**Observer Corps Report**

**League of Women Voters of Kitsap**

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| **Committee/Commission name** |
| Kitsap County Board of Commissioners |

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| **Meeting date** |
| December 13, 2021 |

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| **Observer name** |
| Judy Tallman |

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| **Was there sufficient time for public comments?** |
| Yes |

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| **Number of attendees** |
| Many (16 or more) |

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| **Were members civil to each other and the public?** |
| Yes, always |

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| **Controversial topics/greatest concerns?** |
| Public hearing to consider an Ordinance imposing an additional sales tax of 1/10 of 1% for housing and related services as authorize by Legislature. It is projected to cost each citizen $17,000 a year. Estimated annual revenue in Kitsap is $5.4 million. Many other counties are doing or considering this funding. This will serve people who are 60% below area median income. Why: Cost of housing: 40% of Kitsap citizens pay more than 30% of their income for housing. Housing costs have gone up 40% in the last 5 years. Not enough housing in Kitsap: (survey is done each January so this is 1/21 numbers) 1,747 have requested housing resources. 414 children are homeless according to survey by school districts. 533 people did not have a place to live at last count. Not enough housing: We are building 42 new units for every 100 new households. State and Federal funds need matching funding. Could bring a 5 fold increase if applied properly from matching funds from other sources. Public testimony: 11 people spoke. 6 favored; 4 against; 1 just spoke but didn't specify. Theer have been written testimony. Commissioner's schedule: Verbal testimony is closed. Witten testimony open until Dec 31. Deliberations January 3. Decision at January 10 meeting. Tax collection will begin in April if passed. |

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| **Issues relevant to League positions?** |
| Discussed Commissioner's districts. There will be no change is Districts 1. There will be a little shifting in 2 & 3 to make the districts more equal in population...very little. This is only the Commissioner's assignments not the Legislative districts. There was updating on the Woodbridge Development Agreement in Silverdale to make is safer for community members. There will be new sidewalk configuration at the developer's expense. |

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| **Any other observations about the meeting?** |
| Commissioners manage the depts of: Community Development Public Works Human Services Parks |