

League of Women Voter's of Skagit County

April 4, 2020 Meeting via Zoom

Welcome and group check in: Wende Sanderson Chair

Members attending:

Wende Sanderson, Barbara Robinson, Kathy Reim, Patti Santangelo, Margaret Colony, Britt Wisniewski, Andrea Doll, Don Wick, Ed and Mary Ellen West, Kathryn Longfellow, Carol Sullivan, Edwyna Spiegel, Mary Jane Golden, Doris Brevoort, Paula Young, Steve Johnson, Rocio Lopez and guest Erin Long.

Guest Speaker: Erin Long WE Ignite for 2021

Erin came to share about the plans so far for WE Ignite for 2021. The Theme is to be Empowerment. Erin is hoping to feature Randi Breuer to speak on the Science of Gender, what it really means and how it impacts us. She plans breakout sessions, presentations that support the issues around the gender pay gap and how it impacts women and men. She hopes to feature information on work roles that we don't often find women in and perhaps roles we don't usually find men in. Britt shared that the AAUW theme for the year is also related to this issue focusing on nontraditional roles for women. We may want to reach out to them to see if they would like to be included in the WE Ignite event. Erin also mentioned that she wants to include civics in the event, perhaps registering voters again and find other community groups to be included. Contact for Erin is erin@weignitewa.org This is a nonprofit organization.

Minutes from March 7th meeting: The minutes were accepted by the members.

Treasurer's Report: Lory was not at the meeting but provided a report for members approval. We have a balance of \$2914.80 on hand. There was a discussion on the possible use of that money. There is no encumbrment on the \$\$ and they can be used to support our participation in WE Ignite and for our candidate forums or other events we plan.

Membership Welcome Report: Carol reminded us of the cost of joining issue that we need to revisit. Last meeting Trina Berton joined our group. Carol will send a welcome letter/kit.

Report from Nominating Committee: The list of new officers and committee chairs was submitted and will be voted on next meeting. There will also be nominations from the floor next meeting if someone has that wish. The names are: Chair: Wende Sanderson, Vice Chair: Ed West, Secretary: Kathryn Longfellow. Program Committee: Mary Jane Golden, Membership Committee: Carol Sullivan, Voter Services Committee: Kathy Reim. It was decided to separate the Voter Services Committee from the Program Committee due to the amount of work needed for each committee.

Voter Services/Program committee reports:

The committee recommends that we use \$250. to fund a resource table at the February 2021 WE Ignite event, which was unanimously approved.

May 18th- Plan to have voter services team work on what candidate forum to offer plus write letters of intent to candidates so they can save the dates.

May 23rd – Film Courage In Corsets. On April 23rd, Mary Jane will make the decision on whether we need to postpone this event due to the virus issues to August 22nd. The Burlington Library will be available on that date also. Mary Jane shared that there will be two cookie recipes that fit the agenda, with cookies baked for that event offered in bags donated by Trina of Perry and Carlson.

May 29 – 31: LWV State Council Meeting: Although Lory, Paula and Wende have indicated an interest in attending, Margaret reports that the in-person meeting has been cancelled. Stay tuned for whether other options for on line sessions will be available.

June 8th Fair Vote WA: Skagit PUD Building at 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Carol encouraged members to visit Fair Vote 101 to gain information on this issue. Members wondered about inviting the Skagit County Auditor to also speak at this event. Carol mentioned that this event can be done on Zoom if need be.

June 19 – 21 Burlington Berry Dairy Days: Voter Registration and Census information table manned by our members at the Burlington Lutheran Church.

June or July: Redistricting event with Alison Mc Caffrey. Members decided to host this event during January or February of 2021 when the issue will be more pertinent.

July 13th: Possible date for the primary candidate forum.

September 22nd: National Voter Registration Day.

October 12th and 13th: A discussion on the date for the Candidate forum event concluded that the 13th was a better date and a venue is to be found since the PUD is not available and perhaps a larger place may be needed.

Parking Lot items:

Andrea mentioned a program idea: “Getting through the noise” with thoughts on untruth versus half truth information, and how to sort it all out. This will be discussed at next Voter Services/Program committee meeting on 4/29/20.

Wende mentioned Podcasts idea—A small group is meeting on Mondays at 11AM via zoom to discuss podcasts of the Constitutional Amendments. Wende asked anyone interested in joining the group to send her an email.

50th Anniversary of Earth Day is on April 22nd. We will most likely all be secluded at home but we might want to note this important day somehow.

Next meeting Voter Services/Program committee will be April 29th at 1:00 p.m. Most likely on Zoom.

Next meeting of the League of Women Voter's of Skagit County will be May 2nd. Location to be decided and it may also be on Zoom.