

The following minutes were reviewed and approved by Elsa Struble and Barbara Sellers-Young.

Minutes of LWVMPC Annual Meeting of 2022

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

Held via Zoom

Present: Diana Bodtker, Diana Upton, Sally Hollemon, Amy Vandegrift, Jean Sherbeck, Roz Shirack, Alice Phalan, Kathleen West, Cindy Burgess, Willie Richardson, Joan Harmsen, Anita Owen, Barbara Sellers-Young, Elsa Struble, Marta White, Jaime Carleton, Jan Dillon, Kathy Patterson, Sally Lawson, Linda Kirsch. Guest: Becky Gladstone, LWVOR president.

Welcome: Amy Vandegrift welcomed everyone to our second Annual Meeting via Zoom due to the continued Covid pandemic. She introduced our speaker Mela Hoyt-Heydon, milliner, who showed pictures of hats from the 1890s to the present and explained how events, as well as changing hairstyles, influenced the design of hats.

Amy introduced the new members who were in attendance: Marta White, Linda Kirsch, and Willie Richardson.

Diana Bodtker awarded the Founders' Award tray to **Elsa Struble**, → → → who has served as LWVMPC treasurer for many years.

Business meeting: Diana Bodtker called the meeting to order. A quorum—the number of members in attendance—was determined to be 20 members.

Diana called for a vote to retain all current positions; approved.

After explaining the proposed change to the Bylaws printed in the Annual Meeting Workbook, Elsa Struble moved approval of the Bylaws change; seconded by Jean Sherbeck; motion carried.

Roz Shirack, Budget Chair, said the budget is little changed from the current year's budget. She moved approval of the budget; seconded by Amy; motion carried.

Amy moved approval of the slate of officers as printed in the Annual Meeting Workbook; seconded by Willie; motion carried.

Comments: LWVOR President Becky Gladstone said thanks to Diana, Deanie, Amy and Barbara for attending the LWVOR Council and Amy and Barbara for attending the LWVUS Convention. Becky said she had attended a national pollsters' call; the message was: *Hope is a discipline and we need to practice it.* The League at its three levels (local, state, national) needs to speak with a cohesive voice.

A national coalition of groups including LWV is asking candidates where they stand on key issues such as abortion and gun safety. Voters need that information before they vote. At the state level, the coalition is trying to get better answers from judicial candidates so that voters will have an idea of how they would judge in cases involving these important issues.

The League is part of a coalition gathering signatures on IP17, a gun-safety initiative petition. There is a short time-frame for supporters to gather the many signatures needed to put the measure on the November ballot.



Remarks by new president: Barbara Sellers-Young gave a PowerPoint presentation “Reflections on the LWV of Marion & Polk Counties” in which she highlighted local League leaders and the work they have done for LWVMPC. She thanked *Diana Bodtke*, who is moving next month, for moderating candidate forums as well as for her leadership on the Board. Other leaders highlighted were *Deanie Anderson* and *Kathleen West* for Voters’ Guides, organizing candidate forums, and voter registration; *Amy Vandegrift* for leading membership activities as well as working with Alice LaViolette to start the Observer Corps; *Alice LaViolette* for helping start and maintain the Observer Corps and keeping our website up to date; *Elsa Struble* for her understanding of budgets and spreadsheets; *Cindy Burgess* for using Facebook to increase publicity for LWVMPC; *Jean Sherbeck* for past service as secretary and now returning to that job as well as leading the study of housing instability; *Janet Adkins* for putting candidate information on VOTE411; *Sally Hollemon* for editing the *Focus* and facilitating Great Decisions; *Roz Shirack* for keeping the Book Group going and leading the Budget Committee; *Jaime Carleton* for serving on the LWVOR Action Committee; *Tomika Dew*, who will help us with technology; and many others who have also been democracy advocates. League members work to make voting accessible, to educate voters, to research issues, and to encourage civil discourse.

Announcements: Anita Owen said she will arrange to have a table outside the Salem Art Fair to promote civics education and LWV. Several people volunteered to help staff the meeting. Sally Hollemon was asked to send an email to all members to ask for more volunteers.

Kathleen West said that September 2 is National Voter Registration Day. She plans to get information out to the public about voting rights.

Barbara Sellers-Young thanked Amy for arranging this Annual Meeting, first as an in-person meeting and then changing it to a Zoom meeting.

The meeting ended with expressions of thanks for this virtual get-together.

Sally Hollemon
Secretary Pro tem