



The Anchorage VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ANCHORAGE
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April 2017

Joyce Anderson, President

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Spring is upon us! The snow is melting (or in some areas already melted). Temp's are in the 40's and 50's - hurrah!

Our annual meeting was held on Wednesday, April 5, at the BP Energy Center. We had a great turnout: eight board members and nine members attended. (We currently have 45 members.)

Congratulations to new board member Schwana Toma. She is filling the term of Margaret McDonagh who moved into the Secretary position. Carol Dickason, former Secretary, is now an appointed board member serving a one year term. Please see page 2 for an overview of action taken at the annual meeting.

The board is energized and busily planning the **Member Meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 17**. Vote-by-Mail (VBM) is the topic. The 2018 Municipal election will be conducted by mail. Come and listen to Amanda Moser, Deputy Clerk Elections, provide an overview of the steps the Muni has taken to implement VBM. The Clerk's office is interested in your comments, concerns and input during this very important planning stage.

Become active and be involved!

Joyce Anderson, President



We look forward to seeing you at future League activities.

MARK THE DATE:

Member Meeting:

DATE: Wed, May 17, 2017

TIME: 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: 49th State Brewery,
717 West 3rd Avenue.

PRESENTATION:

Update on Vote-By-Mail for the
2018 Municipal Election.

Amanda Moser, Deputy Clerk

**Plan on attending.
Your input is needed.**



The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Any person 16 years of age and older, male or female, may become a League member.

RECAP OF ANNUAL MEETING

FEATURED SPEAKER: Our featured speaker was Emily Kingsley, a participant in *Campus Vote*, a UAA 2016 voter registration project. The project was incorporated into the class Fundamentals of Oral Communication taught by instructor Marsha Olson, a LWV member. The focus was geared toward millennial voters. Five stations across campus were staffed by 94 students on two separate days. League registrars were available to assist where necessary. The project was a great success. Thank you to Tina DeLapp for coordinating the particulars with Ms. Olson and League registrars.

REPORTS were given on Youth Vote, Voter Services, Local Government, and Membership/Leadership/Development. Many of the items mentioned were highlighted in previous newsletters.

BY-LAWS: The By-Laws committee recommended significant changes. The majority of changes were clarification of current language and adding current practices. The major change occurred in member dues. Youth ages 16-18 became a new category. Youth dues will only be \$10.

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP:

Now that Youth membership is only \$10, what an excellent way to increase membership and engage our YOUTH in League and in our community. Pass the word to Youth you know. Let's set a goal of signing up 20 YOUTH members by the end of this year.



Youth are the future of our community and country.

POLICY POSITIONS: The board voted to review the current policy position on Planning and Zoning. The policy was last reviewed in 2001. New planning and zoning laws are in place as well as a whole set of new planning and zoning issues and concerns. **If you are interested in serving on the committee and have an interest in Planning and Zoning or just want to learn about these issues, please give Joyce Anderson a call at 360-7674.**

PROGRAM EMPHASIS: Three areas were defined for the FY 2017-18: Vote-By-Mail education; Make public information more accessible; and Promote and support Youth Vote's expanding program emphasis.

OTHER AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION: Establish policies and procedures for all activities to be passed down from board to board; update the current website and make it more friendly and informative and provide for membership dues to be paid on-line; institute new methods of communication with members to keep them better informed and thereby become more active members; provide information on how to access important League information on all levels including local, state and nationally.

Look for future newsletters and communications.

Stay informed!

Become active and involved!