



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN, WASHINGTON

www.lwvpullman.org

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVPullman/>

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.

President: Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428; **Vice-President:** Mary Collins, 509-592-6929.

Complete officer list and contact information on page 11.



The lovely Palouse in spring.

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Read your VOTER with your calendar next to you so you can write in the meetings immediately. You are what makes the League a success.

Meetings & Events

Board Meetings

Date: Fourth Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.; April 24 at 10 AM

Location: Daily Grind, back room

Chair: Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428

Brown Bag Meetings

When: 3rd Thursdays of the month; noon

Location: Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus Avenue, Pullman

Upcoming Topics:

April 19- Francis Benjamin, Pullman 2040

Brown Bags are then on hiatus until September 2018

Contact: Deb Olson, 509-332-2114

Annual Meeting

Date: Monday, May 14

When: 6 pm Dinner; 7:15 Annual Meeting

Location: Home of Karen Kiessling; 510 SE Crestview Street, Pullman

Cost: \$15.00 (if you are attending the dinner)

RSVP (for both Dinner and Annual Meeting): Deb Olson, 509-332-2114 or Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428

State Council- “Engaging the Future”

Date: June 1-3

Location: Richland, WA

Contact: Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428

Book Club

Next book, location, and date: Program: Stay tuned 😊

Upcoming Events

April 19 Brown Bag- Francis Benjamin & Pullman 2040

-Deb Olson

Our April Brown Bag will be the last until September. There will be no May Brown Bag. Francis Benjamin will give use an update on Pullman 2040 and, time permitting, will discuss Civil Discourse. The Brown Bag will be noon to 1 pm at the Congregational Church on Campus Street. Hope to see you there! In the meantime think of possible topics for next year and bring them to the Planning Meeting in the summer or please feel free to send them to me.

Olsonbones@aol.com

Annual Meeting- Shelley Jones

Please attend this important and enjoyable evening on May 14 at the lovely home of Karen Kiessling. At 6 pm, those in attendance will enjoy a dinner catered by Joan Swensen of Paradise Creek. Our annual meeting begins promptly at 7:15 pm. Karen's home is located at 510 Crestview Street in Pullman.

RSVP for both the Dinner (cost is \$15) and the Annual Meeting) to Deb Olson (509) 332-2114 or olsonbones@aol.com or Shelley Jones (509) 432-3428 or shelley.jones@gmail.com.

State Council- June 1-3

-Shelley Jones

This year LWVWA Council is June 1-3 in Richland, WA with a theme of "Engaging the Future." Susan Daniels will attend as the LWV-Pullman delegate. Paul Spencer will be attending but will be assisting with videotaping of the numerous sessions and working with LWVWA in having those available online for viewing. Shelley Jones will be attending Saturday evening and will be assisting with a Caucus on how local leagues can use their Ed Fund monies. Additionally, on Friday afternoon to kick off Council, LWVWA will be having a MELD (Membership, Engagement, Leadership and Development) Training – Deb Olson will attend for the Pullman League. The LWV-Pullman Board looks forward to hearing participants and volunteers share their experiences.

Thanks for the Memories

OC Report- 04/17/18 Pullman City Council Meeting

- Libby Walker

Attending: Mayor Johnson, Eileen Macoll, Dan Records, Brandon Chapman, Pat Wright, Ann Parks, and Al Sorensen. Nathan Weller was excused.

The room was almost filled to capacity due to the four presentations before the Council - glass update, traffic safety, and police department, and fire department staffing.

Glass Update: Public Works Director explained that there has been an issue of glass in the recycling, but there has been a 50% reduction. It is now more expensive to get rid of waste due to a change of policy in China. It costs \$80 a ton to get rid of recycling instead of generating any money. Rick Finch from WSU reported that the cost to get rid of single stream recycling is over \$110 a ton. There is too much contamination in the recycling at WSU. Devon Felstad

from Pullman Disposal is considering rate increases or going back to separated recyclables. He is hoping the recycling market will come back.

Traffic safety: DN Traffic Consultants gave the presentation. (This was also featured in the Daily News recently.) Most of the traffic equipment is outdated and the signal visibility is poor. Signals are uncoordinated with no central control. Brandon asked about the scope of the study. There was no info about pedestrian or bicycle issues. Total cost of changes on Grand, Main, and Bishop - \$6,000,000.

Police Report by Gary Jenkins: Pullman ranks 15th in per capita staff in cities of 25,000-50,000 population. Only one is lower in WA State. There has been a significant increase in calls over the past few years with very small increases in staff. There are three officer vacancies. Expecting 5 more vacancies in the next two years.

Fire Department: Ryan Scharnhorst, Deputy Chief. The ratio of firefighters to 1,000 population chart reveals that Pullman is very low. It would take 16 more firefighters to get to the national average. The request will be to add 4. The Council members were conflicted about addressing staffing needs of police vs fire. There is a national grant application due by April 27th.

Year-end financial report: Leann Hubbard. Actual revenue for 2017: \$22,000,000. Property tax is greatest source of revenue - 31%. It increased 3% from 2016 to 2017. Salaries and benefits = 71% of budget. The City maintains a 13% cash reserve but often these funds are used.

Public Hearing on city bus routes: An additional route is being proposed from Sunnyside Hill to downtown and to WSU. This presentation was given after 9:00 PM!! I didn't capture all of the details. Revenues are projected to be increased by over \$600,000. There clearly is enough money to add routes. A complete system overhaul is being proposed.

I left at 9:30 although there were still many items to be covered including 3 Resolutions and the discussion of increasing parking fines downtown. Scott Jackson stayed for this as it was in the paper this morning.

Book Club-Susan Daniels

The LWV Pullman Book Club had its fourth meeting on April 16. Our discussion began with the book *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie (a partly autobiographical novel of a boy growing up on the Indian reservation north of Spokane) and then ranged through various topics related to minorities, prejudice, education and beyond, accompanied by tea and cookies and taffy .

If you like to read and discuss books please join us. We are currently choosing our next book. If you are interested let me know, (susan-daniels@pullman.com) and I'll send you the list of books we are considering. Our next meeting will be in several months but hasn't been scheduled yet. Hope to see you there.

How to Run for Office/April 2 evening Program - Libby Walker

About 18 people attended this evening program, including many community members and one political candidate! Our panelists included Joan Folwell, former Supervisor for the Palouse Conservation District, Allison Munch-Rotolo, President of the Pullman School Board, and Brandon Chapman, Pullman City Council member.

Judy Meuth prepared a handout that listed resources for people considering running for office. Libby Walker shared data about the significant increases in the number of candidates in 2018, especially among women.

Our presenters were asked why they decided to run or agree to be appointed to their positions. Allison shared that she was very involved in College Hill issues when she was asked if she would agree to be appointed to the empty position in that ward. Brandon wanted to improve communication between the City Council and the voters of Pullman, while Joan's motivation was her concern for environmental issues. Strategies for campaigning included

relying on friends and organizational memberships (Joan), implementing a strategic plan for doorbelling, sign installation, etc, (Brandon) and making time for face to face communication with constituents (Allison).

Each presenter was also asked what he or she learned from campaigning or serving in their positions. Allison learned that the emphasis cannot be on the individual voter but on what is good for everyone. This is the essence of governance. Joan shared that if you have convictions and a firm foundation, you have your own pillars. You have to lose false modesty to be an effective candidate. Brandon has learned the importance of having a strong and visionary city supervisor. He has tremendous respect for Adam Lincoln, whom he called phenomenal.

Sitting in a circle, the presenters then answered questions from the audience. Guests included a second City Council member, a former Whitman County Commissioner, and several community members who had never attended a League presentation in the past.

“Healthcare for Everyone”/March 5 evening Program - Judy Stone

Approximately 30 people attended a presentation by Jessa Lewis, representing *Healthcare for All – WA*. She covered the history of the single-payer movement in WA and its current status in the legislature. Jessa believes we are very close to this becoming a reality in our state, through the combined efforts of her agency in forwarding HB1026-WA, a Health Security Trust, and *Whole WA*, which has put forth Initiative I-1600.

Observer Corps Meeting - Judy Stone

This February 27 meeting was well-attended with a lot of energy and sharing!

Discussions included: clarification of what observers are permitted to say during meetings they observe; a comparison of the value of what is said during a meeting versus the minutes published later; a review of the information requested on the report form and the importance of observers being familiar with the League’s Position Statements. It was requested that the Chair give more feedback to observers such as asking for clarification, giving input and feedback, guidance, and suggested actions. Two interested League members attended and at the end of the meeting, Bobbie Ryder signed up to observe the Port of Whitman Commissioners’ meetings.

Judy Stone, Chair

March Brownbag- Councilmembers Dan Records & Brandon Chapman - Libby Walker

The March Brown Bag provided an opportunity for approximately 18 attendees to meet Dan Records and Brandon Chapman, the newly elected members of the Pullman City Council. Dan is employed at the Center for Human Rights at WSU; Brandon is the Communications Director for the WSU College of Education. They both attended WSU for their undergraduate degrees and returned to Pullman to pursue their professional careers. Brandon decided to run for City Council in order to engage Pullman residents and in an effort to create a community that his children may consider returning to when they are adults. Dan receives satisfaction from being able to help people.

Both Brandon and Dan are interested in changing the process of how Council decisions are made. Specifically, with an eye to making the Council a policy making rather than a policy approving body. There were several questions from the audience including downtown parking, gun control, tax breaks for developers, and interfacing with Pullman 2040.

February Brownbag- Pete Dickinson and “City Planning”

- Deb Olson

Pete Dickinson, city planning director, provided us information on how planning works. When the city receives an application it is sent to various agencies for comments and a public hearing is held prior to final decisions. The city is required to provide notice of the meeting, but public meetings are not always required. Public hearings are required only for land considered for conditional use permits (e.g., zoning changes, new subdivisions). Notice of a public meeting is mailed to property owners within 300 feet of the proposed project. The site is posted with a sign and a legal notice is printed once in the newspaper 10 days prior to the public hearing. Notices of public hearings are published on the city website as a courtesy. In 1995 a new law, RCW36.706B, restricted public hearings to no more than one public record hearing and one closed record appeal.

The city council has no voice. The city council must rely on information from the planning commission final report, not for constituents. No public comment is allowed at city council meetings.

“The Serenity House”/February 15 evening Program

- Libby Walker

Annie Pillers, Executive Director of the Friends of Hospice and Barbara Sanborn, Board member for the Friends of Hospice, joined us for an information sharing opportunity. The Friends of Hospice has existed for 23 years in Pullman. Two years ago, the social model of a “hospice house” was considered. An information sharing meeting with 85 people was held at the Gladish Community Building in March of last year to present this idea to the community.

The Serenity House is located at 1125 SE Sandalwood Drive and will be considered a licensed adult family home. Residents must be on hospice and stay on hospice to be eligible. Kindred will provide the medical services. The service area for this facility will be from Asotin to Spokane, and there will be an application process. Serenity House will be funded by long term care insurance and Medicaid. A fund will be established for those unable to pay.

“Death does not have to be a crisis; it can be an experience,” according to Annie Pillers. “The Serenity House provides an opportunity to say goodbye.”

Pi Day - Anne Lewis

Pictures are worth almost as much as tasty pie! 8 pie lovers attended League’s 4th Annual Pi(e) Day on March 14. Same day- March 14-next year!



ANNUAL MEETING DOCUMENTS
(Please bring these to the Annual Meeting!)

Agenda

1. Call to order and declaration of quorum (1/4 of 57 members) – Shelley Jones
2. 2017 Annual meeting Minutes Report- Judy Stone & Judy Meuth
3. Appointment of readers for the 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes
4. Treasurer’s Report- Paul Spencer
5. Financial Audit Report – Mary Collins
6. Finance Drive Report- Diane Smerdon
7. Budget Report- Paul Spencer
8. Membership Report – Janet Kendall
9. Nominating Committee Report- Anne Lewis
10. Election of Officers – Shelley Jones
11. Election of Delegates – Shelley Jones
 - a. National Convention - Direction to Delegates
 - b. LWVWA Council
12. Other Business
 - a. Community Update - Diane Smerdon
 - b. Other volunteer opportunities
 - i. Observer Corps - Judy Stone
 - ii. Voter Service Committee- Deb Olson
 - c. Summer Activities
 - i. Summer Planning – Mary Collins
 - ii. Parades and Primaries - Deb Olson
13. Additional items for the good of the order
14. Adjournment

League of Women Voters of Pullman- 2018-2019 BUDGET

INCOME

DUES	2810	
DONATIONS		
General Fund	2700	
Scholarship Fund	100	
TRY Donation	500	
OTHER*	400	annual dinner

TOTAL INCOME 6,510

EXPENSES

OPERATING COSTS

P.O. Box Rental	100	
Thank You Gifts	75	
Venue Expenses	200	art walk, lentil festival
Miscellaneous	50	

TOTAL OPERATING COSTS 425

ADMINISTRATIVE

President/Board	50	
Finance Drive	200	
Membership	50	
Public Relations	420	
Affiliations	325	ccucc, library, chamber
Annual Dinner	400	

TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE 1445

DELEGATES & TRAVEL

National Convention	0	even years
State Council	0	even years
State Convention	1200	3 people; odd years
Action Workshop	125	
Other Events/Travel	0	

TOTAL DELEGATES & TRAVEL 1325

PER MEMBER PAYMENTS (PMPs)

National PMP	712	1/2 paid from Ed Fund
State PMP	846	

TOTAL PER MEMBER PAYMENTS 1558

THE VOTER

Printing, Supplies, Postage	75	
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TOTAL THE VOTER 75

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Publications	100	
They Represent You (TRY) Program	500	
Voter Service	150	
	300	

TOTAL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES	1,050
POSITION/ACTION ACTIVITIES	100
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	5,978
DIFFERENCE	532

LWV-Pullman ED Fund Budget	
Income	
Donations	700
Transfer from Current ED Fund Balance	
Expenses	
National PMP	712
DIFFERENCE	-12

NOMINATING SLATE 2018-2019

President	Mary Collins
Vice-President	Judy Stone
Treasurer	Paul Spencer
Secretary	Alice Schroeder
Back-up Secretary	Libby Walker
Voter Service	Deb Olson
Brown Bag Coordinator	Rotating
Observer Corps	Judy Stone
Community Outreach	Libby Walker
Membership	Janet Kendall
Webmaster	Paul Spencer
Social Media	Bobbie Ryder
Voter Editor	Anne Lewis
Legislative Liaison	Susan Daniels
Community Update	Diane Smerdon
Finance Coordinator	Diane Smerdon
Finance Drive Thank Yous	Lenna Harding
Nominating Chair	Anne Lewis
TRY (They Represent Us)	Susan Daniels & Anne Lewis

Complete List of Board Officers:

President: Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428; **Vice-President:** Mary Collins, 509-592-6929; **Secretary:** Alice Schroeder, 509-334-2470; **Backup Secretary:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756; **Treasurers:** Susan Daniels & Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699; **Voter Service:** Deb Olson, 509-595-0333; **Observer Corps Chair:** Judy Stone, 509-878-1519; **Brown Bag Coordinator:** Deb Olson, 509-595-0333; **Voter Editor:** Anne Lewis, 509-334-1075; **Webmaster:** Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699; **Community Outreach:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756; 509-432-3368; **Community Update Editor:** Diane Smerdon, 509-334-5413; **Membership:** Janet Kendall, 509-432-3368; **Finance Coordinator:** Diane Smerdon, 509-334-5413; **Finance Drive Thank-Yous:** Lenna Harding, 509-332-7749; **Nominating Chair:** Anne Lewis, 509-334-1075

From the Editor:

As always, I appreciate your ideas, helpful criticism, and feedback regarding this Voter and future Voters. I can be reached at anneglewis2@yahoo.com or 509-334-1075.

Thank you for reading and for your valuable participation in the League of Women Voters of Pullman—I want to see you at the Annual Meeting on May 14!!

