

## **Program of Work, 2019-2020**

The board of directors of the League of Women Voters of Snohomish County recommends the following issues of public policy for the Program Year 2019-2020. Each of these proposals meets the criteria for Program, having a defined focus and outcome, a specific timeline, and a sponsoring committee dedicated to the work.

### **Civil Discourse**

Using the process of concurrence, it is proposed to add to LWVSC's position on Citizen Participation the explicit statement about civil discourse from the LWV of San Luis Obispo, California and LWV of Oregon. Current LWVSC Citizen Participation Position: "Support of citizen participation in local government by advocating that county and local government branches provide adequate notice of proposed actions, hold open meetings, and make public records readily accessible."

To be added: "Promote civil discourse through action and education for all government bodies, staff, and the public for the purpose of improved public policy decisions and processes. Civil discourse means, at a minimum, mutual, respectful, courteous, constructive, and orderly communication."

The committee plans to continue to provide community education on this issue.

### **Homelessness and Housing**

The Children's Services Committee proposes to extend its study on homeless families and unaccompanied youth in Snohomish County for a third year. On completion of the study, the committee will produce a document and consensus questions for all units. The committee envisions the outcome of this process will be an amendment to update the League's position on homelessness.

### **Statewide Redistricting**

The committee plans to continue to provide community education on this issue.

### **Centennial Committee**

They are planning educational activities for the community, celebrating the Centennial of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution giving women in the US the right to vote. Educational activities include contributions to the KSER radio broadcast.

The first three of the following current committees indicated that at this time they did not have proposals for focused activities and did not want to put forward specific programs, but rather preferred to continue exploring various possibilities during the next year, potentially to offer program proposals at a later date.

Additional currently active committees include: Natural Resources (note name change), Health Care, Transportation, Everett Districting and Diversity Outreach.

### **Additional Issues of Interest**

At the unit meetings members suggested the following areas of public policy as issues that might be considered for the Program Year 2019-2020 as well. At the present time there are no committees working on these issues. Therefore, no specific proposals could be made. Members interested in these topics are encouraged to explore forming committees to study the issues and bring them forward in the future: law enforcement; gun safety – could be a health care subcommittee; Snohomish County infrastructure – could become a transportation subcommittee; and campaign finance reform.