



League of Women Voters of Juneau

**Board of Directors Meeting
July 13, 2020
MINUTES**

Call to Order: Co-President Kirsa Hughes Skandijs called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm

Board Present and Introductions: Judith Mitchell, Kirsa Hughes Skandijs, Lori Brotherton, Trish Turner Custard, Sarah Moore, Mary Hakala **Quorum Established**

Members Present: carolyn Brown, Marjorie Menzi, Bridget Smith, Joyanne Bloom, Mary Borthwick, Amy Paige, Julie Nielsen, Cheyenne Cuellar, Jayne Andreen

Special Guests: Shea Siegert and Scott Kendall from Alaskans for Better Elections (ABE) began the meeting with a presentation and discussion of Ballot Initiative 2, rank choice voting. See end of Minutes for a Summary of the presentation. The presentation and discussion was recorded.

Discuss and Approve:

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved

Approval of June Minutes: Minutes Approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Lori reported we had little activity in June. Our Federal tax report has been filed. Report filed for audit.

Correspondence: None

Old Business/Updates:

Membership: On behalf of Marianne, Lori reported we have 7 new members for a total membership of 157.

How To Run For Local Office: On behalf of Peggy, Sally, Donna, and Laurie, Judith reported that the Workshop will be held Saturday, July 18th via Zoom. Information and registration can be found on the LWV Juneau website. Registration will remain open until the day of the Workshop. There are currently 40 registrants.



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LWV Alaska Update: carolyn reported on the ERA and VRAA grants' progress. Radio spots have been produced as well as visual spots created by Pat Race for social media. All have been accomplished within budget. A special website, attached to the LWV Juneau site, will be launched July 20th.

Bus Placards: carolyn reported on her research regarding placing placards in city buses educating riders on the how-tos of voting in the upcoming elections. 11 x 26 placards would cost \$17 each. CBJ has okayed the placing of placards. There is concern about the effectiveness of relaying the information in this manner, realizing that bus ridership is down due to COVID and the difficulty of processing the potentially confusing information in that setting. Possible placard text will be developed. This item has been put on the August Agenda for further discussion and vote.

New Business:

Review Draft of Juneau Voter

Determine Committee Assignments for Candidate Forum and Voter's Guide

Due to the meeting running over time, these two items will be discussed via email and/or special additional Board Meeting. Both items are of the utmost importance and cannot be delayed until the August Board Meeting. Please continue to check your email for further information.

With no further business, Kirsa adjourned the meeting at 6:35.

The Next Board Meeting TBD.

Summary of "Yes on 2 for Better Elections"

The ballot initiative would:

1. End Dark Money - Alaska has a small population, as compared to other states, but we have the same number of Senators as all states. Therefore we are attractive to outsider influencers who wish to buy seats in the Senate. Ending Dark Money, were the true source of funds is not known, would help to end outside influence.



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The ballot initiative would (continued):

2. Institute a top - 4, single primary ballot (all candidates regardless of party affiliation on one ballot), open to all Alaskan voters
3. Rank choice voting in general election; 50% threshold (50% plus one votes needed for a candidate to be declared the winner)

Result: More choice, transparency, and power for Alaska voters

Other Benefits to this Election Reform:

1. Eases transition to Vote By Mail - Only one ballot needed to send to all voters
2. Make Partisan redistricting obsolete
3. Results in more diversity among those elected; more women and more BIPOC
4. Increases Primary turnout, which in turn increases General turnout
5. Results in a safe bipartisan space for big solutions to big problems

For more information visit: www.alaskansforbetterelections.com