

Program Committee Annual Report 2020-2021

"I am so glad to have joined the League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa last Fall, including the Programs and Voter Services committees. This new form of engagement and community has been invaluable to me over the past five months, particularly given the difficult year we all faced. I appreciate being able to meet with like-minded women and men who are just as passionate as I am about encouraging citizens to utilize their right to vote. The education provided by this organization, particularly on healthcare and redistricting over the past few months, has been extremely helpful as well." From new committee member, Jenni Gray

<u>Purpose</u>: The LWVMT Program Committee meets monthly with the goal to provide membership with informational meetings on topics of interest.

<u>Meeting Frequency</u>: All in-person meetings were suspended during Program Year 2020-2021 due to COVID guidance with all monthly committee and membership meetings occurring via Zoom / virtual platform.

<u>Committee Members</u>: Melissa Acton, Tania Garza, Jenni Gray, Julie Gustafson, Patti Mullen (Co-Chair), Linda Ortega (Co-Chair), Lynn Staggs, Anne Williams. (Resignation from Linda Ortega Jan.2021)

Report on activity 2020-2021

ALWVOK State Position on Health Care / Consensus – November 2020

Our meeting welcomed co-author of the state study, Karen Cardenas. The state study was comprehensive, and membership offered their feedback.

LWVMT offered our recommendations to LWVOK in February 2021. The meeting was facilitated by Patti Mullen with approximately 20 members attending.

COVID – February 18, 2021

Responding to the various interests in the COVID pandemic, LWVMT welcomed Dr. Bruce Dart, Executive Director of Tulsa Public Health, to answer an array of questions regarding the vaccine rollout and state outlook. The meeting was facilitated by committee member, Jenni Gray.

State Budget - March 24, 2021

Chair and Vice Chair of State Budget & Appropriations, State Representative Kevin Wallace (Dist. 32) and State Representative Kyle Hilbert (Dist. 29) addressed the topic of state budget.

Of note: This meeting was facilitated by TYPROS Gov't Affairs team member, Matt McAfee. This partnership was in step with the LWVMT's effort to further cement a closer working relationship with Tulsa Young Professionals.

Civic Education – April 5, 2021

Jake Lerner, representing the Civic Learning Coalition (CLC), introduced the CLC's efforts to promote civic education and participation. The meeting was facilitated by committee member, Patti Mullen.

Meeting Recommendations

Pursue opportunities to collaborate with like-minded organizations. Consider hybrid membership meeting with virtual/in-person options Review general purpose of Program Committee.

Study Recommendations

No new studies are being recommended at this time. Follow-up on previously approved studies (review and update of positions on Public Trusts and Transportation/Urban Planning) will be pursued.