



League of Women Voters of Juneau

**Board of Directors Meeting
November 9, 2020
MINUTES**

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

Board Present: Judith Mitchell, Kirsa Hughes Skandijs, Lori Brotherton, Trish Turner Custard, Sarah Moore, Mary Hakala, Sally Saddler, Donna Knight-Staton, Peggy Cowan, Marianne Mills **Quorum Established**

Members Present: Carolyn Brown, Marjorie Menzi, Andi Story, Therese Thibodeau

Discuss and Approve:

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved with addition of Capitol Visits and Health Care Update.

Approval of October Minutes: Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Lori reported that the renewal rate is good. She has paid our State Dues and has started on a revised budget. Report filed for audit. Lori will be out of the area from 11/25 - 1/9. In her absence, Marianne will handle the mail. Lori hopes to pay any outstanding debts before she leaves.

Correspondence: None

Old Business/Updates:

Membership: Marianne reported that we are at an all time high for membership at 167 members. January 31st is the due date for membership renewals. Marianne will send out an email message this week to members who have yet to renew reminded them to renew.

Pat Race/Get Out The Vote Update and Final Accounting: There were no additional submissions for the Get Out The Vote campaign after the initial single submission promoting Voter Registration. Lori will contact Pat to see what we owe him so that she can clear that debt before she leaves on vacation.



League of Women Voters of Juneau

Sarah reported that she did not produce a second Hero Poster due to the uptick in COVID making it unsafe to do the distribution.

Fundraiser: Our FB Charity designation is still pending. Judith had emailed the Board a link to the potential fundraiser movie, **Tea For Three**, which is a one-woman play dramatizing the experiences as First Ladies of Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon, and Betty Ford. Lori looked into the costs involved with showing the film. It would be \$500 for the show plus a \$80 royalty. The creator of the production can appear after the movie for a question and answer session. Much discussion followed as to whether we would recoup the cost plus make money and if this movie would appeal to younger members, a group we wish to engage more in the Chapter. Lori was going to email Board members with further details and the discussion can continue via email.

Donna asked if we were still planning to do an auction. Sarah cautioned that it would be difficult to ask local small businesses for auction items during this stressful economic time. Lori spoke to the technical difficulties and costs of an online auction. Sally and Marianne mentioned that Northern Light Church is currently doing an online auction and it would be a good idea to reach out to them to see how they are doing it and the associated costs/effort. Both Sally and Lori said they would speak to the person in charge of the Northern Light auction.

Many expressed weariness from the election and ongoing pandemic. Sally wondered if perhaps we could take the year off from fundraising since everyone was tired and swamped.

Judith suggested that since we are looking, at the earliest, at a January timeframe for the fundraiser that there could be the possibility to combine a speaker with our annual How To Be An Effective Lobbyist workshop and charge a fee.

Fundraising will continue to be an agenda item to discuss at future meetings.

Bumper Stickers/Window Signs: Judy Andree has 70 bumper stickers/yard signs encouraging people to get informed and involved with the VRAA and ERA. She suggested that each Board member get a batch to use and hand out. Lori will get the materials from Judy and send to Board members.



League of Women Voters of Juneau

New Business:

Capitol Visits: Marjorie Menzi updated the Board on the planning for this year's Capitol Visits program. Due to COVID the program will not be as usual. LWV Instructors met to brainstorm and come up with alternatives for virtual experiences. Teachers were brought into the discussion and expressed being overwhelmed and needing the program to be minimal and fit their individual needs. HOMEBRIDGE is also interested in participating with their student community. The program must also use the school system's CANVAS platform. Marjorie has contacted Bill Legere at KTOO to see about options. She also contacted the Alaska Committee, which traditionally grants \$500 for transportation, to see if that money could go towards developing the virtual experience. Marjorie stated that it is a February timeline for the program.

Marjorie opened the discussion for suggestions. Judith offered the idea of having "canned" presentations that teachers can use at their convenience, along with interactive sessions with Legislators. Andi thought Legislators' involvement was achievable and will bring this idea up to Jesse Kiehl and Sara Hannan.

Goals/Focus Areas for 2021: Program planning will begin in January to set the focus for the upcoming year which begins with the Annual Meeting and Board Elections in March. Judith asked for items that might be areas of focus. Voting Rights, Electoral College, and the 'late' vote counting in Alaska were suggested.

There was much discussion about the current ballot counting process and the confusion caused. Mary expressed the need to educate people on the process. Andi stated that a press release had come out this very day clarifying the process. Carolyn suggested to convene a gathering with the LT. Gov and Legislators to discuss how the process works and what learnings were gleaned this year.

December Meeting With Legislators: Our annual meet and greet with our local Legislators will be virtual this year. Andi spoke about how everything is so up in the air that we should just plan as we see fit. She did say however, that more will be known after the Governor releases his budget on 12/15. With that in mind, the date of 1/11/21 was pencilled in for the event. Andi will verify with her colleagues.



League of Women Voters of Juneau

For The Good Of The Order:

carolyn updated all on the Health Care Reform for US national working group's activity. They will be meeting with LWV President Dr. Turner about their position.

With no further business the meeting adjourned by Kirsa at 6:32 pm.

The Next Board Meeting will be December 14th at 5:15 via Zoom.