



2020
Annual Meeting
10:00 am
June 6, 2019

**Because of the need to practice social distancing,
this meeting will be held by Zoom.**

<https://zoom.us/j/94082903358?pwd=MW56aTNvNEdyeWlqSVREVFfndTRVUT09>
Meeting ID: 940 8290 3358
Password: 542186

**621 Tacoma Ave. S., Ste. 202
Tacoma, WA 98402**

**Phone: (253) 272-1495
www.tacomapiercelwv.org**

Dear League Members:

As a result of the unpredictability of the COVID-19 virus and shelter-in-place status, the Board has decided that we will hold our Annual Meeting on June 6 by Zoom. We regret using this method because we know it is challenging for some; but it is imperative to hold a meeting per the Bylaws before July 1, and doing it in person is not likely to be feasible.

Because of that, here is an explanation of how we will conduct the meeting.

Booklet. The link to the meeting is on the front page and on the agenda page of this booklet.

Reminder and Link. A reminder with the Zoom link will be sent the day before the meeting, so that it will be easy to connect.

Options. If you are unable to use Zoom, you can:

- Use the telephone method: Call 669-900-6833; when prompted, enter the meeting ID: 940 8290 3358 #; and password: 542186.
- Pair up by phone with another League member to work together during the meeting so that you can follow what is going on. If you would like to use this option, please contact me at stewdahl@comcast.net or 206-310-8965 (leave a message or text).
- Practice. Use this link explaining how to test your equipment: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115002262083-Joining-a-Test-Meeting>. You can view your image and hear both the inbound and outbound audio feed in advance of a real meeting. The experience is exactly like opening a real meeting link and does not require registration.
Additionally, you can team up with a more experienced user prior to the meeting and practice with them.

Voting. Much of the meeting consists of reports. However, a membership vote is required for election of officers and directors, adoption of the budget, adoption of bylaw changes and approval of policy and program changes.

- If the vote is unanimous during the meeting for these items as proposed, the vote will be accepted as final.
- If there are amendments made during the meeting or new nominations made for officers and directors, a paper ballot will be mailed out to all members for those matters on June 8, with a request to return the ballots no later than June 26. The final votes will be announced before July 1.

If you have any questions or concerns about this explanation, please contact Cynthia Stewart directly at stewdahl@comcast.net.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY

2020 ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 6, 2020 10:00 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/94082903358?pwd=MW56aTNvNEdyeWlqSVREVFfndTRVUT09>

Meeting ID: 940 8290 3358

Password: 542186

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PROPOSED AGENDA

10:00 a.m.	Welcome & Call to Order		Cynthia Stewart
	Approval of Agenda		Cynthia Stewart
	Appointment of Parliamentarian		Cynthia Stewart
	Recognition of 2019-2020 Board of Directors, Unit Chairs and Committee Chairs		Cynthia Stewart
	State of the League Report		Cynthia Stewart
	Credentials		Susan Eidenschink
	Adoption of Rules & Procedures	See p. 3	Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow
	Approval of 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes	See p. 6	Julie Offner
	Appoint Readers for 2020 Minutes		Cynthia Stewart
	Reports		
	Treasurer’s Report	See p. 11	Julie Offner
	Education Fund Report	See p. 13	Susan Eidenschink
	Financial Review	See p. 14	Roxanne Miles
	Proposed Bylaws Amendments	See p. 15	Nancy Dahl
	Proposed Policies of LWVT-PC	See p. 17	Nancy Dahl
	Local Position Recommendation	See p. 18	Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow
	Proposed 2019-20 Program	See p. 18	Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow
	Proposed FY 2019-20 Budget	See p. 19	Julie Offner
	Nominating Committee Report	See p. 20	Nancy Pearson
	Nominations from the Floor		Any Member
	Action Items		
	Adoption of Proposed Bylaws Amendments	See p. 15	Nancy Dahl
	Ratification of Local Positions	See p. 13	Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow
	Affirmation of Policies	See p. 17	Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow
	Adoption of FY 2020-21 Budget	See p. 17	Julie Offner
	Election of Officers and Board of Directors	See p. 18	Nancy Pearson
	Outlook for Work		Cynthia Stewart
	General Discussion & Direction to the Board		Any Member
	Announcements		Any Member
12:00 p.m.	Adjourn Business Meeting		

MISSION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS¹

Mission

Empowering voters. Defending democracy.

Vision

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

Value

We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity.

PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County state that "An Annual Meeting shall be held at a general membership meeting, before the end of each fiscal year, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. The membership attending the Annual Meeting shall:

- a) Adopt a local program.
- b) Elect officers and directors, chair and two members of the nominating committee.
- c) Adopt an adequate budget.
- d) Transact such other business as may properly come before it."

PROPOSED RULES FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

1. **Composition.** The Annual Meeting is open to members of the LWVT-PC. Visitors are welcome, but they may not speak nor vote.
2. **Quorum.** Ten percent (10%) of the members shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting.
3. **Debate.** Only members shall have the privilege of the floor. The Chair shall first recognize all speakers. When addressing the Chair a member shall first clearly state his/her name. No member shall speak more than once until all that wish to speak shall have had the opportunity to do so. Debate shall be limited to two minutes for each speaker unless otherwise specified.

¹ LWVUS, <https://www.lwv.org/about-us>, April 2, 2020

4. **Motions.** Motion slips will be available on each table. Only voting members of the LWVT-PC may make motions. After a motion has been made it shall be put in writing, signed by the mover and sent at once to the Secretary.
5. **Assistance to the members.** The Parliamentarian is available to assist members in the formulation of motions and in the clarification of parliamentary procedures.
6. **Voting.** A majority of those present and voting shall be required for adoption of any measure, except where the Bylaws specify otherwise. A mail ballot shall be sent immediately following the meeting for any measure for which there was not consensus at the meeting.
7. **Resolutions.** There should be no resolutions, except those of a courtesy nature, presented to or adopted by the Annual Meeting.

YOUR RIGHTS AS A MEMBER

1. To demand orderly procedure.
2. To appeal from the decision of the Chair.
3. To be informed on the question of procedure.
4. To make, second, debate or amend (if debatable or amendable) motions.
5. To vote and to be assured of an accurate count.

METHODS USED TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS

1. **Rise to a Point of Order.** This means you think the rules are being violated in some way. You may stand and say, "Madam/Mr. Chair, I rise to a point of order." There is no need to wait for recognition by the Chair or for a member to finish speaking. However, a point of order must be made at the time of violation.
2. **Appeal from the Decision of the Chair.** If the decision of the Chair on a point of order does not satisfy the member, he/she can appeal the decision by saying, "Madam/Mr. Chair, I appeal from the decision of the Chair." The appeal must be seconded. The decision then rests with the assembly.
3. **Rise to a Question of Privilege.** These relate to the comfort of the members regarding heating, lighting, noise, or disturbance; to the conduct of the officers, employees, or visitors; to the accuracy of the reports of the proceedings of the assembly or to its organization. The same procedure as in #1 above applies.
4. **Call for the question.** If you feel that debate has gone on too long, call for the question by saying, "I move the previous question." Motion must be seconded, but is not debatable, and will be put to an immediate vote. A two-thirds vote is necessary to adopt. If adopted, debate is immediately terminated and the motion under debate is voted upon.
5. **Division of the House.** If you doubt the result of a voice vote, you may call for a division of the house. This requires that the vote be taken again, this time by rising. Stand and say: "Madam/Mr. Chair, I call for a division of the house."

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Parliamentary procedure is necessary for the orderly conduct of a local League Annual Meeting.

Members desiring to speak should raise their hands to be recognized by the Chair. When recognized, the member should first state his/her name.

See Six Steps of a Motion on next page.

THE SIX STEPS OF A MOTION

A motion must be

- (1) Made;
- (2) Seconded;
- (3) Stated by the Chair;
- (4) Debated or amended if debatable or amendable;
- (5) Put to vote, affirmative or negative;
- (6) The result of the vote declared by the Chair.

after which the motion becomes the property of the assembly and cannot be withdrawn without the consent of the assembly.

THE ORDER OF A MOTION

	Order in which motions are made	Type of Motion	Conditions	Order of voting on motions	
✓		Main Motion	Can be amended and debated		^
✓		To Amend	can be amended and debated		^
✓		To Amend Motion to Amend	can be debated		^
✓		To Commit or Refer	can be amended and debated		^
✓		To Postpone to a definite time	can be amended and debated		^
✓		The Previous Question	requires a 2/3 vote		^
✓		To Lay on the Table	if passed, requires a vote to "take from the table"		^
✓		To Adjourn	a privileged main motion		^
✓		To Fix the time or place to which to adjourn	a privileged main motion; can be amended; debatable when no other main motion is pending		^

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 10:22 a.m. The meeting was held at the First United Methodist Church, 621 Tacoma Avenue S., Tacoma.

Welcome: President Cynthia Stewart called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. She asked attendees to review the agenda and asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There being none, Jacki Skaught moved that we approve the agenda as presented. After a second, the motion carried. Cynthia appointed Terri Baker to serve as Parliamentarian.

Cynthia recognized the 2018-2019 Board Members, Unit Leaders and Committee Chairs and thanked them for their service.

State of the League Report: Cynthia reported that we now have 151 members. She reviewed some of the major accomplishments of the year. Hosting the State League Convention was a significant accomplishment requiring two years of planning and commitment of many volunteers. Other accomplishments during the year included convening 32 candidate forums, holding voter registration and get out the vote events in collaboration with the YWCA, producing the *Directory of Elected Officials, They Represent You (TRY)*. We also fielded independent observers to assist the Pierce County Auditor Office in administering the vote processing system. We have had great success in fundraising.

Report from Biennial State Convention: Charlene Franz gave the report. Held at the Murano Hotel, many attendees remarked that it was the best convention ever. It marked the kick-off our centennial year. There were plenary and breakout sessions covering topics such as Membership, Engagement and Leadership Development; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and Voter Service. There were speakers at each meal, and issue specific caucuses (Climate Change, Public Banking and Alternative Voting Methods) were held in the evening. An update of a resolution on Washington's Shorelines was approved along with an education program on public banks and a toolkit on the range of election methods. A special event, a Pink Tea, was organized by Paula Eismann. On the Thursday evening before the start of the convention, we hosted a reception at the Washington State History Museum to celebrate the launch of an exhibit on *Votes for Women: 100 Years and Counting*, and to honor recipients of the League of Women Voters of Washington's Good Citizen Award, Nancy Pearson and Larry Seaquist.

Credentials: Nancy Dahl reported that 29 members were present which was more than sufficient for a quorum of 10 percent of the membership.

Adoption of Rules and Procedures: Cynthia directed members' attention to pages 4-5 of the annual meeting booklet where the proposed rules for the Annual Meeting were published. Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow moved that they be accepted as presented. After a second, the motion was adopted.

Approval of 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes: Cynthia asked members to review the minutes on Page 7. It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. There being no discussion, the motion was adopted. Cynthia appointed Ann Williams, Rita Robison and Ruth Ann Hatchett to serve as reviewers of the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting.

Reports:

- **Treasurer's Report:** Sharon Peace-Doane presented the Treasurer's report on page 10 which was updated in a separate handout reporting actuals through May 31. Under income, we have exceeded the target for member contributions reaching \$8,607.15. Expenses are on track. The fundraising expense item was for materials for the quilt, which was auctioned off at the State Convention. Insurance has yet to be paid. She noted that we purchased a new computer through Tech Soup although the Education Fund picked up the lion's share of the cost.

- Education Fund Report: Judy Payne, the Fund’s Treasurer, presented the report. An addendum was provided, but Judy noted that not all expenses from the Convention had been paid. Total income was \$26,417. Grants in the amount of \$19,500 have been received including \$16,000 from the Lucky Seven Foundation. The Gottfried-Mary Fuchs Foundation awarded \$3,500 in the second quarter of this year. Under Memorial Contribution, \$2,800 was received honoring John Thurlow. An anonymous donation of \$1,500 was made to the principle of the Cameron Endowment although the intent was to cover costs related to a speaker at the Convention. We can only use the earnings of the Cameron Endowment for special public events. The balance of the endowment is \$35,929. Under Expenses, Judy explained that the Fund paid for the \$6,586 cost of the TRY. The Fund also covered 90 percent of the cost of the new computer (\$1,159). Judy recognized the many contributions of Roxanne Miles in generating the grant income.
- Financial Review: Presented on page 12, the Financial Review of the 2017-2018 Operational and Education Funds took place on August 11, 2018. The review team consisted of Roxanne Miles, Phyllis Izant and Shan Vipond. The goals were to verify the accuracy of the year-end financial reports, to evaluate the evidence of compliance with financial procures and to recommend additional safeguards. The reviewers recommended defining and restricting the Miscellaneous Category and expanding Quicken entries to align with budget categories. Phyllis Izant volunteered to evaluate the Financial Procedures to see if guidance from another local non-profit might be helpful to the League.

After close-out of the 2018-2019 budget year in August would be the best time to conduct the next review.

- Proposed Bylaws Amendments: Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow presented the recommended changes. One proposed change was on page 12, regarding Article V, Section 7. The proposal would eliminate the \$150 per item limit. The language in the rest of the paragraph would remain. It was recommended that the second paragraph in this section be amended and moved to Article VII and become a new Section 6.

On Article VII, Section 3 concerning dues, the recommended language change was to student dues. The new language was as follows: Student members shall pay an amount to be designated by the Board and approved by the membership. A note to members explained the rationale for this.

The proposed new Section 6 of Article VII was as follows: The Treasurer may sign all checks for budgeted and Board-approved items. For unexpected, unbudgeted items costing in excess of \$600.00, Board authorization is required.

- Proposed Policies of the LWVT-PC: No changes in policies have been recommended this year.
- Local Position Recommendations: Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow explained that the Board had recommended retention of all local consensus positions as currently held except the position on Land Use for which amendments were proposed. In 2011, a study of Biodiversity Conservation in Pierce County was completed. It has always been listed in the Handbook and on the website as “Land Use.” A proposal has been made and recommended by the Board to rename the position to match what the study discusses, “Biodiversity Conservation”.

Rewording of the introductory paragraph is recommended as follows: The LWVT-PC finds that land offering habitat for diverse native wildlife benefits the general public. It confers multiple ecosystem services to communities throughout Pierce County including resilience to ~~natural disasters~~ the multiple threats of climate change.

- Proposed 2019-2020 Program: Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow presented three new program items that evolved from the December program planning meeting.

- **Proposal for Study Leading to Consensus, Update and Action – Affordable Housing:** Given the human costs of the disconnect between housing costs and personal income, a study is proposed to update the League’s Affordable Housing policy to focus particularly on the experience of residents with extremely low incomes. The study will identify new problems in affordable housing and shelter. The proposal presented an outlook for work which includes an inventory of current shelter access, identification of threats to housing stability for low income residents and gaps in providing stable shelter and promising practices.
- **Proposal for Study Leading to Consensus and Action—Preserving Local Journalism to Support Informed Voting:** The collapse of local newspapers is of concern, but currently there is no League position on the need for or the value of local journalism. In Pierce County, a slimmed down *News Tribune* provides little space for news from suburban and rural areas. The study committee proposes to survey communities in Pierce County to find out where and how residents currently get their information. A scope of work is presented that includes developing a survey, identifying information sources and exploring ways immigrant groups get information. The study will also assess the current state of traditional print/digital information sources.
- **Proposal for Climate Change Action – 2019-20:** It is recommended that LWVT-PC sponsor a major, county-wide event for individuals and groups concerned about climate change. The goal would be to extend the conversation about climate change more widely in the community. Guest speakers offering a range of expertise representing Tribes, watershed councils, universities and local planning officials. Lucinda Wingard agreed to lead the effort. Cynthia Stewart noted that the State League has requested that all local Leagues address climate change.
- **Adoption of FY 2019-2020 Budget:** Roxanne Miles, Chair of the Budget Committee, discussed the proposed budget presented on pages 17 and 18. Revenues were increased from \$23,000 to \$26,750. No increase in membership was projected, and dues would remain the same. Income from Events, *TRY* sponsorship and raffles have been rolled up into Community Fundraising. The revenue item, Fee for Service, would come from moderating forums for other organizations. Under expenses, *The State We’re In: Washington* (TSWI) was eliminated as we will no longer be distributing the posters. The Public Relations Expense was also eliminated. A question was raised about the rationale for its removal. The response was that it was rolled up into Program expenses. Roxanne explained that the amount designated for the National Convention was raised significantly to \$3,000 from \$500. The rationale was that this would enable members with modest means to attend.

- **Nominating Committee Report:**

As Chair Nancy Pearson was traveling, Julie Offner delivered the report on the proposed slate of officers presented on page 18. The floor was opened for further nominations. There were none.

OFFICERS Two-year terms: 2019-2021
 President Cynthia Stewart
 First Vice President Nancy Dahl
 Secretary Marty Webb

OFFICER One-year term: completing second year of retiring Sharon Peace-Doane, 2018-2020
 Treasurer Julie Offner

DIRECTORS Two-year terms: 2019-2021
 Director Noel Hagens
 Director Lydia Zepeda
 Director Christie Perkins

DIRECTOR One-year term, completing second year of Director term vacated by Nancy Dahl: 2018-20
 Director Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow (filling second year of Nancy Dahl’s term)

studies and an action symposium on climate change. Much still needs to be done on homelessness with emphasis on lobbying the Pierce County Council. The Board will be discussing this at the retreat in July. Lucinda Wingard and Marianne Seifert will need volunteers to help with the Climate Change Action Symposium. Further, members can contribute to updating the State League's *Tool Kit for Climate Change*. Ginny Peterson is leading the effort to plan for events during the centennial year. She will need volunteers.

Direction to the Board:

Alison McCaffree recommended that the Board place an emphasis on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). She indicated that she would be willing to work on DEI and develop a plan with the Board for implementation. The plan should cover all aspects of DEI.

Rosa Franklin referenced legislation sponsored by Senator Jeanne Darneille and others dealing with voting rights for former felons. This bill requires the Department of Corrections to provide inmates with a felony conviction with information on how to restore their right to vote along with a voter registration form. Rosa suggested that we help with the education effort. She noted that the Florida League had been an active supporter of the successful ballot initiative that would have restored voting rights to most felons.

Jacki Skaught voiced support for Alison McCaffree's suggestion regarding DEI. She said that we must take DEI very seriously. She noted that there is not much guidance from the National League, but we can address issues as they come up.

Adjourn: After several announcements were made about upcoming events and volunteer needs, it was moved and seconded that the Annual Meeting be adjourned. The membership approved the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Offner, Secretary

Affirmed by Readers *Ann Williams, Rita Robison & Jacki Skaught*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY OPERATING BUDGET 2019-2020	Actuals through 4/1/2020	Budget 2019-2020
REVENUE		
Membership Dues	\$3,792.50	10,000.00
New Members	2,142.50	1,500.00
Renewing Members	1,650.00	8,500.00
Fund Raising	\$7,407.50	16,750.00
Member Contributions	2,497.50	6,850.00
Finance Drive (December)	1,690.00	2,700.00
Member Appeal Renewals-May	807.50	4,000.00
Scholarship		150.00
Community Fundraising	4,910.00	9,900.00
Events	1,350.00	3,000.00
TRY Sponsorship	250.00	3,400.00
Raffles	2,950.00	2,500.00
Miscellaneous	360.00	800.00
Fee for Service	\$0.00	200.00
TOTAL REVENUE	11,200.00	26,750.00
EXPENSES		
Per Member Payment (PMP)	\$6,834.00	\$6,590.00
LWVUS	\$4,288.00	\$4,218.00
LWVWA	\$2,546.00	\$2,372.00
Office Expenses	\$6,440.11	\$8,029.00
Rent - office	\$4,001.45	\$4,892.70
Telephone and Internet	\$840.61	\$1,186.00
Website Fees	\$316.11	\$350.00
Insurance		\$700.00
Office Expenses, Postage, Voter	\$792.87	\$500.00
Copier Ink Cartridges	\$489.07	\$400.00
Development of Communications Plan ²	\$3,750.00	\$0.00
Website Development	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fund Raising	\$1,000.00	\$4,100.00
Conventions/Councils	\$143.00	\$4,000.00
State (odd-numbered years)	\$143.00	\$1,000.00

² Previously unanticipated expenditure to be covered by fund balance (savings)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF	Actuals	Budget
National (even-numbered years)	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Membership	\$1,137.77	\$550.00
New Member Recruiting & Outreach	\$1,137.77	\$200.00
Membership Handbook & Directory	\$0.00	\$250.00
Leadership Development	\$0.00	\$100.00
Partnership Dues	\$0.00	\$315.00
Program (Meetings)	\$1,444.80	\$1,200.00
Equipment	\$342.18	\$250.00
Reserves Contributions (savings)	\$0	\$1,716.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$21,091.86	\$26,750.00

Net ytd **-\$9,891.86**

Notes:

Expenditures were held to below the total budgeted expenditures; but revenues were lower than anticipated. Dues payments before July 1 and savings will reduce the shortfall; and savings will cover the remaining shortage

Julie Offner, Treasurer

EDUCATION FUND BUDGET REPORT - 2019-20

The Education Fund is reported to the Board quarterly. The last report for this year was for the end of March 2020. The next report will be for the year ending June 30, 2020, which will be made in July.

The Education Fund budget is not approved by the membership because the Education Fund operates under a different set of bylaws as a separate organization from the LWVT-PC Board and Operating Fund. However, this report is provided as information to the members.

League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County				
Education Fund 2019-2020 Budget to Actuals and Proposed 2020-2021 Budget				
	Proposed Budget 2020-2021	Actuals 2019-2021 through 4/1/2020	Budget 2019-2020	Comments
INCOME				
TRY Sponsors	\$2,400.00	4,800.00	1,500.00	50% of 2019-20 TRY Sponsorship
Grants	\$0.00	2,500.00	12,000.00	
Puyallup Tribe of Indians		1,500.00		\$6,597 remaining from 2019-22 Grant
LWV WA Ed Fund		1,000.00		
Lucky Seven Foundation		0.00	4,500.00	
Gottfried-Mary Fuchs Found.		0.00		
Norcliffe Foundation		0.00		
Fund Raising	\$3,215.00	6,430.25	4,000.00	50% of actuals because of economy downturn
Memorial Contribution		3,050.00		
Community Special Projects		760.25		
Community		545.00		
Member		2,075.00		
Endowment Cameron	\$0.00	50.00		
Donations		50.00		Pierce County Auditor Observer will remain the same
Tfr to Cameron		0.00		
Tfr from Cameron		0.00		
Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00	1,000.00	500.00	
Politics of the Possible		0.00		
Pierce Co. Auditor		1,000.00		
TSWI		0.00		
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	\$6,615.00	14,780.25	18,000.00	
EXPENSES				
Equipment	\$200.00	0.00	1,000.00	Two Tripods
Printing	\$7,500.00	6,520.27	7,500.00	

**League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County
Education Fund 2019-2020 Budget to Actuals and Proposed 2020-2021 Budget**

	Proposed Budget 2020-2021	Actuals 2019-2021 through 4/1/2020	Budget 2019-2020	Comments
TRY		6,169.76	6,500.00	
Local Studies		350.51	500.00	
Voter Ed.		0.00	500.00	
Programs	\$7,200.00	2,625.84	7,200.00	
Special Projects		1,420.89	2,700.00	Including Get Out the Vote (GoVote)
Forums		1,234.95	4,000.00	
Voter Ed.		0.00	500.00	
Miscellaneous	\$5,300.00	13.72	2,300.00	
PMP for LWVUS (2 Quarters)	\$2,000.00			50% of PMP increase for Ed Fund
Sec of State Filing		10.00		
Office Expenses		3.72	300.00	
Digitalization Software	\$1,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$20,200.00	9,189.83	18,000.00	
TOTAL NET INCOME		5,590.42		
Vanguard Education Fund				
Tfr to Education Fund		24,000.00		Vanguard Ed Fund Savings from Grants and Donations

Vanguard Education Fund
Cameron Endowment

23,392.35
37,581.00

Vanguard Ed Fund Savings
from Grants and Donations

Susan Eidenschink, Education Fund Treasurer

FINANCIAL REVIEW

On August 10, 2019, the Financial Review Team met with the Education Fund Treasurer and the Operating Fund Treasurer to review financial records, financial policies and the year-end financial report. We also used this as an opportunity to introduce incoming Treasurers to the financial reporting system. Overall, the financial records for both Funds were detailed and sound, the filing system of bank records, Quicken data sheets and summary reviews provided to the Board were consistent and all funds were properly accounted for. The Review Team recommended:

- 1) Improvements within the Quicken financial tracking system to align categories with the budget for ease of review and to avoid mislabeling or an improperly assigned expense when providing reports that condense line items. It was also suggested that statements be directly downloaded into Quicken

to minimize work and risk for errors. The use of the Miscellaneous label was nearly eliminated, which was a recommendation of last year's review.

- 2) A more robust system for managing our investment accounts, including on-line access to statements and distribution of vendor-provided monthly or quarterly reports.

Roxanne Miles, Nancy Dahl, Julie Offner, Review Committee

PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

The following Bylaw amendments were proposed by the Board. Underlining means that text has been added. Text shown as ~~strike-out~~ has been deleted.

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES – ANNUAL MEETING 2020	
Proposed Change	Rationale
Remove hyphen from the acronym throughout the bylaws	Some people find using the hyphen hard to type
ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP Section 2. <u>Types of Membership.</u> a) Voting members. Persons at least 16 years of age <u>who pay dues</u> shall be voting members of the local and state Leagues and of the LWVUS.	Clarify that dues payment is necessary for membership
ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP Section 2. <u>Types of Membership.</u> b) Associate members. All others who join the League shall be associate members <u>and are non-voting members.</u>	Clarify that Associate members are non-voting
ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS <u>Section 1. Selection and Term</u> The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League, six elected Directors, and not more than six appointed Directors. Three of the elected Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years beginning July 1st, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. <u>The elected directors shall each chair a specific portfolio.</u> The elected members shall appoint such additional Directors, not exceeding six, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed Directors shall be for one year or less and shall expire on June 30. One of the appointed director positions may be reserved for the outgoing President at the discretion of the Board.	It is important to designate specific responsibilities for each elected director. Those would be chosen based on what the Board needs at the time, but the bylaw amendment makes it clear that each elected director is expected to take on a specific area of responsibility.
ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS Section 7. <u>Executive Committee.</u> The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Executive Committee shall meet upon call of the President to transact necessary business. Meetings for this purpose may be held in person or via teleconference. The Executive Committee may act for the full Board of Directors in an emergency, provided that any action shall be presented to the Board for ratification at its next meeting. The committee will approve the agenda for the Board of Directors meeting, and the proposed agenda may be sent by the president to the committee for approval by e-mail within 3 days prior to the next meeting if an in-person meeting is not scheduled. Three members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.	The President may circulate the agenda to the Board members or a sub-set of the Board for advance review; but Executive Committee approval of the agenda should not be required.
ARTICLE VII - FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	Clarifying grammar, including

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES – ANNUAL MEETING 2020	
Proposed Change	Rationale
Section 2. <u>Financial Review</u> . The financial records and procedures shall be reviewed at the end of the fiscal year or on <u>the</u> occasion of change of € Treasurer. A written report of what was detailing items reviewed, by whom, findings, and recommendations shall be submitted to the Board prior to September 1. The report shall be shared at the next Annual Meeting, and include any follow-up action taken by the Board, based on the findings of the review.	changing title of Treasurer to capital letter
ARTICLE VII - FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION Section 3. <u>Dues</u> . Annual dues shall be payable on July 1st and shall be considered delinquent on September 1st. Provisions may be made with the Treasurer for dues to be paid in installments. The amount shall be set by the members at the Annual Meeting. Any member who fails to pay dues within two months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership. When two members reside at the same address in a common household, a payment equal to one and one-half times the payment determined by the Annual Meeting shall be made. Student members shall pay an amount to be designated by the Board and approved by the membership. A student is defined as an individual enrolled either full or part-time in an accredited institution. A new member who joins before February 1 st shall pay the annual dues. A new member who joins on or after February 1 st shall pay the annual dues, which will be valid until June 30th of the following year. <u>Provisions may be made with the Treasurer for dues to be paid in installments.</u>	Moved section related to paying in installments to a better place in the section
ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS Section 1. <u>Membership Meetings</u> . There shall be at least two general membership meetings, <u>including the annual meeting,</u> each year. The time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The Board may call a special general membership meeting. The Board must and shall call a meeting upon the written request of twenty-five (25) of the voting members.	Clarify that the Annual meeting is one of the two mandated general membership meetings. Clarifying grammar related to the Board calling a membership meeting upon written request of members
ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS Section 2. <u>Annual Meeting</u> . An Annual Meeting shall be held at a of the general membership meeting shall be called before the end of each fiscal year, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. The membership attending the Annual Meeting shall <u>act to approve for the following year (July 1 through June 30):</u> a) Adopt a L Local program. b) Elect officers and directors, chair and two members of the Nominating Committee. c) Adopt an adequate a <u>An annual budget.</u> d) <u>Amend the Bylaws.</u> de) Transact such o <u>Other business as may properly come before it.</u> e) Amend the Bylaws Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.	Grammar changes for clarity Adds program year definition Reordered and rephrased for parallel consistency
ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS Section 3. <u>Quorum</u> . Ten percent of the <u>voting</u> members shall constitute a quorum at general membership meetings of the LWVT-PC.	Clarifies that members making up a quorum must be voting members and not include Associate members, who are non-voting
ARTICLE IX - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS	Text changes for clarity

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES – ANNUAL MEETING 2020	
Proposed Change	Rationale
Section 3. <u>Elections</u> . The election shall be by ballot, provided that when unless there is only one nominee for each office, it shall be by in <u>which case a voice vote will be sufficient</u> . A <u>simple majority vote of those present</u> shall constitute an election.	
ARTICLE X - PROGRAM Section 2. <u>Program</u> . The program of the LWVT-PC shall consist of action to advance implement the principles <u>of the League</u> and those local governmental issues chosen by the membership at the Annual Meeting for concerted study and/or action.	Text changes for clarity
ARTICLE X - PROGRAM Section 3. <u>Adoption</u> . At the Annual Meeting, the membership shall adopt the program using the following procedures: a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations from voting members <u>received at least</u> two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Program.	Text changes for clarity
ARTICLE X - PROGRAM Section 4. <u>Program Changes</u> . Except for positions, emergency program changes may be made provided that information concerning the proposed changes <u>has</u> been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed and final action taken.	Text changes for clarity
ARTICLE X - PROGRAM Section 5. <u>Program Action</u> . Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the appropriate Board of Directors. They may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the LWVT-PC, the LWVWA and the LWVUS. Members who are not authorized to speak for the League, and who have misrepresented League in a public forum, are subject to expulsion from membership by the Board of Directors. Reinstatement requires a consensus of the Board of Directors.	The word “appropriate” was ambiguous so is removed
ARTICLE XI - CONFLICT OF INTEREST LWVTPC Members may not use the name of the League or acronyms or abbreviations for any level of the League in pursuit of individual employment or entrepreneurship. If the League logo or name will be used in conjunction with an event other than one sponsored or co-sponsored by the LWVTPC, the President or Executive Committee of the Board must approve such use in advance.	New section to assure that no members use the League name or logo for any private advantage

PROPOSED POLICIES OF THE LWVT-PC

The Board has recommended a new Policy:

12. Potential members may apply for a scholarship in lieu of dues payment. Scholarship recipients will remain confidential. The Board will develop an application process and update it annually. Applicants may contact the Secretary to obtain an application.

LOCAL POSITION RECOMMENDATIONS

Each year the membership is asked to re-adopt all of the positions as printed in the Membership Handbook, unless a change is recommended. Please bring your handbooks to the meeting.

The Board has not recommended a new position for consideration at this Annual Meeting.

PROPOSED 2019-20 PROGRAM

The Program Planning meeting for our League was held in December 2019. Only one new project was recommended. In addition, the members who participated agreed that they would recommend continuing the 2019-2020 program, as follows.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: The committee working on the shelter study completed their work and published an extensive report, and consensus questions, to be discussed at two meetings in March. It was hoped that member response at the meetings would lead to new consensus positions which the board could adopt in April and present at this Annual Meeting. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic required that the meetings be canceled. When conditions permit, the meetings will be held, members will discuss the report, and areas of consensus will be reported to the Board with a recommendation for the new position. (If you haven't yet read the report, please do so, so you are ready and able to discuss it. It is available at <http://www.tacomapiercelwv.org/studies.html>)

CLIMATE CHANGE: The climate change symposium adopted as an action item for the 2019-2020 program year had to be canceled because of the Coronavirus. However, the Board recommends continuing this action item in the 2020-2021 program year and rescheduling it when it is feasible to do so.

HOMELESSNESS: Action on homelessness has been an important effort for the league for several years. The league is represented at the Tacoma-Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness, has presented testimony to the pierce county council on issues associated with homelessness, and has given testimony at the state legislature in support of funding and policies that will reduce homelessness. This action is proposed to continue through the 2020-2021 program year.

JOURNALISM: Headed by Nancy Dahl, the committee continues its work, and it is expected that their report will be presented during the 2020-2021 program year.

NEW: GET OUT THE VOTE: The League has always cared about voting. This year the national League has encouraged all local Leagues to work to get out the vote. Our membership applauded and concurred, and that is the one new action item the board recommends for the 2020-2021 program year. The action item has been labeled "GoVOTE". A committee headed by Noel Hagens and Marty Webb is working and has submitted the following report.

An enthusiastic group of league members and friends has been meeting to develop ideas on ways to get out the vote in Pierce County for elections in 2020 and beyond. The group has examined research on reasons why people vote, don't vote, and strategies to increase participation. The research shows the efficacy of direct contact with voters over indirect or more general methods. The plan is to develop a coalition of local groups who will reach out to their own members and beyond their direct membership to encourage voting. They are looking for ways to locate and encourage infrequent voters to participate. Finally, they are considering methods to make voting more visible and even fun.

By *Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow*, Program Chair

PROPOSED 2019-20 BUDGET

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TACOMA- PIERCE COUNTY OPERATING FUND PROPOSED BUDGET 2020- 2021	Proposed Budget 2020-2021	Actuals through 4/1/2020	Budget 2019-2020	Explanatory Notes
REVENUE				
Membership Dues	\$9,900.00	\$3,792.50	10,000.00	Assumed no change in dues & slightly lower number of renewals
New Members	\$1,650.00	2,142.50	1,500.00	
Renewing Members	\$8,250.00	1,650.00	8,500.00	
Fund Raising	\$9,750.00	\$7,407.50	16,750.00	Fundraising will be hampered due to economic collapse
Member Contributions	\$3,500.00	2,497.50	6,850.00	Assumed 50% of member donations from this year
Finance Drive (December)	\$1,350.00	1,690.00	2,700.00	
Member Appeal				
Renewals-May	\$2,000.00	807.50	4,000.00	
Scholarship	\$150.00		150.00	
Community Fundraising	\$6,250.00	4,910.00	9,900.00	Assumed approx. 50% drop in Community Fundraising
Events	\$1,500.00	1,350.00	3,000.00	
TRY Sponsorship	\$1,850.00	250.00	3,400.00	
Raffles	\$2,500.00	2,950.00	2,500.00	Assumed same as prior year; payout reflected in expenses in fundraising
Miscellaneous	\$400.00	360.00	800.00	
Fee for Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	200.00	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$19,650.00	11,200.00	26,750.00	
EXPENSES				
Per Member Payment (PMP)	\$3,417.00	\$6,834.00	\$6,590.00	Education Fund will cover 50% of State & National PMPs for 2021
LWVUS	\$2,144.00	\$4,288.00	\$4,218.00	
LWVWA	\$1,273.00	\$2,546.00	\$2,372.00	
Office Expenses	\$9,426.00	\$6,440.11	\$8,029.00	Office expenses steady except for 3% rent increase per contract
Rent - office	\$5,640.00	\$4,001.45	\$4,892.70	
Telephone and Internet	\$1,186.00	\$840.61	\$1,186.00	
Website Fees	\$350.00	\$316.11	\$350.00	
Insurance	\$700.00		\$700.00	Insurance premium due in June.
Office Expenses, Postage, Voter	\$1,000.00	\$792.87	\$500.00	20% increase in printing costs anticipated due to redesign of

LEAGUE OF WOMEN	Proposed	Actuals	Budget	Explanatory Notes graphics
Copier Ink Cartridges	\$550.00	\$489.07	\$400.00	
Development of Communications Plan	\$0.00	\$3,750.00	\$0.00	2020 expenditure approved by Board at December 2019 meeting.
Website Development	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Board approval needed.
Fund Raising	\$1,250.00	\$1,000.00	\$4,100.00	1/2 of Raffle Proceeds
Conventions/Councils	\$1,000.00	\$143.00	\$4,000.00	
State (odd-numbered years)	\$1,000.00	\$143.00	\$1,000.00	
National (even-numbered years)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	We will not be sending participants to National Council in 2021.
Membership	\$550.00	\$1,137.77	\$550.00	
New Member Recruiting & Outreach	\$200.00	\$1,137.77	\$200.00	Includes payment to Olive Branch Café reimbursed by ticket sales.
Membership Handbook & Directory	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	
Leadership Development	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	
Partnership Dues	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$315.00	Increased participation with other NGOs including Housing Consortium
Program (Meetings)	\$1,200.00	\$1,444.80	\$1,200.00	
Equipment	\$250.00	\$342.18	\$250.00	
Reserves Contributions (savings)	\$0.00	\$0	\$1,716.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$22,968.00	\$21,091.86	\$26,750.00	
Net ytd		-\$9,891.86		
Projected Shortfall to be covered by savings	-\$3,318.00			

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

OFFICERS Two-year terms: 2020-2022

Second Vice President Noel Hagens
Treasurer Julie Offner

DIRECTORS Two-year terms: 2020-2022

Director Theresa Power-Drutis
Director Liz Knox
Director Rosemary Powers

TERMS CONTINUING 2018-2020

President Cynthia Stewart
First Vice President Nancy Dahl

Secretary	Marty Webb
Director	Lydia Zepeda
Director	Christie Perkins

FILL UNEXPIRED TERM 2020-2021

Director	Julio Quan
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NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Ruth Ann Hatchett, Chair
Susan Eidenschink
Jacki Skaught
Two additional members will be appointed by the Board

Respectfully submitted by the 2018-2019 Nominating Committee:
Nancy Pearson, Chair
Susan Eidenschink, Charlene Franz, Noel Hagens, Christie Perkins

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Reflecting on the 2019-20 League year, we can be very proud of our achievements. We held a record number of candidate forums; we continued our work on homelessness and completed a major study on housing and shelters; and we began one on journalism and how changes in our local journalism affect democracy. We also planned (though it had to be canceled) a spectacular climate change symposium.

The year ahead, with the elections of President and Congress, statewide officials and legislators, will be one of controversy and challenge. Our entire community will be challenged by the continued exposure to the COVID-19 virus, with the resulting need to be very careful in how we do business, and by the economic crisis that is coming, with its resulting increase in people experiencing homelessness and needing basic support, such as food. Our job in the face of these challenges is to find ways to sustain and, if possible, enhance our democracy. We will need to be super-dedicated and very strong in our will to do so. Our nonpartisan candidate forums and get-out-the vote work will be more important than ever. And we must find ways to expand community attention to solutions to the ever-increasing racial disparities. As long as those disparities exist, we are not truly democratic.

As with last year, I have come through this year with ever-increasing admiration for all of you. The old adage that "it takes a village" remains true with everything we do. League members have come forward so many times, in so many ways I can't even enumerate them all. Friendships have formed, teams have been built, and my appreciation for our League grows daily. You are an amazing group of women and men, and your gifts to the community cannot be overstated. Thank you for all that you do.

I remain honored and humbled to be able to represent you.

Cynthia Stewart, President

ELECTION OBSERVER PROGRAM

The Pierce County League is approaching the end of its second full year of providing Independent Ballot Observers for the Pierce County Election Office. It was July 2018 that the Board accepted the invitation to participate in a process that Republican and Democrats had been conducting, by law, for years; and it was County Auditor Julie Anderson who took the initiative to suggest the current practice left nearly 40 percent of voters who were not

aligned with either of those parties unrepresented. Though any registered voter has the right to observe the processing, the communication and coordination calls for the leadership and support of an organization.

In a short time, this League was able to recruit and coordinate training for more than 35 observers, members and non-members to donate volunteer hours to learn, observe, and provide feedback in multiple elections. The 2019 Elections and those in 2020 will provide perhaps the most interesting we've experienced in decades. The issue of Vote-by-Mail, which Washington adopted in 2005, is becoming a hot topic all over the U.S.

Over the years the auditors have designed procedures that make the arguments of naysayers inapplicable. Washington is a Voter Intent State which means that every ballot is checked for signature verification, current voter registration, duplications, and ballot accuracy. If there is an issue in any of those areas, the ballot is pulled and checked by an experienced reviewer. If the issue cannot be resolved with available information, the voter is contacted by mail detailing the concern(s) and asked to respond by phone or by mail with the letter and return envelope provided. The efforts are so intense that in the recent primary election there were days that over 3,000 letters were mailed to validate the ballots that had been received.

The Observer Team volunteered over 111 hours in last fall's General Election and 95 hours in this spring's Primary. This time is in addition to attending the required training that is conducted by the Election staff and must be refreshed every 12 months to retain eligibility.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the team, please email Nan Peele at nanpeelee@hotmail.com. We've been advised that a training will be scheduled in June or July. You must reside and be registered to vote in Pierce County. You are not required to be a member of the League. You will find it educational and interesting.

Nan Peele, Chair

OBSERVER CORPS

Observer Corps is the "ears and eyes" of the League of Women Voters, reporting to League members on what is happening in local governments. These trained members attend public meetings and report to the League members through publishing reports on our website and highlighting them in the Voter. Presently, we've had continuous reports from the City of Tacoma, City of Puyallup, Pierce County Council, Port Commission Port of Tacoma, and sometimes the Tacoma School District. Many thanks to our observers this year: Lydia Zepeda, Nancy Dahl, Ann Williams, Rosemary Powers, and Deanna George. The information gained by their efforts and time are greatly appreciated.

If you are interested in becoming an observer and seeing the actions of our local governments, contact me at peismann60@comcast.net for training.

By *Paula Eismann*, Chair

TRY (THEY REPRESENT YOU)

After researching and preparing the 2020 Pierce County Directory of Elected Officials who represent residents of Pierce County in local, county, state, and federal jurisdictions, it was published by a local, union printer, selected from union and non-union printers in Pierce County. Seven thousand copies were printed. Most of the copies have been distributed to libraries, community centers, organizations, elected officials, etc. There are sufficient copies remaining to use for distribution at forums and other events during the rest of the year.

In the 2019 TRY maps were added and font and font size were changed. In the 2020 TRY the maps remained the same, but the font and font size were changed back to Times Roman, similar to the 2018 TRY. We welcome your comments on these changes or any other suggestions you have to make this booklet more useful and attractive. Comment by email to lvvtacomapierce@gmail.com or call 253-365-4005.

Research for the 2020 TRY was a team effort. Those members who helped with the research of candidates, contact information, and next election dates included Susan Eidenschink, Paula Eismann, Noel Hagens, Ruth Ann Hatchett, Diane Kerlin, Christie Perkins, Wendi Pfannenstiel, Carol Rikerd, and Lydia Zepeda. Cynthia Stewart edited the file, and continues to edit the file that is on our website, as we learn of changes of elected officials after the elections.

When the 2020 TRYs were printed, a number of members helped with the bundling and distribution: Terri Baker, June Coloff, Ingrid Curtis, Susan Eidenschink, Paula Eismann, Donna Ewing, Bobbie Fletcher, David Harrowe, Ruth Ann Hatchett, Chuck Jensen, Mary Kohli, Liz Knox, Aviva Lemberger, Julie Offner, Judy Payne, Nancy Pearson, Christie Perkins, Ginny Peterson, Julio Quan, Susie Sharp, Marty Webb, Mike Webb, and Lydia Zepeda.

If you would like to help with this major project working in 2021, contact the League office at lwvtacomapierce@gmail.com.

Susan Eidenschink, Chair

UNIT & GENERAL MEETINGS REPORT

EAST PIERCE UNIT

Paula Eismann, Unit Leader

East Pierce Unit meetings, held at the Puyallup Library, on the second Saturday of the month, averaged around 17 in attendance. Our members attend on a regular basis and often volunteer to do tasks for the League, including voter registration in local high schools and community colleges, candidate forums, Observer Corps, serving on the Board, working on new studies, Get out the Vote efforts, and much more. Our meetings were varied, including the time we had to “wing it” because of technical trouble and instead had enthusiastic discussion about the state of our democracy, using conversation cafe techniques. Unfortunately our “pink tea” in March was cancelled due to the coronavirus. Whatever the meeting topic, we could be assured there would be a lively discussions, thought-provoking questions and great treats. We had 10 new members join from the East Pierce area this past year and many of them have been faithful attendees to our meetings.

GIG HARBOR-KEY PENINSULA UNIT

Charlene Franz, Unit Leader

The Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula Unit had a steady attendance of 10 at most unit meetings, a few new members, and good discussions on League history and the Centennial anniversary of LWV and passage of the 19th Amendment, climate change, Initiative I-976, and Referendum 88. We are always pleased to have our League leaders come and present different topics. However, this is indeed a strange time. Because of COVID-19 our unit will be missing out on our review of our District 26 legislators and what they supported or did not support related League positions in the 2020 Legislative session. We had planned to do this with the South Kitsap unit with Julie Offner as our presenter.

MERRILL GARDENS UNIT

Pat Olney, Unit Leader

This year a new unit was created at Merrill Gardens. Since this was coincident with closing the SW Pierce Unit, Christie Perkins assisted in managing the new unit. Participants ranged from a dozen to two dozen and all enjoyed the programs. The hope is that many more Merrill Gardens residents will engage with the League, even if they don't join, and that other Tacoma-to-DuPont members will join this unit.

TACOMA UNIT

Dorothy McBride, Unit Leader

The Tacoma Unit meets at the Tacoma Police Substation in North Tacoma on the second Thursday of each month. We enjoy robust discussions, with probing questions from our regulars as well as welcome perspectives from new

participants. It helps to have an interesting set of program topics, and the 2019-2020 list was exceptionally strong: suffrage history; climate change; homelessness; preview of the 2020 legislative session; and a discussion of the future of democracy. A week before each scheduled session, we sent reminders to all LWV members who live in Tacoma to expand the unit. As we look to the future, the shared experience of the COVID 19 pandemic will no doubt greatly influence our unit programs and discussions when we are able to meet together once more.

VIRTUAL UNIT

Alison McCaffree, Unit Leader

The Virtual Unit meeting has continued with a small but dedicated group in 2019-2020. We had several non-regular people attend meetings due to conflicts or cancellation of the other meetings; showing the versatility of this online unit meeting option. We held two unique offerings this spring: a meeting going into depth on the running of this year's Census and a meeting on an interactive Climate Change model called En-ROADS. As people are now becoming more comfortable with the technology we hope to see more of you at our virtual unit.

UNIT MEETING PROGRAMS BY MONTH

September – 100 Years of Women’s Suffrage & the League of Women Voters. Led by Ginny Peterson, several League members involved in planning the League Centennial celebration presented a history of women’s suffrage and the League of Women Voters, including a quiz.

October – Climate Change: Reality & What We Can Do; also Ballot Issues: Ref. 88 & I-976. Chuck Jensen led a discussion of climate change. Donna Thompson, of Climate Reality, assisted. Additionally, there was a review of the November ballot issues related to Referendum 88, which would ratify Initiative 1000 and allow the state to remedy discrimination for certain groups and to implement affirmative action, without the use of quotas or preferential treatment (as defined), in public education, employment, and contracting; and Initiative 976, which would reduce car tab fees to \$30.

November – Homelessness Update. Cynthia Stewart presented an update on the status of homelessness in Pierce County.

December – Program Planning and Celebration. In December there were no unit meetings. Instead, the annual general membership meeting for program planning for our Local League and for the national League was held. After planning, the members celebrated with lunch from a potluck and a raffle drawing.

January – WA State Legislature: What to Expect this Session. Cynthia Stewart, accompanied by Susan Eidenschink and several state League Lobby Team members described what was expected during the 2020 legislative session, which was the second half of the biennium. The emphasis was on issues that the state League is following based on League positions.

February – Discussion of Democracy. The originally scheduled program for February was a movie called “The Public”. The film presented real-life issues in a fiction story involving homelessness and public libraries. Unfortunately, the technical aspects failed and the units discussed perceptions about the status of our democracy instead.

Also in February, an all-member Pink Tea was held on February 14, the actual centennial birthdate of the League of Women Voters.

March & April – COVID-19 Disruption. Each unit planned to either host or attend a pink tea during March or April and to host a unit choice topic in the alternating month. Additionally, consensus discussion meetings on the Shelter Study were scheduled. As a result of the COVID-19 virus and shelter-in-place requirements, all of these meetings were canceled except the Virtual Unit. The online group discussed the Census and Redistricting in March and En-Roads Climate Change Model in April.

May – Canceled due to COVID-19

VOLUNTEERS

A huge thank you to the corps group of 40-plus volunteers who consistently volunteer for Voter Service events and activities. We are especially grateful for the new members who have gotten involved and volunteered in their area of interest. Even though several of our events this winter and spring have been canceled, we sponsored and/or hosted 20 forums and voter registration events, almost all in the fall. We anticipate hosting many forums in summer and fall. We need many volunteers to serve our communities.

Some of the events and activities staffed by members were:

Candidate & Ballot Issue Forums – Cynthia Stewart, Coordinator
Centennial Planning Committee – Ginny Peterson, Coordinator
Election Observers – Nan Peele, Coordinator
GoVote Committee – Noel Hagens and Marty Webb, Coordinators
Office Staffing – Susan Eidenschink, Coordinator
Observer Corps – Paula Eismann, Coordinator
Redistricting Forms – Alison McCaffree, Coordinator
TRY production – Susan Eidenschink, Coordinator
Vote411 – Terri Baker
Voter Registration – Nancy Howe, Coordinator

As our communities recover and life gets more normal, we will have many opportunities to bring education and service to our communities. Please take a moment and fill out the Volunteer Interest form. It is important for us to have updated information to find a fit for members.

Ruth Ann Hatchett, Chair

THE VOTER

Over the last year and a half, the *Voter* has evolved in its consistency, promoting and acknowledging the activities of our local Tacoma-Pierce County chapter. Our Pierce County *Voter* keeps members connected to our local League and to each other. It meshes with the state League's *This Week in League* (emailed every Friday) and national League publications to cover the full scope of what the League is doing at national, state and community levels. Hopefully you are staying up to date by reading all of them.

Locally, we publish 10 Pierce County Voters each year, taking summers off. Except for a few paper copies mailed to members without email connections, we are fully on-line and send out about 900 copies of each issue. Although about 80% of these are sent to individuals outside our local League, the *Voter's* editorial policy focuses on local League activities, local member interests and Pierce County governance.

What will you find in each Voter?

First – a Framework of Monthly Essentials: These articles, calendars, basic information, etc., may look similar from month to month but each issue is full of new content. Most important are the President's Message, the League Calendar and the Help Wanted page which lets our members know where we need their volunteer energy in the next few months. Other regular features include highlights from our Board meetings, Book Reviews, new members, a Member Spotlight, and links to Observer Corps reports. Not every one of these appears in each issue, but over the course of months we try to cover all aspects of our League life and acknowledge the work our members do.

Second – Seasonal Concerns: We cover the preparation for – and the results of – our Annual Meeting, Program Planning meeting, State and National League meetings and events, and the many ways our members contribute during the Election Season [Forums for Candidates, Forums for Ballot Issues, volunteer observers for the Ballot Processing, publishing each year's TRY, etc.]

Third – Topical Issues: In this 2019-2020 program year the Voter has focused on the League’s Centennial. We’ve printed full-page articles and shorter pieces about Women’s History and the History of Women’s Suffrage. We’ve told you about Anniversary activities and celebrations starting with the Centennial-themed State Convention we sponsored here in Tacoma last June. This year we have also focused on climate change through a series of full-page articles from Lucinda Wingard. Other articles have looked at how and why the League does what it does, our studies and action (such as the Puyallup Homelessness Forum) and a monthly page of “*News You Can Use*.”

We hope you both enjoy and benefit from the monthly Voter. We rely on members for Spotlight articles, Book Reviews, special topical issues and information about the inner workings of the League. We welcome your articles, opinions and hands-on participation. Please get in touch with Editor Ginny Peterson at ginnypete_1897@msn.com to get more involved.

Ginny Peterson, Voter Editor

VOTER SERVICES

As always, Voter Services is, and continues to be, one of the main things we do. There are many components to the Voter Services program.

Forums: Fall of 2019 elections were for municipal offices. Since there are so many cities and special districts in Pierce County, an extraordinary number of candidate forums were held. For the Primary Election, forums were planned for city council and/or school board candidates in Bonney Lake, DuPont, Lakewood, Orting, Pen Met Parks District, Puyallup, and Tacoma (where several were held). Co-sponsors included UW Tacoma, Affordable Housing Consortium and TV Tacoma.

For the General Election, forums were planned in DuPont, Edgewood, Fife, Gig Harbor, Lakewood, Milton, Orting, Key Pen Parks, Port of Tacoma, City of Tacoma (again, several forums) and University Place. In addition, League co-sponsored a forum at the AME Church and supported the Coalition to End Homelessness in hosting a series of forums at their meetings.

Election Observation: This year, Nan Peele coordinated the election observer program. Her report is found on page 21 of this booklet.

Cynthia Stewart

LEAGUE CENTENNIAL

A Centennial Committee was originally convened in the Winter of 2018-19, to create a “Display of Pierce County Suffrage and League History” for our Tacoma-Pierce County League chapter to show at the June 2019 Washington State League Convention. Similar displays were solicited from local chapters statewide. The Committee created a table-top display reflecting Tacoma’s status as the first League chapter in the state. Committee members and non-members alike contributed to the ambiance and historical flavor of the Convention, providing silhouette cut-outs for the walls, Antique-laden tableaux for the meeting rooms, women’s history books for the Swag Bags, a lovely tableau of a Pink Tea plus many other delights.

Post-Convention, the Committee met again to envision a program of events for the 2020 Centennial year. Proposals centered in 3 categories: Education, Celebration, Contribution. Specific events and activities included:

- A synopsis of Washington Suffrage history presented by Committee members at five September Unit meetings.
- Retrieval and storage of historical materials (1950s to present) from member Elizabeth Mckercher. These are still being sorted and may result in a publication after final evaluation.
- Centennial awareness throughout the year publishing articles and historic photos in Voter issues, and bringing historic recipes, tableaux and singing to League meetings.

- Weekly publication of “Woman of the Week” on our Instagram Account
- February 14 Celebration Tea and Birthday Party at the Olive Branch Tea Room in Tacoma
- Proposal that each Unit would schedule a Pink Tea in their local area, to celebrate the League’s 100th year and to introduce potential members to the League and its community work. [As it turned out, these did not happen. Some unit leaders did not feel up to the task, another proposed an event with insurmountable budgetary obstacles. In the end, corona virus sequestering caused the cancelation of the final tea.]

This work is ongoing with possible events on Women’s Equality Day (August 26) and a field trip to the suffrage display at the State Historical Museum once it reopens. A service project has yet to be devised.

Ginny Peterson, Chair

Committee Members: *Paula Eismann, Bobbi Fletcher, Rosa Franklin, Charlene Franz, Ruth Ann Hatchett, Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow, Nancy Pearson, Christie Perkins, Kathy Sommers, Jacki Skaught, Jo Weiss (ex officio), Lydia Zepeda*

IN MEMORIAM



During the past year we lost several members of our League. Their contributions are summarized below, but they are each so much more than that. They are missed.

Jack Cameron

Jack Cameron was an honorary member of the League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County. He and his wife Marie supported League for over 50 years before she died in 2015. Jack died in November 2019. A very close couple since they married in 1958, Jack and Marie were inseparable. They hosted many parties and traveled extensively together.

Jack was the head of the Washington State Public Pension Commission, which was created in 1963 to advise the Legislature on benefits and funding policy. He once noted that he did not have previous experience in that field but learned quickly. He put the learning to work in investments for himself and Marie. One of those investments was bequeathed to the League in the form of an endowment, which continues to gain to this day.

Jack took an early retirement and was happy to do so. He was the chief cook for the family when Marie was working as a land use planner for Thurston County. When she retired as well, they were volunteers for Amtrak, staffing the Olympia train station to assist travelers. They also volunteered for the Red Cross, helping people find their friends and relatives during and after disasters and teaching classes. Jack also was a volunteer for HeartStrides, an organization that offers therapy through working with horses.

Mary Watson

On October 22, Mary Watson died on her own terms. Mary was an active League member from 2009 to 2015, and a board member from 2010-2012. She lived in Gig Harbor and was active in that community, speaking her mind effectively on causes she believed in. Mary had a lifetime commitment to Death with Dignity. During the 1970s, Mary was a nurse specializing in the care of cancer patients, who often died painful and prolonged deaths. Mary wanted to give those suffering from terminal diseases choices in dying. She advocated for the Death with Dignity Initiative which was passed by a vote of the people of Washington State in 2008, and went into effect March 5, 2009. Mary was concerned about the limited use of Advance Directives and promoted completion of these documents to ensure that an individual’s wishes would be carried out. Her motto was “Plan Now, Die Late, Live a Lot in Between.”

Wayne Martin

Wayne Martin MD, pioneer, researcher and teacher of the art and science of anesthesia, died peacefully in Tacoma, Washington on February 1, 2020. He always said he wasn't leaving this world without a fight and made a valiant effort to overcome the ravages of age and heart failure. Wayne was 85 years old.

Wayne was born on September 15, 1934 in Dallas, Texas. He grew up in the vicinity of Dallas and met the love of his life, Dorris Holt, in Northeast Texas when they were both pre-teens. They were married on June 12, 1955 and enjoyed over sixty-four years of marriage and have two children, Melanie and Warren.

Wayne earned a B.A. degree from the University of Texas in 1954 and an MD from Southwestern Medical Center in 1958. Wayne completed his training as an anesthesiologist at the University of Washington, rising to become the Chief of the Division of Cardiovascular Anesthesiology in 1970. He helped mend a lot of broken hearts as a part of the first open heart surgery team at the UW and was proud to do pioneering work in anesthesia for "bitty babies." He completed his career with Physicians Anesthesia Service of Seattle. Following retirement, he served for about 15 years as a volunteer lobbyist for the League of Women Voters working on reproductive rights issues. Wayne and Dorris are long time members of the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County. They recently moved to Tacoma and became League members in Tacoma-Pierce County.

Throughout his life, Wayne was always on a crusade to make the world a better place, whether in medicine or politics. He lived up to the family slogan of "never let the truth get in the way of a good story" and everyone who knew him could certainly repeat a "Wayne story," often made more colorful by his distinctive Texas drawl. He was voracious reader of history and science fiction and endeavored to always keep his mind actively engaged.