**LWVOR Convention Minutes**

**May 15 & 16, 2021**

**Zoom Meeting**

**Business Session1 – May 15, 2021**

Rebecca Gladstone called to order Business Session 1 at 10:07am. Shemia Fagan, Oregon Secretary of State, presented a welcome video.

**Introductions:** Board of Directors, off-Board members, staff, Action coordinators, Voter Service reps.

**Roll Call of Local Leagues**: 11 of 12 present.

**Credentials Report: Adopted**

50 delegates and 12 LWVOR directors are present for a voting strength of 62.

11 Leagues are represented.

31 delegates constitute a majority.

41 delegates constitute a ⅔ majority

Quorum is met.

**Committee Appointments:**

**Secretary:** Kate Culbertson

**Parliamentarian:** Alice Bartelt

**Credentials Committee:** Barbara Klein

**Minutes Review Committee**: Sheila McGinnis, Diana Bodtker

**Resolutions Review Committee**: Alice Bartelt, Chair, Amelia Nestler, Jackie Clary

**Convention Rules:** Adopted

**Order of Business:** Adopted

**Minutes of Council 2020:** No questions

**President’s Report:** Centennial Celebration pivoted into Covid pandemic. Zoom took over: fires, voter suppression attempts, 2020 election, Legislative Session, Redistricting work. “We have stepped up to the virtual call”. Cyber Security, Biocides studies, 200 testimonies have kept us all busy. Thank you to all, specific Leagues and members mentioned.

**Treasurer’s Report:** All posted on website. We are in good financial shape. We budget conservatively. More revenue and less expense (due to Covid) contributed to this. Thank you to Sarah and Amanda for their great assistance.

**Presentation of Proposed Budget 21-22*: Kermit Yenson moves adoption of 2021 and 2022 Budget.*** Budget looks similar to last year’s, since last year was impacted by pandemic.

How much is budgeted for proposed studies? Just under $30,000 for education. Not an election year. Biocides study expenses for this year only, or carry-over to next? Probably in next year’s financials.

Can change budget or use Board procedure. About $3500 to print and mail a study. Will eventually go to electronic copies only. Question re printing of concurrences – adequate funds for this.

Is there money for updates, i.e. childcare, election methods.

What do we need to improve? Website, training, consultation. Most prudent use of our funds, and what makes us most effective? Need to help members understand what we are doing, Make sure there is enough money for committee members to function well. $3,000 is a placeholder for study money.

DEI concerns may make necessary more printed versions of studies. Opt-out was tested with Cyber Security. This is a transition from every member getting a printed copy to moving to electronic versions.

**Presentation of Proposed Program: *Sheila McGinnis moves adoption of program as presented on pages 44-47 of Convention workbook.***

* Update 1985 childcare study.
* Restudy election methods to consider STAR voting.
* Convention workshop or caucus on the need for a national study of Nuclear Energy and Small Modular Reactors in 2022.
* Review a redistricting language change.

Concurrence with Washington study? Board has not made a decision. Concurrence takes a different pathway. Will be a motion later. Are there people to lead studies? Full proposals are not in workbook.

***Josie Koehne moves to: Consider adopting Forestry Concurrence from Washington State***. Will be considered tomorrow.

Childcare study update – Same perimeters and scope? New regulations may necessitate a broader scope, otherwise similar. No recommendations were received for a Forestry study. No non-recommended studies.

**Bylaws Committee Report*: Alice Bartelt moves the adoption of the proposed bylaws amendments, pages 21-33.*** Tomorrow we will consider these amendments seriatum.

**Nominating Committee Report:** pages 42-44. Still looking for a Voter Service Chair, and Nominating Committee Chair. Nominations from the floor: No further nominations from the floor. Nominations closed. Thank you to committee for your work.

**End of Business Session 1**.

Discussion of Concurrence process as done previously. Discussion of volunteer needs and forming a task force.

Klein: At National Convention – original concurrence wording was changed, agrees with Bartelt that language can be done by deleting sections or re-numbering, not rewording.

Use names and Leagues when speaking.

**Kristen Eberhard, Keynote Speaker, author Becoming A Democracy.**

**LWVOR Convention Minutes**

**May 16, 2021**

**Zoom Meeting**

Local League video presentations

**Business Session II**

Rebecca Gladstone called to order Business Session II at 9:10 am.

Credentials Report: Adopted

42 delegates and 10 LWVOR directors are present for a voting strength of 52

12 Leagues are represented

26 delegates constitute a majority

35 delegates constitute a 2/3 majority

Proposed Bylaws Changes: (pages 21-33)

Article II, Section 1, better defines our tax status

Article II, Section 2, DEI statement

Article III, Section 2a, new definition for membership, definition of student

Article III, Section 2b

Article IV, Section 1, share one board position

Article IV, Section 7, roles of two vice-presidents

Article V, Section 3, electronic board meetings

Article VIII, Section 1, electronic Conventions

Article VIII, Section 1, call to convention sent to state units

Article VIII, Section 2, Nominating Com chair to list of those who are voters at convention

Article IX, Section 1, electronic Council

Article IX, Section 1, add state units to call to Council

Article IX, Section 5, reduce notification time of proposed program changes occurring at Council

Article X, Section 3, state units notified of nominees before Convention or Council

Article X, Section 5, allow vacancies of Board to be filled at Council

Article XI, Section 3, shorter time before convention for local Leagues to submit program ideas

Article X, Section 3, shorter time to notify league entities of proposed changes to program being considered at Convention

Article XI, Section 3, recess in convention between time of program presentation and program vote

Article XI, Section 6, add state unites to those requesting permission to take action on state governmental matters

Article XIV, Section 1, reduces amount of time notice for bylaws amendments and adds state units to those being notified.

**Bylaws are adopted.**

**Proposed Program: (pages 44-46)**

1. An update of LWVOR’s 1985 childcare position

Concern about scope – narrow or clarify? Scope: Availability of quality childcare, accessible, and affordable, to children of all ages and with differing needs and in various age groups. Financial assistance for childcare expenses should be provided to low and middle income families based on need; could include tax credits for parents with a ceiling based on income. Encourage development of school -age childcare programs. Childcare givers should be awarded recognition commensurate with their responsibilities. State of Oregon should take a lead.

***Motion to approve this update:* 42 in favor, passed.**

1. Restudy election methods to consider STAR voting –

Definition of “restudy”? Scope? White paper only, update rather than restudy

***Libby Medley moves that the proposed program be changed to read “Update election methods study to reflect new concepts.”***

***Motion to change “concepts” to “election systems”.***

***Motion is to “Update election methods study to reflect new election systems.”* 47 in favor.**

This would not involve consensus, but just an informational update.

Vote to reconsider vote on election systems proposal: 32 yes, 15 no.

***Motion to Postpone discussion until after resolution review.***

***Motion to: “Restudy the position on election methods including consideration of new voting systems”.* Against - 48**

3) Convention workshop or caucus on the need for a national study of Nuclear Energy and small Modular Reactors –opposed – 40. *Remove this proposed study.*

**4) Review redistricting language change:**

***Motion from Norman Turrill: that the LWVOR Board appoint a Member Agreement Committee to consider possible minor updates to the wording of the Redistricting position, as advocated by the LWV of Portland, provided that the changes are consistent with the original Redistricting in Oregon study report and consistent with member understanding and agreement. The committee shall then recommend any changes to the Board for approval.* 49 in favor, motion passes.**

***Move that we add Member Agreement Committee item to the LWVOR Program –* 50 in favor, none opposed**

5) Forestry Concurrence (proposed by the Washington County unit): Add.

Can we make any changes? Scrivener’s errors are fine, no content change. Seventeen points to consider.

***Susan Anderson makes a Motion to remove FO-15 on Oregon school funding item.***

**For removing – 31, against removing – 16. FO-15 will be removed.**

***Motion to adopt the Washington Forestry Position by Concurrence:*  In favor – 49.**

**Proposed Budget (pages 48-60)**

Study expenses can be covered.

Adopted as proposed.(49 in favor)

**Resolutions and other business:**

1) Appoint a committee to review all of LWVOR positions using a DEI Lens, from the Action Committee.

Resolution passes.

2) Resolution submitted by LWV’s of Rogue Valley, Curry, Coos, Klamath, and Umpqua Valley concerning DEI implementation at the local level be considered. Passes.

[Vote to *consider* recommended resolutions as a group - passes].

3) Resolution Committee recommends that the resolution submitted by Rogue Valley to advocate for universal health care coverage be adopted.

***Motion to remove HOPE Amendment (SJR12)*** (McGinnis)- 28 in favor of removing, 17 to keep. Needs to be national, not state; costs too much, needing new revenues. Intent is to take directly to voters. An aspirational bill.

Adopted as amended. Passes.

4) Resolution submitted by the Climate Emergency regarding divestment of fossil fuel industries from State of Oregon funds. (Not supported by Action at this time.) Passed.

Motion: (Medley) Passed

***Amendment: Therefore, now it be resolved that the League of Women Voters of Oregon will form a committee to review the issue of judiciary duty related to the Oregon State Treasury Dept with a specific goal to commit to climate action. Consideration may include, but not be limited to, immediately stopping new investments in fossil fuel companies, taking steps to divest all holding from FFI fossil fuel companies within five years, and/or adopting a goal to transition to a portfolio which reflects net zero greenhouse gas emissions before 2040.***

*5)* Resolution Committee recommends against consideration/adoption regarding socially responsible investing by local Leagues. Would only apply to one League.

**Election of Officers and Directors:**

**Nominating Committee Report:**

Continuing on the Board to complete their 2020-22 elected terms:

Second Vice President Alice Bartelt (Washington County League) recommended to continue as Action Chair

Treasurer Ruth Kistler (Lincoln County League) recommended to have professional bookkeeper support

Director Toni Lampkin (West Umatilla County Unit) recommended to continue as Mock Elections and Outreach Chair

Director Jackie Clary (Rogue Valley League) recommended to continue as Development Chair

Director Sheila McGinnis (Rogue Valley League) recommended to continue as Program Chair

All these positions will be elected at Council next year and everyone should be thinking about these nominations now.

Nominated to the Board for two-year elected terms, ending in 2023:

President Becky Gladstone (Lane County League)  
First Vice President Robin Tokmakian (Portland League)

Co-Secretaries Kate Culbertson (Rogue Valley League) and Amelia Nestler (Washington County Unit)

Director Kathleen Hersh (Washington County Unit) Membership and Leadership Director Kermit Yensen (Deschutes County League) (Budget Committee Chair) Director Connie Bozarth (Corvallis League) (At-Large Director)

Nominated for Elected Nominating Committee for two-year terms, ending in 2023:

Diana Bodtker (Marion/Polk Counties) Elected Member Libby Medley (Clackamas County) Elected Member Doreen Binder (Portland) Elected Member

The Nominating Committee was unable to find members willing to accept the elected chair position of Voter Service Chair. This is supported by a strong committee of experienced volunteers and is a powerful resource for voter education. Suggestions and nominations are welcome.

The Nominating Committee was unable to find a member willing to accept the elected nominating committee chair position, so we nominate three members to committee positions.

***Move to acceptance of proposed slate by acclimation: Adopting the slate from Nominating Committee: 44 in favor. Adopted.***

Directions to the Board:

Volunteerism presentation implementation, take action and leadership on this.

Investigate printing more copies of studies.

Resolutions should be considered.(not obligated, but considered)

Program proposals should be included and complete in Workbook

Zoom has improved communication, continue please.

LOCATION AND HOST OF COUNCIL 2022: Lincoln County

Adjourned, 2:30 pm.

Kate Culbertson, Secretary