land use, waste management and water resources.

When the need is proven for another deep water port on the West Coast, and Cherry Point is determined to be the best location, then we support development of no more than one additional pier at Cherry Point. The pier should be multi-purpose and multi-user; first consideration should be given to the expansion and/or revitalization of existing structures to achieve minimal impact on the ecosystem. Cherry Point's availability is not a reason to destroy or alter the ecosystem. The potential for saving the wild salmon through protection of eel grass and migration routes highlights the importance of protecting the marine food chain system: the herring spawning area, crab nursery, and other larval forms. To this end we support protection of the ecosystem and overall communal stewardship of these vital community resources through:

- (1) Minimizing damage to and interference with feeder bluffs and littoral drift.
- (2) Enacting and enforcing the most stringent pollution controls with regard to development and activities.
- (3) Limitation on types of cargo; commodities with high risk to harm the environment or health should not be allowed.
- (4) Limitation on the types and number of vessels.
- (5) Controlled vessel movement to avoid groundings and collision incidents by the best available means, including the use of radar and other electronic position tracking technology.
- (6) The protection and improvement of public access for study, enjoyment and appreciation of the natural beauty and features of the shoreline.

Proposed Action: Support efforts to retain Puget Sound and Georgia Strait as a multi-use natural resource and continue to monitor proposed development at Cherry Point.