

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LINCOLN COUNTY
General Meeting, September 20, 2012

Members present

Ruth Kistler
John (Jack) Kistler
Marilyn Podesta
Joan Haffner
Frances Van Wert
Genevie Rosin
Jane Sharp
Suzanne Maxson
Janice Gerdemann
Ruby Miller
Jean Cowan
Maxine Demory

Guests present:

Sandra Gangle
Rose Lewis
Roberta Baxter
Joycelyn Harris

The meeting was held at the Newport Public Library. Following a social time, Ruth Kistler, President, called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm. The meeting began with introductions. Special guest was Rose Lewis, our liaison with the LWVOR. At her suggestion, each member told where they were born and when they became involved with the LWV.

Ruth welcomed everyone to the first meeting of this fiscal year. She noted that we will have a heavy schedule of voter service activities in October. Our October general meeting will be a rehearsal for a state ballot measure presentation which is scheduled for Saturday, October 20.

The November meeting will be a discussion and adoption of consensus on coastal issues. Ruth showed the copy of the coastal study - "Coastal and Nearshore Oregon: Using and Protecting Our Natural Resources" - which has recently been mailed to all Oregon LWV members. Ruth was on the study committee that developed this document. All of those present were asked to indicate if they wanted additional copies and these will be ordered.

The LWVOR Fall Workshop will be in Eugene on October 13. Ruth Kistler, Jane Sharp and Genevie Rosin will attend.

The state Children at Risk study has been tabled because of a need for more committee members. Genevie Rosin volunteered to join this committee. She has worked many years in social services and knows people at the state level who can help provide information and resources.

Ruth noted that she would welcome articles or ideas for the newsletter which she and Jack write and produce.

Jean Cowan spoke about state Ballot Measure 77. She wrote the bill and was a co-sponsor of it – it passed the legislature with overwhelming support (only 3 votes in opposition). She said that the legislature has been working on it for 8 years and it makes provisions for the legislature to meet somewhere other than Salem and make spending decisions as necessary in case of catastrophic disaster.

Rose Lewis then spoke. She is a member of the Marion/Polk LWV and her role on the state board is as

liaison coordinator. She talked about the value of the League of Women Voters, the new LWVOR website, Vote411 and membership and leadership development. In the ensuing discussion, Genevieve suggested working with other groups on a specific issue as a way of recruiting members. Janice Gerdemann agreed, noting her work on coastal issues in previous years. Sandra Gangle reported similar results from her work on a transit study. Rose agreed, noting that Voter Service activities brings us friends, but Action activities bring us members. She said that she and her husband live in the Salem area and would welcome overnight guests if any of our members want to come to Salem to work on studies or action items. She concluded by taking on her "Awesome Auntie" role and singing several LWV songs which she wrote using familiar melodies.

Marilyn then reported on our busy schedule of fall voter service activities, as outlined in the newsletter and asked for volunteers to sign up to help.

Frances Van Wert said that the Children's Trust Fund has asked for official LWV support. Ruth will research LWV positions on national, state and local level to determine if we have positions which would allow us to do this.

The meeting adjourned as members gathered around the sign-up sheets to indicate which events they would attend and how they would help.

Maxine Demory, Secretary