



League of Women Voters of Juneau Annual Meeting Saturday March 24, 2018

Minutes

Call to Order: The Annual meeting was called to order at 10:30 am by President Chris Niemi.

Members and guests attending: Chris Niemi, Cheryl Jebe, Pat Watt, Trish Turner Custard, Marianne Mills, Mary Hakala, Andy Hughes, Kathy Tran, Beth McEwen, Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Margo Waring, Dave Lefebvre, Nadine Lefebvre, Marjorie Menzi, Hetty Barthel, Bridget Smith, carolyn Brown, Judith Mitchell, Barb Belknap, Judy Andree

Welcome and Introduction of keynote speaker, Lauri Wilson, Region 1 Election Supervisor for the Division of Elections by President Chris Niemi.

Lauri Wilson discussed the current efforts of the Division of Elections. Lauri outlined five efforts that the Division of Elections is currently working on. They were: Moderization efforts, PFD initiative update, Election Policy Working Group, Enhanced Language Assistance, and preparations for 2018 elections. She discussed the work needed to review and confirm the data between the Elections system and the PFD system. All differences must be reconciled and notices will be sent to voters asking them to confirm their data. That is time-consuming for the Division and costly. The Election Policy Working Group (EPWG) is focused on many areas: maximize accessibility, cost effectiveness, voter satisfaction and confidence, longevity of solutions, coordination, security and integrity, and voter outreach. Expansion of language assistance is difficult, but something the Division is working on. In preparing for 2018, she mentioned that the security of the election systems was something they worked on with the University of Alaska. They have multi-layered security with robust access controls. See the Divisions' website for more information about the status of security:

(<http://elections.alaska.gov/Core/testvotecountssystemandsecurity.php>).

President Chris Niemi: Chris thanked Lauri for her presentation. Based on attendance (20 members), the membership quorum is established to conduct the business meeting.

Approve Agenda: Motion from Marianne Mills to approve the agenda, seconded by Nadine Lefebvre. There were no objections, all approved.

Approve Minutes: Motion from Marianne Mills to approve the minutes, seconded by Nadine Lefebvre. There were no objections, Minutes of March 24, 2017 approved.

President's Report: Chris Niemi highlighted a number of events and activities from 2017. (Copy of the President's Report attached.) Pat Watt reminded everyone that the Juneau League is now a 501(c)3 organization effective July, 2017.

State Board Report: Judy Andree presented the State Board report. She reminded everyone that the State Convention will be April 28th and 29th in Soldotna, Alaska. The Lt. Governor and Josie Bahnke, Director of the Division of Elections will be there.

Proposed Programs/Positions: Marianne Mills presented the programs/positions for 2018-2019.

As published in the *Juneau Voter*:

1. Retain the following local positions:
 - **Advisory Committees**
 - **Avalanche and Mass-Wasting**
 - **Charter Commission***
 - **Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**
 - **Education***
 - **Environmental Quality****
 - **Library**
 - **Mendenhall Wetlands Boundary Consensus****
 - **Parks and Recreation**
 - **Planning and Zoning**
 - **Solid Waste Management**
 - **Water and Wastewater**

* To be updated in 2018-2019

** Updated this year (2017-2018)

Motion from Marjorie Menzi, seconded by Hetty Barthel. There were no objections, all approved.

2. Approve the updates to the positions on Estuarine Resources – Environmental Quality and Mendenhall Wetlands Boundary Consensus completed in 2017-2018.

Marianne discussed that these positions had been sent to all members for review and the Board approved them this month. There were no objections or questions on these.

Motion was made and seconded. Unanimous vote, motion approved.

3. Update the Local Election Procedures position to make it consistent with the new State Position.

Margo Waring discussed a redistricting effort to use mapping technology to check for possible gerrymandering. This was done by the Metric Geometry and Gerrymandering Group (MGGG). Margo attended a conference in California on this topic. It was determined that we should do a "Lunch & Learn" on this topic in a few months.

Motion made by Pat Watt, and Alicia Hughes-Skandijns seconded. Unanimous vote, motion approved.

4. Update the Charter Commission position.

Marianne discussed that the changes needed to this position were very minor and the dates and timing need to be clarified.

Motion made by Pat Watt, and Marjorie Menzi seconded. Unanimous vote, motion approved.

5. Update the Education position.

Marianne discussed that Peggy Cowen would be chairing a committee for 2018-2019 to update the Education position. Andy Hughes commented that the League might need to either enhance the pre-school section of this position, or pull it out and create a separate position to support early childhood education from birth for all children in the community. There were several comments in support of this and in support of working with other groups in Juneau who are focused on this effort.

Motion made by Chris Niemi, and Marjorie Menzi seconded. Unanimous vote, motion approved.

6. Continue Action Priorities.

Marianne reviewed the Action priorities for 2017-2018 (no motion needed). She discussed that we would be adding Capital Kids - Capitol Visits to this list to ensure that we continue this activity in the future.

- Continue Voter Registration (Youth Voters, Naturalization Ceremonies)
- Develop Municipal Voters Guide
- Conduct Municipal Candidate Forum
- Capital Kids - Capitol Visits (added during the meeting)

Approve FY2019 Budget: Pat Watt reported on this as Kim Jones was unable to attend. She recapped the Income, and Expenses per the information listed in the Juneau Voter. She mentioned that due to the approval of our 501(c)3 status, the Education Fund total (\$4,108.07) would be transferred from the State League back to Juneau and would be available for our use.

There was discussion that we need to make sure that our 501(c)3 status should be on our letterhead, website and other notices from the League.

A motion was made by Marianne Mills to approve the budget and was seconded by Pat Watt. Budget passed unanimously.

Report of the Nominating Committee, Election of Officers and Board of Directors: Bridget Smith reported on the committees activities. She was the chair of the committee, and members were Barbara Belknap, Rebecca Gaguine, Marianne Mills, and Judy Andree. She mentioned that they were unable to find a candidate for President, and that the Board members/Officers will be rotating the position throughout the year, although this is less than ideal.

The committee proposed:

President: (open)

Vice President - 1 year: Marianne Mills

Secretary - 2 years: Trish Turner Custard

Board Director - 2 years: Peggy Cowan

Board Director - 2 years: Alicia Hughes-Skandjs

Board Director - 2 years: Barbara Belknap

Board Director - 1 year: Nancy Waterman *(who will be filling the remaining term of Sarah Lewis)

The following people have volunteered to be considered for Board appointments: Barbara Murray, carolyn Brown, Mary Hakala, Pat Watt and Judith Mitchell.

Note: The following members of the Board are filling out 'Year two' of their 2-year terms:

Treasurer - 1 year remaining:	Kim Jones
Board Director - 1 year remaining:	Judy Andree
Board Director - 1 year remaining:	Monica Todden

Nominating Committee for 2018-2019: The nominating committee next year will be chaired by Bridget Smith, and members are Rebecca Gaguine, Barbara Belknap and two new Board members will be assigned.

A motion was made by Chris Niemi to accept slate of officers and the next years' nominating committee as published, with Judith Mitchell seconding. Membership approved unanimously.

Chris Niemi passed the Gavel to Marianne Mills: Marianne Mills took the gavel and presented Chris Niemi with a thank you from the Board, and a gift certificate as an out-going gift.

Election of State Convention Delegates: Marianne Mills discussed that the League can send up to four delegates to the State convention and asked if anyone would want to attend. Judith Mitchell and Alicia Hughes-Skandjs volunteered to be voting delegates.

A motion was made by Judy Andree, seconded by Trish Turner Custard to accept these delegates. Unanimous vote, motion approved.

Directions to the Juneau LWV Board and convention delegates: Chris Niemi handed out note cards and explained that members should note their ideas on the cards, one side for local issues, one side for State issues and leave them in the box at the back. Should others wish to comment, or if they think of ideas after the meeting, email your comments to lwvjuneauak@gmail.com.

There was a question about the Board's position on guns. Marianne Mills explained that there is a National Position on guns. Judy Andree encouraged all members to go to the LWV.org website to review their positions, and you can find all the links on the juneaulwv.org website. Judy also mentioned that there was a State position on removing guns as part of a restraining order (HB75) with public testimony this week.

It was requested that there be a better way for members to communicate to the Board on positions.

Marjorie Menzi brought a stack of letters from students who participated in the Capital Kids program. She mentioned that she was trying to see if the Juneau Community Foundation would help to fund this, as the League provides the volunteer labor. Now that we are a 501(c)3, we should be eligible.

carolyn Brown mentioned the National Women's History Project where Elizabeth Peratrovich was chosen as one of its honorees for 2018. She is working on finding a local writer to write a children's book on Elizabeth Peratrovich as there isn't one. Trish Turner Custard volunteered to help.

Don't forget that the Board meetings are the third Monday of the month at the Downtown Library, but stay tuned as the new Board may adjust the date/time in the future. All are welcome.

Having no further business before the members, Judith Mitchell made a motion to adjourn. Chris Niemi seconded, all approved.

The meeting adjourned at 12:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judith Mitchell, Secretary LWV-J