LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW YORK STATE

60TH Biennial Convention



JUNE 2 – 4, 2023 THE DESMOND HOTEL ALBANY, NEW YORK

"Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy." LWVNYS Convention, June 2023	Pre-Convention Kit
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A Message From Your State League President

TO: Convention Delegates **FROM**: Judie Gorenstein

Hurray! Convention is almost here and we are so pleased that Carolyn Maloney will be our keynote speaker at Saturday's luncheon. The League of Women Voters of New York State Convention will be a wonderful opportunity for our members to gather together in person and delegates to take an active role in moving the League of Women Voters forward for the next two years. All Leagues have been encouraged to send their allotted number of delegates. All members are encouraged to attend convention, either as a delegate or as a visitor.

This Pre-Convention packet is designed to help you get ready to participate as fully as possible. It includes the Convention agenda, the proposed LWVNYS 2023-2025 budget, the proposed program, and the proposed slate of officers and directors. It also includes the tentative schedules of workshops, caucuses and informational meeting. We strongly encourage all delegates to read these materials beforehand. We will be holding a preconvention zoom meeting for delegates in the next 6 weeks. The materials in this kit along with the Zoom meeting will help prepare you for the convention. Those who have attended previous in-person conventions know how busy convention can be and how preparation beforehand allows for a greater understanding of what is happening, what guestions they want to ask, which workshops and meetings they want to or need to attend. We hope that those who have never attended a state Convention can see how much will be offered and also how much will be accomplished in two days. It may appear somewhat overwhelming, but we will be helping you prepare so you can arrive at Convention feeling confident and ready to take full advantage of all the opportunities to network, learn more about the LWVNYS and all we do, applaud our successes, hear about future plans for LWVNYS and LWVUS, and be able to cast informed votes in moving us forward for the next two years.

The last time that LWVNYS held an in-person convention was four years ago. This is your chance to meet and talk with your state board and staff as well as with other local League leaders. Whether in the hospitality room, at meals, or in the more formal settings, we will all benefit from the personal interaction. I look forward to seeing many of you again and many more for the very first time. Make sure you register, prepare, and then come to Convention ready to learn, network, party, and of course play an important role in moving the League forward! Together we will Empower Voters and Defend our Democracy!

Agenda

Pre-Convention (separate registration and fee)

Friday, June 2

2:00 - 4:30	Speaker and Workshop: Libby Post, President of Progressive
	Public Affairs and Government Relations at Communication
	Services
5:00 - 6:30	Welcome reception

Evening information sessions/caucuses 9:00 - 10:00

Convention

Saturday, June 3

8:30 – 10:00	Workshops
10:15 – 11:30	Workshops
12:00 - 1:30	Lunch with speaker: Former Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney
1:45 – 5:00	Plenary Session
5:30 - 6:30	Reception
6:30 - 8:30	Dinner with awards
8:30 - 9:30	Evening information sessions/caucuses
9:30 - 10:30	Evening information sessions/caucuses

Sunday, June 4

7:30 - 8:45	Breakfast: New Local League Presidents
7:30 - 8:45	Non-President Breakfast
9:00 - 10:00	Speaker: Ayo Atterberry, LWVUS Chief of Culture
10:00 - 12:00	Plenary Session

To register for Convention, visit bit.ly/3KCwgW7

Featured Speakers



The Power of Communication: Turning Values into Action Friday, June 2nd, 2 PM

Libby Post, President of Progressive Public Affairs and Government Relations at Communication Services

If you don't communicate your message, someone else will do it for you—and it won't be what you want to say. This workshop will give you the tools you'll need to effectively communicate your message using the League's core values and emotional branding. Together, they make a potent combination for getting your message out.

Libby Post is a lobbyist and political consultant with an expertise in strategic political communications. As president of Progressive Public Affairs and Government Relations, a subsidiary of Communication Services, she lobbies on behalf of the state's network of animal shelters. She is also currently the lobbyist for the Albany Newspaper Guild. She is a regular commentator of WAMC's The Roundtable and an adjunct professor at Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy.



ERA Now: Let's Get It Done Saturday, June 3, 12 PM Carolyn Maloney, Former Congresswoman

The Equal Rights Amendment was passed in 1972 with a seven-year limit for ratification. It quickly gained ratification from 22 of the 38 required states in the first year. The deadline was extended but 38 states were still not reached by 1982. Since then, the ERA has been introduced in every session of Congress, and in 2020, the 38th state

ratified the amendment. Now, it's time for Congress to remove the deadline and we're close to making that happen. Former Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney will discuss the status of the national ERA and the ways that the League can ensure its certification.

First elected to Congress in 1992 during the 'Year of the Woman,' Carolyn B. Maloney is a nationally recognized progressive leader with extensive accomplishments on financial services, national security, the economy, and women's issues. She is the former Chairwoman of both the House Committee on Oversight and Reform and of the Joint Economic Committee, the first woman to hold both of these positions. Ms. Maloney began her professional career as a teacher and administrator for the New York City Board of Education. When the program she was working for was cut, her colleagues elected her as their advocate to restore funding - and she succeeded, setting an example that has extended throughout her career. Representative Maloney is a leading advocate for—and was a chief House sponsor of—the fight to recognize ratification of the Equal Rights

Amendment (ERA). She has long pressed for acknowledgment of its legality. Overcoming years-long resistance from the Senate, she also secured approval to build the forthcoming Smithsonian American Women's History Museum on the National Mall. Following her 30 years in Congress, Representative Maloney has recently returned to her teaching roots, and is currently serving as the "Eleanor Roosevelt Distinguished Leader in Residence" at Hunter College's Roosevelt House, a public policy institute housed at Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt's former New York City home. In addition to teaching, she is also serving as President of the National Organization for Women (NOW) for New York State and Chair of the ERA Coalition's Fund for Women's Equality.



The Future of the League: Evaluating Our Impact Sunday, June 4th, 9 AM Ayo Atterberry, Chief of Culture at LWVUS

In this new age of information, evaluating our programs and collecting data on our efforts is critical to determining our impact. The public and funders want to see the effectiveness of the League. Additionally, the bylaws that were adopted at LWVUS Convention last year are part of the "transformation process" and

are currently being discussed nationwide for input on their implementation. This presentation will explore the vast world of data collection and evaluation and will explain the proposed process and timetable of the new dues and membership structure.

A nonprofit leader with over two decades of experience, Ayo's journey with the League began as a board member. Previously, she spent over a year in the role of chief strategy officer, where she oversaw the organization's strategy and programmatic implementation. Her career includes being a senior associate in the Evidence-Based Practice Group at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the director of outcomes, assessment, and learning at Venture Philanthropy Partners, and the founder of Atterberry Consulting. She has served on numerous local nonprofit boards.

Information Sessions and Caucuses Friday, June 2, 9:00 PM Saturday, June 3, 8:30 PM AND 9:30 PM

During these sessions, local Leagues are encouraged to share successful programs and discuss new ideas; caucuses can also be scheduled to line up support for your recommendations for League priorities or study topic. If you would like to lead a session, please contact the state office to reserve your room.

Workshops

Saturday 8:30 to 10:00 AM

How to Become a More Effective Moderator

Maureen Murray, LWV of Cooperstown

Moderating candidate events, town meetings and other educational programs takes skill and strength. Come learn some tips to enhance your moderating skills.

How Can We Expand our Impact by Working Together?

Regina Goutevenier, LWV of Port Washington-Manhasset

Hear how local Leagues are working with other community organizations to expand their work, diversify their involvement, and have a greater impact in their community?

Membership: Everything, Everywhere, All at Once

Joy Rosenzweig, LWVNYS Board Member

Join us to share concrete ideas on increasing, engaging, and diversifying membership through simple changes or additions to what we do already. Hear from League members about how we do this through hot topics, contentious elections, and advocacy.

How to Strengthen our Visibility with Social Media

Milly Czerwinski, LWVNYS Communications and Development Associate Using Vote 411 as an example, learn how to develop and utilize communication strategies to market the League brand and election information.

Saturday 10:15 to 11:30 AM

What's Changed in Elections Procedures?

Jennifer Wilson, NYS BOE Deputy Director of Public Information Come hear about the many changes in elections that have been (or are being) implemented in the last few years, including college campus poll sites, 10 day voter registration, AVR/OVR, NYVRA and potential database, early voting expansion and absentee ballot tracker system.

Successes, Missteps & Next Steps in our journey to Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion!

Regina Tillman, LWVYS VP for DEI and DEI Task Force Steering Committee We begin by sharing results of the LWVNYS 2023 DEI Self-Assessment Surveys. Several local Leagues will share their inspiring "DEI Success Stories", and by also including any missteps taken, will convey valuable lessons gained from their DEI journey thus far. Q&A and group discussion will suggest possible next steps to influence your League's culture, with a helpful one-pager made available.

Can Detainees in our Jails Have Better Access to Elections?

Hazel Weiser, LWVNYS Committee on Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice Reform Committee of the State League conducted a statewide survey of the status of voting and voter registration in county jails. At this workshop we will describe the project's structure and present preliminary results.

How Do We Engage More College Students?

Nick Doran, LWVNYS Board Member

Come learn best practices on engaging college students in advocacy, how to best approach teaching advocacy, and how to maintain continuous engagement with college students through examples from local Leagues and leveraging the LWVNYS booklet, *Citizen Lobbyist*.

MEMBERS NEEDED AS CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS Contact Laura Ladd Bierman at State Office

Laura@lwvny.org

- Delegates can volunteer during non-plenary hours.
- Visitors who volunteer can observe plenary and attend workshops at no charge.
- Volunteers who work either plenary session (Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning) can attend Saturday lunch or dinner at no cost.
- Volunteering is a great way to meet and network with fellow Leaguers.

Exhibits and Sales

Convention will bring together creative League members ready to share ideas and techniques that work! Your exhibits and/or products may offer the perfect solution to another League's problem. Keeping in mind that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, the State League encourages you to bring products and publications to sell and exhibits to share at Convention.

If your League wishes to sell any publications or merchandise, it should be prepared to staff its own table and cover any additional charges for special equipment rentals and/or AV charges. All exhibits must be labeled with the local League name. All products and/or exhibits must be picked up by 2:00 PM on SUNDAY, June 4th.

Sales/Exhibit space is limited and will be allotted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Contact Laura Bierman at the State Office if you'd like to reserve space in the Exhibit Room at Laura@lwvny.org.

2023 Proposed Convention Rules

A motion to adopt these rules will be made shortly after convention opens and a quorum has been declared. Amendments to this motion can be made at this time and require a majority vote for adoption. The rules as a whole (either amended or as given below) require a majority vote for adoption. A 2/3 vote is required to change them after they have been adopted.

- 1. <u>Admission</u> to the convention floor shall be limited to those displaying authorized badges. Doors are closed promptly when each session convenes. They will be opened periodically. Doors will be closed during a vote, and no one may enter or leave.
- 2. <u>Seating</u> in the Convention hall shall be divided into two areas: one for VOTING delegates and one for NON-VOTING delegates and VISITORS. All persons in the hall during sessions are requested to sit in their designated areas.
- **3.** Announcements from the platform shall be made only by the Chair, and shall relate only to Convention business or the welfare of the delegates. Notices to be announced must be given to the secretary in writing.
- **4.** <u>Delegates</u> Only delegates and members of the state board may make motions and vote.
- **5.** A Credentials report shall be given by the Credentials Chair at the beginning of each session. The report shall include the number of delegates, alternates, and visitors. The credentials report shall be updated as requested by the presiding officer of the Convention or upon motion of the Convention.
- **6.** Quorum. A quorum for the transaction of business at convention shall be participation by one tenth of the total number of authorized delegates.
- **7.** Alternates shall vote only when taking the place of a regular delegate, wearing a delegate's badge that has been assigned by the Credentials Chair, and sitting in the delegate section.
- **8.** <u>Privileges of the Floor</u> Delegates, state board members and those designated by the delegate body may speak.
- 9. Motions shall be made only by accredited delegates and members of the state board of directors. The mover shall obtain a motion form from the Page at a microphone, complete the form, and return it to the Page for distribution to the Chair, Parliamentarian, Secretary and staff member for display to the audience. The motions or amendments shall include the name and local League of the mover. There shall be no discussion or action on a motion until a copy is in the hands of the Chair. The Chair may waive this requirement.

- 10. Debate and discussion shall be limited to those granted the privileges of the floor. Only those standing at a microphone shall be recognized to speak. The Chair shall designate "pro" and "con" microphones at appropriate times and alternately recognize delegates standing at them. Each speaker shall be limited to two minutes. This time may be extended or shortened by a two-thirds vote of the delegate body. No one shall speak for a second time on a question until all who wish to speak have spoken once. No one shall speak more than twice on a question.
- 11. Voting Only accredited delegates and members of the state board shall be entitled to vote. Delegates may vote by proxy as outlined in the LWVNYS bylaws; a proxy form will be available from the state League office and must be signed by the local League President and submitted to the Chair at Convention. The Chair, unless otherwise directed by the delegate body, will decide which of the following methods of voting shall be employed:

a. By Voice

- Delegates vote by saying aye or nay

b. By Hand

- Delegates raise hands for aye and nay

c. By Standing

- Delegates vote by standing

d. By Division of House

- Delegates stand and count off

e. By Card

- Delegates submit red and green cards indicating their vote and Elections Committee counts the cards

When a vote is in process, the doors to the Convention hall shall be closed and no one may enter or leave.

- 12. Action Motions An action motion is a means for the delegate body to speak in concert on a matter of importance to the organization. It proposes action on a legislative or administrative matter at the state level and directs the League to take a specific action (e.g., sending a letter to the Governor). Action motions shall be referred to and considered by the Action Motions Committee appointed by the Chair before the first plenary session of the Convention.
 - **a.** Action motions must be completed and submitted by 5:00 pm on Saturday. Action Motions must be emailed to Laura@lwvny.org.
 - **b.** To be recommended by the committee, the action motion must:
 - i. be consistent with League positions and
 - ii. must not conflict with ongoing advocacy work.
 - **iii.** The committee may also consider whether the action will help further an adopted League priority and
 - **iv.** whether the proposed action is likely to have a measurable impact on the outcome of the matter.
 - **c.** Action motions recommended by the Actions Motions Committee require a majority vote for adoption.
- **13.** The Action Motions Committee and Process: At least four weeks before the Convention, the LWVNYS President shall have appointed an Action Motion Committee consisting of one member of the LWVNYS Board of Directors and one registered Convention delegate.

- a. The Action Motions Committee shall meet on Saturday evening to consider whether each submitted action motion meets the criteria, timing, and process requirements. The time and location of the meeting will be announced with the Convention schedule. A representative of the League submitting an action motion shall have an opportunity to explain the action motion to the Action Motions Committee if the representative so requests.
- **b.** The Chair of the Action Motions Committee will announce the recommendations of the Committee to the Convention during the 2nd plenary session. Any action motion reported affirmatively to have met the criteria for resolutions or action motions by the Action Motion Committee may be moved for consideration of the Convention.
- **14.** <u>Miscellaneous Motions</u> A speaker may request a Page at a microphone to use a colored card to request a point of order, a point of information, a parliamentary inquiry or a question of privilege.
- **15.** <u>Introduction of Proposed Program:</u> The proposed LWVNYS Program shall be moved for adoption by a member of the LWVNYS Board. Debate and action on the Proposed Program shall take place during the 2nd plenary session at a time designated by the Chair. During the times specified in the agenda for Program consideration and Program debate, the chair will divide the time equally among the program items that have been granted consideration.
- 16. Consideration of Non-Recommended Program Items: Any delegate may move for consideration of non-recommended Program items at the first plenary session immediately following the introduction of the Proposed Program. Presentations shall be limited to five minutes. No additional motions or debate are in order at this time. If a non-recommended item is moved for consideration, any delegate may request a statement from the LWVNYS Board, limited to five minutes, giving the reasons for not recommending the item.
 - **a.** After all non-recommended items have been moved for consideration, a vote for consideration of each shall take place in the order in which the items were moved for consideration. No additional motions or debate are in order at this time. A majority vote is required to consider a non-recommended item.
 - **b.** Debate and action on non-recommended Program items shall take place at the same plenary as debate and action on the proposed Program as designated by the Chair.
- 17. Adoption of Program: shall take place at the second plenary session.
 - **a.** Action on the proposed Program, concurrence proposals, and any non-recommended program items voted for consideration by the delegates and moved for adoption shall take place at a time designated by the chair. Proposals for concurrence are debatable but not amendable.
 - **b.** A majority vote is required to adopt the proposed Program.
 - **c.** A 3/5 vote is required for adoption of non-recommended items.
 - **d.** Amendments to wording for editorial purposes, clarification, or emphasis may be made at this point but may not change the scope or meaning of the item.

- **18.** Nominations: Any candidate who is nominated from the floor shall give consent and be allowed to address the delegates for one minute immediately after their name is placed in nomination.
- **19.** <u>Elections</u> The Credentials Chair shall present a final report to the Convention or the election committee before the election procedure begins.
- **20.** <u>Promotional materials</u> may be distributed only by delegates and alternates wearing badges and only before or after a session. Official Convention materials and promotional materials relating to Convention issues may be placed on the chairs or tables prior to the beginning of a convention session.
- **21.** Rules After adoption, these rules may be amended or suspended by a two-thirds vote. Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, will govern all matters not covered in the rules or in the bylaws.
- **22.** <u>Minutes</u> The minutes of the LWVNYS Convention shall be approved by the LWVNYS board of directors upon recommendation of a Minutes Review Committee appointed to review and correct the minutes.

Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance

YOU SAY THIS	MAY YOU INTERRUPT SPEAKER?	MUST YOU BE SECONDED?	IS THE MOTION DEBATABLE?	VOTE NEEDED
I move that we adjourn	No	Yes	No	Majority
I move that we recess the meeting until	No	Yes	No	Majority
Point of privilege	Yes	No	No	No vote
I move we table it	No	Yes	No	Majority
I move (that) the previous question	No	Yes	No	2/3 vote
I move we postpone this matter until	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
I move we refer this to committee.	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
I move to amend this motion	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
I move that	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Point of order	Yes	No	No	No vote: chair decides
Point of information	Yes	No	No	No vote
I call for a division of the house	Yes	No	No	No vote
I call for a vote count	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
I object to consideration	Yes	No	No	2/3 vote
I move to take from the table	No	Yes	No	Majority
	I move that we adjourn I move that we recess the meeting until Point of privilege I move we table it I move (that) the previous question I move we postpone this matter until I move we refer this to committee. I move to amend this motion I move that Point of order Point of information I call for a division of the house I call for a vote count I object to consideration I move to take from	I move that we adjourn I move that we recess the meeting until Point of privilege Yes I move we table it No I move we table it No I move we postpone this matter until No I move we refer this to committee. I move to amend this motion I move that No Point of order Yes Point of information Yes I call for a division of the house I object to consideration I move to take from No I move to take from No I move to awe of the house I call move to take from No I move to take from	Imove that we adjourn No Yes I move that we recess the meeting until Point of privilege Yes No I move we table it No Yes I move (that) the previous question No Yes I move we postpone this matter until I move we refer this to committee. I move to amend this motion No Yes Point of order Yes No Point of information Yes No I call for a division of the house I object to consideration Yes No I move to take from No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes	YOU SAY THIS INTERRUPT SPEAKER? MOST YOU BE SECONDED? MOTION DEBATABLE? I move that we adjourn No Yes No I move that we recess the meeting until No Yes No Point of privilege Yes No No I move we table it No Yes No I move that) the previous question No Yes No I move that we postpone this matter until No Yes Yes I move we refer this to committee. No Yes Yes I move to amend this motion No Yes Yes I move that No Yes Yes Point of order Yes No No Point of information Yes No No I call for a division of the house Yes No No I call for a vote count Yes No No I move to take from No Yes No

Parliamentary Procedure Cont.

TO DO THIS	YOU SAY THIS	MAY YOU INTERRUPT SPEAKER?	MUST YOU BE SECONDED?	IS THE MOTION DEBATABLE?	VOTE NEEDED
Reconsider something already disposed of	*I move we reconsider action on	Yes	Yes	Yes	Only a majority if original quest. Was debatable
Consider something not in scheduled order	I move we suspend the rules and	No	Yes	No	2/3 vote
Vote on a ruling by the chair	I appeal the chair's decision.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Division of question (voting separately on parts)	I move to divide the question.	No	Yes	No	Majority
Consider seriatim or consider by paragraph (amend each & then vote on the whole)	I move we consider by paragraph.	No	Yes	No	Majority
Rescind (repeal)	I move to rescind the motion which was adopted	No	Yes	Yes	2/3 vote

^{*} Must be done by someone who voted on the prevailing side and must be done the same or following day.

Thanks to the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts for providing the basis for this memo.

Tips for Delegates

This workbook contains the information necessary for full and informed participation in Convention debate and decision-making.

<u>Convention Conduct:</u> Sessions begin promptly. The Order of Business (Agenda) adopted at the opening session will be closely followed. In order to fulfill your responsibility to interpret and report Convention action to your own League and to represent it accurately, you should be seated before the opening time of each session and remain until recess or adjournment. Delegates are uninstructed and make decisions based on their best judgment in the light of Convention discussion. As a representative of your local League, however, you should know the thinking of your members. You should see that their opinions are adequately and fully presented during debate.

<u>Discussion and debate</u> are the most important parts of a League Convention. However, delegates should exercise self-discipline if the time schedule is to be maintained. If a previous speaker makes your point while you are waiting to speak, either sit down or say, "I agree with the previous speaker." A delegate wishing to address the Convention should go to a microphone, wait for recognition, and then state her/his name and League.

<u>All motions must be in writing</u> and handed to the Page at the microphone for transmittal to the Chair before the motion is made. Help the secretary to prepare Convention minutes by giving the Page copies of your statements. *Proposed non-recommended items must be properly worded so delegates understand what is involved and what the implications are for state program.*

<u>Caucuses</u> are an exciting part of Convention. Attend one or more of them. Rooms will be available on Saturday evening for caucuses and other informal meetings. Contact the Convention registration desk in order to arrange for a caucus room. State board members do not attend caucuses; if you would like one or more state board members to attend your caucus, you must invite them.

<u>Exchange of ideas and information</u> among the delegates is most valuable. Split up your delegation when attending caucuses and other meetings.

<u>Program adoption</u> begins during the first Convention session with the presentation of the program proposed by the state board. *Questions for clarification* only (e.g., the extent, meaning or timing of the item) may be asked at this time. The Chair will rule out of order any discussion on the merits of the item.

After the state board's proposals are presented, delegates may move consideration of non-recommended items submitted by local Leagues during the program making process. A delegate moving a non-recommended item is limited to *five minutes* for its presentation.

Editorial changes in recommended items (changes in language which do not change the meaning or scope of the item) should not be proposed at this time. If necessary, the Chair will rule as to whether a suggested wording constitutes an editorial change or a non-recommended item.

The "PROPOSED 2023-2025 LWVNYS PROGRAM" in this Kit contains all of the "Recommended Items."

- (a) A delegate wishing to drop an item on the recommended program should vote against it. No motion is necessary.
- (b) Any <u>expansion</u> of present recommended items involving new study or redirection must be moved as a non-recommended item. This can only be done if the expansion is included in the list of non-recommended items circulated in this workbook.

All program motions will be voted on during the second session in the following sequence:

- 1. The state board's recommended proposals.
- 2. Non-recommended items voted for consideration in the order in which they were presented to the Convention.

When an item is brought up for final debate and vote, motions to amend its wording may be made. These changes may be editorial, for clarification or for emphasis, but may not limit or enlarge the scope of the item. A majority vote is required to amend and the proposed amendment is acted on before the final vote on the item is taken. If a delegate intends to move an editorial change, it would be helpful to indicate this during the free discussion period.

Items recommended by the state board require a majority vote for adoption; non-recommended items require a 3/5 vote. (Bylaws, Article XI, Sec. 3)

2021 - 2023 Board of Directors

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

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3rd VICE PRESIDENT, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

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HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE, CHAIR

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EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING, MEDICAL AID IN DYING

Barb Thomas – LWV of Saratoga County | bkoeppicust@gmail.com

JUDICIAL ISSUES

Laura Ladd Bierman – LWV of Albany County | laura@lwvny.org

RURAL CAUCUS COMMITTEE, CHAIR

Kathy Stein – LWV of St. Lawrence County MAL Unit | kstein1@twcny.rr.com

Nominees for the 2023-2025 Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of New York State

<u>OFFICERS</u>

President Nancy Rosenthal LWV of Albany County

1st VP Issues and Advocacy Sally Robinson LWV of New York City

2nd VP Voter Services Kathy Meany *LWV of Rivertowns*

3rd VP Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Regina Tillman *LWV of Albany County*

4th VP Youth Programs Nick Doran LWV of Broome-Tioga Counties

Secretary Pattie Garrett LWV of Saratoga County

Treasurer Nancy Agen LWV of Utica - Rome

DIRECTORS

Jane Colvin LWV of New York City

Kate Doran LWV of New York City

Michelle Lamberti LWV of Port Washington/Manhasset

Marjorie McIntosh LWV of Cattaraugus/Allegany MAL Unit

Joy Rosenzweig LWV of New Castle

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Judie Gorenstein *LWV of Rivertowns*

Member Crystal Joseph LWV of New York City

Member Lori Robinson LWV of Buffalo/Niagara

Get to Know Your New Board of Directors Nancy Rosenthal - President

Nancy joined League in 2008 after attending a monthly general meeting and being asked to join! Soon after, Nancy found herself President of her local League, Southwest Nassau, and later Co- President and then President of the ILO of Nassau County. Nancy has worked at the national level with the LWVUS Governance Committee, 2016-2018, and the current LWVUS Working Groups (data). For LWVNYS, Nancy has served on the LWVNYS Budget committee as both a member and chair, and is currently on the



LWVNYS State Board as 1st Vice President of Voter Service. Nancy's #1 pet project is vote411.org

Nancy retired in 2022 from a metals business in Brooklyn, NY that her father-in-law started in 1948. She began her journey to New York, starting in Northern California then to Kansas City, Missouri, and in 2004 to Hewlett, New York (Long Island). While in Kansas City, Nancy was President for several years of the Westport Citizens Action Coalition. Her background includes a few teaching credentials, teaching the blind and visually impaired, and then as a Feldenkrais Practitioner (a form of physical therapy). Nancy has two children, both physicists, working to change the world through science!

Nancy recently moved to Delmar, NY and also found a place in Canaan, NH where she can hike, ski, and bike by simply walking out her back door.



Sally Robinson – 1st *Vice-President, Issues & Advocacy*

Sally started in the LWV Scarsdale and served as its president while simultaneously a member of the LWVUS Task Force on Trade Policy Update. After that she was New York State League Grassroots Lobby Director and then 1st Vice President/Advocacy and Issues in 2003-04; She held that job again starting in 2009 and served as State League president 2012-2015.

Sally is from the small town of Waller, Texas and was the first person in her family to go to college. After graduating from college and law school on the

East Coast, she moved to New York City, where she worked as a tax lawyer. After her third child was born and she moved to Scarsdale, she switched to volunteer work, primarily with the League and as Chair of the Planning Board.

Sally is currently a member of the City of New York LWV where she moved in 2006 and completed a graduate tax degree at NYU Law School. She lives on the Upper East Side with her husband. She enjoys travel, golf and skiing with her husband, a college and law school classmate.

Kathy Meany – 2nd Vice President, Voter Services

Kathy is President of the League of Women Voters of Westchester County ILO, NY. She is also a member of the Westchester Women's Agenda, the League of Women Voters of the Rivertowns, Nonprofit Westchester, and the Business Council of Westchester.

Kathy joined the nonpartisan League of Women Voters with the objectives of empowering voters and defending democracy through civic



education for all voters and youth - the leaders of tomorrow. Her 2023 goals include expanding youth engagement in Westchester County to further advance civic readiness by partnering with county schools and like-minded organizations in the community, and launching a new local League in Northwest Westchester.

The majority of her career was spent in the financial services industry as a financial consultant, and then in training and development within several global Fortune 500 corporations, with a focus on leadership and staff development and technology training. In January 2009, Kathy became an entrepreneur running her own training and development business. She advanced her passion in leadership training by founding and directing the Women's Leadership Institute at Manhattanville College in Purchase, NY (2013-2020.) There, diverse business women had the opportunity to develop themselves professionally through programs and events, academic certificate programs, and annual conferences. With a government contract, Kathy delivered the Career Transition program to retiring military officers and enlisted personnel, most notably at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and a variety of military installations in the Northeast region.

Since January 2022, she is enjoying retirement through her volunteer League work, playing golf, and international travel.



Regina Tillman – 3rd Vice President, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Regina responded to the turmoil of 2016 by seeking additional ways to deal with voter apathy that could augment the creation of cardboard signs for protests. She officially became a member of the LWV Albany County in December of that year after hearing of their skills in advocacy. In her first 6 years with the League, she held local League Board positions of: Membership Chair, 1st Vice President, and Director for Fundraising and Development.

In 2019 she was honored to be elected to a newly created State Board position, that of 3rd Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). She is just as honored today to be nominated for a third term in that capacity. She applauds her state-wide "set of right hands" for helping her to begin the shift in NYS League culture toward DEI, the DEI Taskforce.

This position of VP/DEI also allowed Regina to represent LWVNYS to other Leagues, i.e., as participant on the 2020 nationwide Task Force for development of the LWVUS "Urgent Resolution - Racial Justice for Black People and All People of Color"; in a podcast interview on DEI; and in speaking to a League Convention in another State as DEI panelist. Her commitment to addressing

policies, practices and behaviors connected to implementation of a "DEI Lens" has resulted in her recent appointment to the LWVUS DEI Committee for the 2023-25 term.

A native of Buffalo NY, Regina went to Cleveland, Ohio to pursue a healthcare career that began with a Coordinated Internship and MS Graduate Degree program in Human Nutrition at Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland VA Medical Center. Career-driven locations in her 27 years as a Registered Dietitian and civil servant included Buffalo NY, Montrose NY, and Providence RI, and ending in Albany NY as a Director and Program Manager. In semi-retirement, she then had a 10-year association with the cooperative extension land-grant system, affiliated with Cornell University, where she began a Farm to School Project.

Her activities are wide and varied, including years of event coordination (farmers market music, children's activities; a local summer music festival), promotions, photography, gardening, participating in social justice organizations as member and volunteer, and more recently, learning the fine art of fundraising. Observing workplace culture from different geographic locations while supervising and leading people from a broad range of backgrounds, allows Regina to tap into her life experiences for the benefit of the League, and for her community.

Nick Doran - 4th Vice President, Youth Programs

Nick Doran joined the League of Women Voters Broome and Tioga Counties when he was a sophomore at Binghamton University working on voter registration in the fall of 2014. He worked for the Andrew Goodman Foundation (AGF) Vote Everywhere program and Binghamton's Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) to help register students to vote and improve the voter registration process on campus. During his time at Binghamton, he helped register over 4,200 students, implement voter registration at freshmen orientation, and streamline Election Day logistics on campus. With



his help and ongoing CCE efforts, Binghamton has gone on to be repeatedly recognized as a voter-friendly campus and used as a model to improve student voter registration and turnout. Following graduation, Nick joined the AGF Alumni Association Board, where he was co-chair from January 2019 until June 2020. He joined the State League board in 2021.

Nick has a bachelor's degree in economics and a Master of Public Administration from Binghamton University. He works as a bank examiner for the federal government in the Syracuse area. In his spare time, you can find Nick practicing yoga, cycling, or reading a good mystery novel.



Pattie Garrett - Secretary

For the past two years, Pattie has served as Secretary for the League of Women Voters of New York State. Additionally, she is a member of the Local League Support Committee.

Pattie is a long-standing member of the League of Women Voters of Saratoga County, having held board positions as Co-president and for many years as secretary. In those positions, she assisted in program

planning, advocacy, voter registration, and shaping the League for the next century.

A graduate from SUNY Potsdam with a degree in Political Science and SUNY Oneonta with a degree in Nutrition, Pattie is a Registered Dietitian who retired from NYS government. While employed by the State, she worked in aging, mental health, and women's health (WIC).

Pattie recognizes the importance of timely and accurate recordings of meeting minutes from her many years as secretary. She plans to offer perspective on honoring our historic past, our important role in today's politics and government policies, and maintaining relevancy during our next century.

Nancy Agen - Treasurer

In 2006, Nancy attended her first Candidate Forum which the Utica-Rome League held for the local County Executive position. At the time, she was not familiar with the League of Women Voters but appreciated the value of the forum which enabled her to be a more informed voter. After retirement in 2010 she joined the League and gradually became more active. She has served as Treasurer for 12 years, been a member of the Leadership Team for 4 and has been the Webmaster for 8 years. She is also a volunteer for Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute.



Nancy grew up in Westchester. She has a B.S. in Biology from Nazareth College. She lived for a short period of time in Florida and Tennessee and traveled extensively to National Parks when time and finances presented the opportunity. A few years after graduation her career took an unexpected turn when she moved to Utica. She has since been involved in the accounting and management of small businesses, one of them being family owned. This gave her a wide range of experiences and responsibilities. She enjoys visiting with her 2 children and 4 grandchildren. In her spare time, she participates in the all-season outdoor activities of a local hiking club.



Jane Colvin - Director

Jane E. Colvin joined the League of Women Voters of the City of New York in 2006, one of the first things she did after selling her house in suburbia and moving into New York City. She immersed herself in League activities, becoming a member of the Legislative Action Committee and the Development Committee, and working on the Inside newsletter and other publications. She served as a member of the Management Team from 2008-2010, as Secretary

from 2012 - 2014, and as Treasurer from 2014 - 2018.

After 31 years of working in international and private banking at Bankers Trust/Deutsche Bank, Jane determined that in the not-for-profit world, there were greater rewards than those associated with earnings per share. She joined The HealthCare Chaplaincy as Director of Marketing and Communications and subsequently, worked for The Interfaith Center of New York as a Development Associate in charge of special events and fund raising.

Jane is an active congregant at the All Souls Unitarian Universalist church where she's been a member since 2006. She's worked on the Nuclear Disarmament, Adult Education, and Nominating Committee and sang in the Community Choir. She headed the All Souls Caring Team which recently became part of the Lay Pastoral Associates, dedicated to providing both practical and spiritual assistance to fellow members in need.

She has a BA from Cornell and a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. A perpetual student, Jane has gone back to school, auditing classes at Hunter and John Jay Criminal College of Justice. She has a wonderful married son and daughter-in-law who live in California and spends her free time enjoying Manhattan.

Kate Doran - Director

Kate Doran has been a member of the League of Women Voters of the City of New York since 1977. After moving to the city, and deciding she needed to be a more informed voter, Kate joined the "Brooklyn Evening," branch. (In 1977 there were at least 3 branches of the LWVNYC in Brooklyn alone.)





Kate became an Election Day poll worker in 2004. From 2006 through 2016 Kate was a Poll Site Coordinator. She closely monitors the NYC Board of Elections, attending their weekly meetings and reporting out to League Members, and various policy groups.

Kate graduated in 1974 from Ithaca College, with a BA in English. She has worked in government, banking, and private tutoring of middle school students. Kate enjoys reading, sewing, yoga, and volunteering at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. She is also a passionate

recycler, and strives to live a zero-waste life. Kate and her husband own, and manage, Total Tennis, a year-round tennis and racquet sports resort in Saugerties, NY. They have 3 daughters and 4 grandchildren.



Michelle Lamberti – *Director*

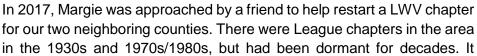
Michele C. Lamberti serves as an advocacy and policy focused attorney with strategic leadership experience across the nonprofit sector. She currently serves as Redistricting Project Coordinator for LatinoJustice PRLDFEF and New York City's Unity Map Coalition.

Previously, Michele was a litigator at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in New York and served on the firm's women's committee and on the advisory board of New York Lawyers for the Public Interest. She has served in various roles

with the League of Women Voters, where her work has focused on education and advocacy around voting rights and redistricting. She serves as Chair Emerita of Women of Dartmouth, Past President of the Dartmouth Communities Executive Council, and a Dartmouth Alumni Councilor. Michele is a graduate of Dartmouth College and Fordham Law School.

Marjorie McIntosh - *Director*

After retiring from Admissions/Recruitment at a local community college and closing a wedding planning/florist business in 2015, Margie spent two years traveling, resting, spending time with family and friends and catching up on home projects ~ so retirement was GOOD!





seemed like the right time to take an unfamiliar, but timely jump into the political and activist pool. Serving as President since 2018, Margie has and does wear many LWV hats, but it is a privilege to be part of a group of committed people who feel strongly about the importance of trying to make life better for everyone. One of the most unexpected benefits of being part of this group is all of the new people who have now become great friends. Even the most serious work is a little easier when working with passionate people who genuinely like one another, are positive, persistent and fun.

Margie is a graduate of Monroe Community College in Rochester, Jamestown Community College in Olean and University of Pittsburg in Bradford, PA, as an adult student. Education became a huge part of the second phase of life and being able to continue partnering with schools, colleges, libraries, and community organizations, albeit in a different capacity, is a lovely surprise.

Volunteer/work/life balance is always challenging, but with the support of a good husband, Jim, a daughter and son-in-law who live around the corner, other adult children who live in fun places to visit and creative therapies such as needlework, quilting, painting, baking and baseball, days are busy but rewarding.



Joy Rosenzweig – *Director*

Joy Rosenzweig is currently a member of the Westchester County Fair Campaign Practices Committee, an independent entity created by the LWV of Westchester (LWVW) to promote fair and honest political campaigns. She joined the LWV of New Rochelle when her kids were very young because she had wanted to get involved in her new community and talk about something other than babies. She served as co-president for a year and then moved to Hong Kong, where she became voter service chair of that League. Afterwards, Joy returned to the States, became director of public relations of

the LWV of New Castle, and then president of the LWVW. She joined the State League board in 2021.

Joy is the president of Blue Ink, a consulting and interim leadership company that specializes in the nonprofit, small business, and political sectors. Prior to founding Blue Ink, she served as interim director for development and marketing at Feeding Westchester, chief operating officer at a women's entrepreneurship organization, director of community relations for an NYS assemblyman, and account executive at a public relations firm. She graduated from Bryn Mawr College with a degree in Sociology/Anthropology.

The daughter of immigrants, Joy believes that our democracy is precious and that the LWV enables her to help protect and enhance it. She looks forward to better times for all of us in the year to come.

2023 – 2025 Nominating Committee



Judie Gorenstein - Chair

Judie has been on the LWVNYS board for the past thirteen years, first serving as youth chair for five, then as voter service chair for six, and then as president for two years. In each position, Judie has strived to do her best, assess what was worked, determine what was needed, and know when was the right time to step down. She has been honored these past two years to be President of LWVNYS and found this role to be both challenging and very rewarding. She believes she has accomplished what she could in enabling

LWVNYS and local Leagues, MAL units, and ILOs to all work together to achieve the mission of empowering voters and defending democracy.

Judie believes developing a leadership ladder and having people step up is essential for continued growth and that now is the right time for a highly qualified, experienced LWV board member to become the new president. Judie also believes in the importance of the nominating committee. She has served on nominating committees as a board member of LWVNY and if elected, looks forward to serving in this important role.

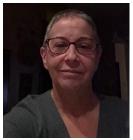
Crystal Joseph

Crystal joined her local League in 2013, as a graduate student researching the importance of civics, learning and contemporary movement building. In the process, she was pleased to learn that the League of Women Voters was still leading the charge and getting out the vote. After speaking with a few League members, she was invited to several meetings and learned more about all the amazing activities taking place at the League including the importance of voting. As a novel member of the organization, she joined both



the Membership and Education Committees. The historical, theoretical and foundational support from the League was used to assist in completing the research for her master's thesis on collective social organizing in the 21st Century. For the past term, Crystal has been learning about each regional League's youth activities, voter registration campaigns and is presently helping the League expand and incorporate the now state-wide Youth Civics Initiative.

Crystal is a proud City University of New York (CUNY) graduate with a Bachelor's of Science from Baruch's Marx School of Public and International Affairs and a Master's of Arts in Urban Studies with a concentration in Public Administration from the Graduate Center's, School of Professional Studies. At present, she is a doctoral resident at Concordia University-Chicago pursuing an Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership with a specialization in transformational leadership. Crystal also serves as Vice-President of Communications with the NYC League. When she is not studying or working with her students as a program coordinator with the City University of New York, she enjoys a good upstate road trip, leisurely walk or spa day.



Lori Robinson

Lori has been a Not-For-Profit accountant for 35 years and has just retired as the Director of Finance for The Buffalo History Museum. Having worked in the public, private and cultural sectors of nonprofits she has a financial understanding of what gets funded and where we, as a democracy, need to focus more attention and resources.

She has always been passionate about good government and ran for Chautauqua County Legislature in 1993. Lori lived in Phoenix AZ for 15 years where she worked as an Election Site Inspector.

As a member of the Buffalo Niagara League since 2013 Lori has served on the board as Treasurer, Membership Co-Chair, and soon to be President. She has served as the State League Treasurer since 2017.

With a new sovereignty in retirement she is ready to promote LWV values while taking on the challenges and opportunities ahead of us.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW YORK STATE BYLAWS

AS AMENDED AND ADOPTED BY DELEGATES AT STATE CONVENTION, JUNE 2021

Article I

Name and Office

Sec. 1 Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of New York State, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as "LWVNYS." The LWVNYS is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as "LWVUS".

Article II

Purposes and Policy

- **Sec. 1** <u>Purposes</u>. The purposes of the LWVNYS shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.
- **Sec. 2** Political Policy. The LWVNYS shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.
- **Sec. 3** <u>Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Policy</u>. The League is fully committed to ensure compliance in principle and practice with the LWVNYS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy.

Article III

Membership

Sec. 1 <u>Eligibility</u>. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the LWVNYS shall be eligible for membership.

Sec. 2 Types of Membership.

- a. Voting members. Persons at least 16 years of age who join the LWVNYS at any level shall be voting members at all levels of League.
 - i. individuals who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League; those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or may be state members-at-large;
 - ii. those who have been members of the LWVUS for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues
 - iii. those who are students are defined as individuals enrolled either as full or part time with an accredited institution.
- b. Associate Members. All others who join the LWVNYS shall be associate members.

Article IV

Officers

Sec. 1 Enumeration, Election and Term. The officers of the LWVNYS shall be a president, a first vice-president, with up to but no more than three additional vice-presidents, and either a secretary and a treasurer or a combined position of secretary/treasurer. The number and order of vice-presidents and whether the offices of secretary and treasurer shall be combined shall be recommended by the Nominating Committee. Any of those offices may not be eliminated or

combined until the term of an elected officer is concluded. The Officers shall be elected by the convention and hold office until the conclusion of the next convention or until their successors have been elected and qualified.

- **Sec. 2** Qualifications. Only voting members in the state of New York shall be elected or appointed to serve as officers or directors of the LWVNYS.
- **Sec. 3** <u>President.</u> The president shall preside at all meetings of the LWVNYS and of the board of directors, hereinafter referred to as "the board," unless the president is absent or designates someone else to preside. The president may sign contracts and loans and sign or endorse checks. The president shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the nominating committee and have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the president and perform other duties designated by the board.
- **Sec. 4** <u>Vice-presidents</u>. In the event of the absence of the president, the first vice-president, or any of the vice-presidents, in order of rank, shall assume that office until the president's return. If the board declares the office of president vacant, the first vice-president shall assume the office. If the first vice-president is unable to serve as president, any of the vice-presidents, in order of rank, shall assume that office until the next convention. In the event that none of the vice-presidents is able to serve in this capacity, the board shall elect one of its elected members to fill the vacancy. The vice-presidents shall perform such other duties as the president and board may designate.
- **Sec. 5** <u>Secretary</u>. The secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, minutes of convention, council, and meetings of the board; shall notify all officers and directors of their election; and shall perform such other functions as the president and board shall direct.
- **Sec.** 6 <u>Treasurer</u>. The treasurer shall, at the direction of the president and the board, perform such financial oversight of the professional staff of the organization as is appropriate under the circumstances and such other duties as may customarily pertain to the office; and shall arrange for an annual audit or financial review of the books by a certified public accountant.

Article V

Board

- **Sec. 1** Number, Selection, and Term. The board shall consist of the officers of the LWVNYS, up to five but not less than three elected directors, and up to four appointed directors. The number of elected directors shall be recommended by the Nominating Committee. The elected directors shall be elected by the convention and shall serve until the conclusion of the next convention or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members of the board shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding four, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the LWVNYS. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall expire concurrently with the terms of office of the elected directors.
- **Sec. 2** The "Entire Board" shall consist of the number of Directors within the designated range that were elected as of the most recently held election of Directors plus the number of directors appointed and serving.
- Sec. 3 Absences and Vacancies.

- a. Absences. In the event that a board member is absent from two consecutive meetings of the board, without excuse accepted as satisfactory by the directors, that position may be declared vacant.
- b. Vacancies. A board position shall be vacant in the event a board member dies or resigns, or a position is declared vacant pursuant to Section 3a of this Article.
- c. Any vacancy in the board other than in the presidency may be filled until the next convention by a majority vote of the remaining members of the board.

Sec. 4 Powers and Duties.

- a. The board shall have full charge of the property and fiscal business of the LWVNYS with full power and authority to manage and conduct the same, subject to the instructions of the convention.
- b. In executing the duties of their office, board members are expected to carry out applicable laws and regulations as well as League bylaws, mission, policies, standards and procedures. Board members who do not shall be counseled.
- c. The board shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program on state governmental matters as adopted by the convention.
- d. The board shall accept responsibility delegated to it by the board of the LWVUS for:
 - i. the organization and development of local Leagues;
 - ii. carrying out of a program;
 - iii. providing assistance to the local Leagues in obtaining funds to further the work of a local League or the LWVNYS; and
 - iv. guidance of intrastate inter-League organizations hereinafter referred to as ILOs.
- e. The board may create member-at-large (hereinafter referred to as MAL) units, and establish rules and regulations for their operations.
- f. The board shall create and designate such committees as it may deem necessary. "Committees of the Board" are those that may have the power to bind the board within the limitations of NYS law. These committees must be comprised solely of board members, and have at least 3 members. "Committees of the Corporation" cannot bind the board and may include non-board members. These committees are appointed by the board.
- g. The board may appoint an executive committee consisting of no fewer than five members of the board. The executive committee shall exercise such power and authority as may be delegated to it by the board and shall report to the board, at the earliest opportunity, on all actions taken by it between regular meetings of the board.

Sec. 5 Regular Meetings. There shall be at least four regular meetings of the board annually. At the direction of the president, at least two weeks before each regular meeting, each board member shall be sent a written notice of the meeting which may be transmitted by regular mail, fax or email giving the time and place of such meeting.

Sec. 6 Special Meetings. The president may call special meetings of the board, and/or shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the board. Members of the board shall be notified of the time and place of special meetings by written notice transmitted by regular mail, fax, e-mail, sent at least six days prior to such meeting. During convention or council, however, the president may, or upon the request of five members of the board shall, call a special meeting of the board by giving members of the board a written notice of the time and place of said meeting.

- **Sec. 7** Quorum. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum and a majority of the members in attendance at any board meeting shall, in the presence of a quorum, decide its action. Any member of the board may participate in a meeting by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment that allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time; participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.
- **Sec. 8** Action of Board. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the board or any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if all members of the board or the committee consent to the adoption of a resolution authorizing the action. Such consent may be written or electronic. If written, the consent must be executed by the director by signing such consent or causing his or her signature to be affixed to such consent by any reasonable means including, but not limited to, facsimile signature. If electronic, the transmission of the consent must be sent by electronic mail and set forth, or be submitted with, information from which it can reasonable be determined that the transmission was authorized by the director. The resolution and the written consents thereto by the members of the board or committee shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the board or committee.
- **Sec. 9** <u>Compensation</u>. Directors shall not receive compensation for services rendered to or on behalf of the LWVNYS except that members of the board may be reimbursed, based on the board's reimbursement policy, for expenses reasonably incurred on behalf of the LWVNYS upon presentation of reasonable detailed receipts thereof.

Article VI

Recognition of Local and Provisional Leagues

- **Sec. 1** <u>Local Leagues</u>. Local Leagues are those Leagues which have been so recognized by the LWVUS.
- **Sec. 2** Recognition of Local Leagues. The LWVNYS board shall recommend to the LWVUS board recognition of any group in the state which fulfills recognition requirements for local Leagues as adopted by the national convention. When such recognition is granted, the local Leagues shall become an integral part of the LWVUS and the LWVNYS.
- **Sec. 3** Withdrawal of Recognition. When a local League recurrently fails to fulfill recognition requirements, the board shall recommend to the LWVUS board that recognition be withdrawn. Final action rests with the LWVUS board. All funds held by such dissolved Leagues shall be paid to the LWVNYS after payment of all liabilities.
- **Sec. 4** Member-at-Large Units. When a group of people in a community in which no local League exists wishes to form a League of Women Voters, it may be organized into a Member-at-Large unit by the board under the requirements adopted by the board. It shall remain a MAL unit until such time as it has fulfilled the recognition requirements for local Leagues, or until it has been disbanded by the Board. The Board has the authority to disband a MAL Unit, upon a vote of a majority of the MAL Unit members or upon a finding of the Board that the MAL Unit is not in compliance with the requirements for a MAL Unit. All funds held by a MAL unit from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the LWVNYS.
- **Sec. 5** <u>Inter-League Organizations-ILOs</u>. Members enrolled in local Leagues may organize ILOs in order to promote the purposes of the League and to take action on county, metropolitan or

regional governmental matters. The LWVNYS board shall recommend to the LWVUS board that such ILO be recognized, provided requirements adopted by the national convention have been met. The board has responsibility for the guidance of ILOs. In the event of recurrent failure of an ILO to fulfill these requirements, the board shall recommend to the LWVUS board that it withdraw recognition from such ILO. All funds held by an ILO from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be prorated among its member Leagues.

Article VII

Financial Administration

- **Sec. 1** Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the LWVNYS shall be from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.
- **Sec. 2** <u>Financial Support</u>. Each local League shall make an annual per-member and household payment to the LWVNYS in the amount to be determined by a 3/5 vote of those present and voting at each convention. Local Leagues shall be excused from making per-member payments for life members and students. Member-at-Large Units shall pay dues to the LWVNYS in an amount to be determined by the LWVNYS board.
- **Sec. 3** The Executive Director. The Executive Director may sign contracts and loans and sign or endorse checks within limitations set by the board.
- **Sec. 4** <u>Budget</u>. The board shall submit to the convention or council for adoption a proposed budget for the ensuing year. This proposed budget shall provide for the support of the LWVNYS. A copy of the proposed budget shall be sent to the president of each local League and ILO and each MAL unit chair at least six weeks in advance of the convention or council. A budget shall be adopted by a majority vote, except that the per-member-payment shall be approved as provided in section 2 of this article. The practice of preparation and implementation of a two-year budget may be adopted by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present at convention. Should a two-year budget be implemented, in the interim year, the board shall report to the delegates at council on the status of the finances of the organization and budgetary items.
- **Sec. 5** <u>Budget Committee</u>. The budget shall be prepared by a committee which shall be appointed for that purpose by the board at least four months in advance of the convention or council. The budget committee shall consist of no fewer than five members including a chair and the treasurer. The majority of the members of this committee, including the chair, shall not be members of the state board. Except for the treasurer, each member of the budget committee shall be from a different local League. Recommendations of the committee shall be by the concurrence of the majority of the full committee.
- **Sec. 6** <u>Distribution of Funds on Dissolution</u>. In the event of the dissolution of the LWVNYS, all moneys and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the LWVNYS shall be paid to the LWVUS after the state board has paid or made provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the LWVNYS. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed which may at the time be owned or under the control of the LWVNYS shall be disposed of to such a person, organization, or corporation for such public, charitable or educational use and purposes as the state board in its discretion may designate.
- **Sec. 7** <u>Indemnification</u>. Every LWVNYS director, officer or specified representative of the LWVNYS shall be indemnified against all expenses and liabilities, including counsel fees,

reasonably incurred or imposed upon them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made a party, or in which they may become involved by reason of being or having been a director, officer or specified representative, or any settlement thereof, whether the person is a director, officer or specified representative at the time such expenses are incurred, except in such cases wherein the individual is adjudged guilty of willful misfeasance or malfeasance in the performance of duties. The foregoing right of indemnification shall be in addition to and exclusive of all other rights to which the indemnified may be entitled. Indemnification will be up to the amount insured.

Article VIII

Meetings of the Members

Sec. 1 <u>Place, Date, and Call.</u> A meeting of members shall be held annually for the election of the board of directors and the transaction of other business as shall lawfully come before such meeting. The time and place of such meeting shall be set by the board. Such meetings held in odd years shall be denominated as conventions and the meetings held in even years shall be denominated as councils.

Sec. 2 Call for Convention and Council. At the direction of the president, a call for the convention or council shall be sent to the president of each local League and ILO, and chair of each MAL unit not less than three months prior to the opening date of the convention or council fixed in said call. Thereafter the board may advance or postpone the opening date of the convention or council not more than two weeks from the date fixed in the first call. A final call for the convention or council shall be sent by the president to the president of each local League and ILO, and chair of each MAL unit, at least 30 days before convention or council.

Sec. 3 Convention.

- a. <u>Composition</u>. The convention shall consist of the delegates of the local Leagues, ILOs and MAL units, as provided in this article, and the members of the board, each of whom shall be entitled to one vote.
- b. Qualifications of Delegates and Voting. All delegates shall be voting members of the League. Each delegate representing a local League, ILO, or MAL unit, or duly authorized proxy as provided in subsection f, shall be a member in good standing of that local League, ILO or MAL Unit and shall be entitled to vote only if that League, ILO or MAL unit has met its per-member-payment responsibilities. The LWVNYS board may make an exception in the case of proven hardship. No delegate shall be entitled to more than one vote, and absentee voting shall not be permitted. Final determination of a delegate's qualifications or credentials shall be made by the convention.
- c. Representation at convention. The members of the LWVUS who are organized into recognized local Leagues, ILOs, and MAL units in the state of New York shall be entitled to voting representation at the convention as follows: each local League shall be represented by one delegate. In addition to that delegate, each local League is entitled to one delegate for the first 40 members. Leagues having more than 40 members shall be entitled to one delegate for each additional 40 members or major fraction thereof. Membership numbers will be determined by the number indicated in the official LWVUS membership count report for the year of the convention. Each recognized ILO shall be entitled to one voting delegate. Each MAL unit shall be entitled to one voting delegate.
- d. Quorum. A quorum for the transaction of business at convention shall be

- participation by one tenth of the total number of authorized delegates.
- e. <u>Authorization for Action</u>. The convention shall consider and authorize a program for action; shall elect officers, directors, the chair and two members of the nominating committee; shall adopt a budget for the ensuing year; and shall transact such other business as may come before it.
- f. Proxies. Every proxy must be in writing and signed by the president of the local League or ILO or the chair of the MAL Unit. Every proxy shall be revocable at the pleasure of the person executing it, unless otherwise provided by law. The proxy can contain such conditions as determined by the giver of the proxy. For the purpose of representing another League, all proxies shall be delivered to the presiding officer.

Sec. 4 Council.

- a. <u>Composition.</u> Council shall consist of each local League, ILO, MAL unit and the Board of Directors.
- b. <u>Voting at Council</u>. Each local League, ILO and MAL unit and each Director shall be entitled to one vote. In addition to that vote, each local League is entitled to one vote for the first 40 members. Leagues having more than 40 members shall be entitled to one vote for each additional 40 members or major fraction thereof. Membership numbers will be determined by the number indicated in the official LWVUS membership count report for the year of the council.
- c. <u>Quorum</u>. A quorum for the transaction of business at a council meeting shall consist, in person or by proxy, of one tenth of the total number of authorized votes.
- d. <u>Authorization for Action</u>. The council shall consider program, methods of operation and the financial status of the organization, including a proposed or ongoing budget, as presented by the LWVNYS board. The council is authorized to make such modifications of the program and, if applicable, an ongoing budget, as shall be necessary to meet altered conditions, provided that notice of such action shall have been sent by the LWVNYS board to the members at least six weeks in advance of the meeting of the council. A majority vote shall be necessary to adopt an ongoing budget. The council shall transact such other business as shall lawfully come before it.
- e. <u>Proxies.</u> Presence at and votes taken at council may be by proxy. Every proxy must be in writing and signed by the President of the local League or ILO or the Chair of the MAL Unit. Every proxy shall be revocable at the pleasure of the person executing it, unless otherwise provided by law. For the purposes of conducting meetings, all proxies shall be delivered to the Secretary or, in the absence of the Secretary, the presiding Member appointed to act as secretary of the meeting.

Sec. 5 Special Meetings of the Members. Special meetings of the members may be called by the board and by such person or persons as may be authorized by the certificate of incorporation or the by-laws. In any case, such meetings may be convened by the members entitled to cast ten per cent of the total number of votes entitled to be cast at such meeting, who may, in writing, demand the call of a special meeting specifying the date and month thereof, which shall not be less than two nor more than three months from the date of such written demand. The secretary of the corporation upon receiving the written demand shall promptly give notice of such meeting, or if the secretary fails to do so within five business days thereafter, any member signing such demand may give such notice. The meeting shall be held at the place fixed in the by-laws or, if not so fixed, at the office of the corporation or at such other

place designated by the board. If such meeting is held, it will be noticed and conducted according to the provisions relating to the convention as hereinabove provided.

Article IX

Nominations and Elections

- **Sec. 1** Nominating Committee. The nominating committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the board. The chair and two members who shall not be members of the board shall be elected by the convention. Nomination for these offices shall be made by the current nominating committee. Further nominations may be made from the floor of the convention. The other members of the committee shall be appointed by the board immediately after the convention. Vacancies occurring in the nominating committee shall be filled by the board.
- **Sec. 2** <u>Suggestions by Local Leagues and MAL Units</u>. The nominating committee chair shall solicit from the president of each local League, ILO, and the chair of each MAL unit, suggestions for nominations for the offices to be filled.
- **Sec. 3** <u>Suggestions for Nominations</u>. Suggestions for nominations shall be sent to the chair of the nominating committee at least six months before convention. Any member may send suggestions to the chair of the nominating committee.
- **Sec. 4** <u>Decisions of the Committee</u>. Decisions of the committee shall be by the concurrence of the majority of the full committee.
- **Sec. 5** Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor. The report of the nominating committee of its nominations for officers, directors, and the chair and two members of the succeeding nominating committee shall be sent to the president of each local League and ILO, and to the chair of each MAL unit, six weeks before the convention. The report shall be presented on the first day of the convention. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any member of the convention, provided that the consent of the nominee has been secured.
- **Sec.** 6 <u>Election</u>. The election shall be under the direction of an election committee appointed by the president on the first day of the convention. The election shall be by ballot, except that when there is but one nominee for each office, it may be by voice vote. A majority vote of those present and qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election.

Article X

Program

- **Sec. 1** <u>Principles</u>. The Principles adopted by the national convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of the LWVNYS program.
- **Sec. 2** Program. The program of the LWVNYS shall consist of:
 - a) action to implement the Principles, and
 - b) concerted study and action on those state governmental issues chosen by the LWVNYS convention, council or the LWVNYS Board. Local League, ILO, and MAL Unit boards and members may make recommendations to the LWVNYS Board for a program at any time for the LWVNYS Board to consider in its discretion.

- **Sec. 3** <u>Convention or Council Action</u>. The convention or council shall act upon the program using the following procedures:
 - a) Local League, ILO and MAL units, or members may recommend to the LWVNYS Board a program for adoption at the convention or council provided that such item is submitted to the LWVNYS Board at least three months prior to the convention or council.
 - b) Any League that plans to propose the adoption or amendment of a state League position by concurrence at an annual meeting with a position statement of another League (or Leagues) shall submit the recommendation to the State board as specified in subsection a of this Article. The recommendation shall be accompanied by the proposed position statement, background information, including pros and cons on the issue and an explanation of the rationale for using this form of member agreement.
 - c) The LWVNYS board shall consider the recommendations and shall formulate a proposed program which shall be submitted to the president of each local League and ILO, and to the chair of each MAL unit, at least six weeks prior to the convention or council.

A majority vote shall be required for the adoption of the program proposed by the LWVNYS Board. Any recommendation for a program not proposed by the LWVNYS board that was submitted to the LWVNYS board at least three months before the convention or council, may be adopted by the convention or council, provided consideration is ordered by a majority vote and the proposal for adoption receives a three- fifths vote.

- **Sec. 4** Member Action. Members may act in the name of the LWVNYS only when authorized to do so by the board.
- **Sec. 5** <u>Local League, ILO and MAL Unit Action</u>. Local Leagues, ILOs, and MAL units may take action on state governmental matters only when authorized to do so by the LWVNYS board. Local Leagues, ILOs, and MAL units must act only in conformity with, or not contrary to, the position taken by the LWVNYS.

Article XI

National Convention and Council

- **Sec. 1** <u>National Convention</u>. The board shall elect the number of delegates to the national convention that was allotted to the LWVNYS under the provisions of the bylaws of the LWVUS.
- **Sec. 2** National Council. The board shall elect the number of delegates to the national council that was allotted to the LWVNYS under the provisions of the bylaws of the LWVUS.

Article XII

Parliamentary Authority

Sec. 1 Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the LWVNYS in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

Article XIII

Statutory Compliance Article

Sec. 1 <u>Conflicts of Interest Protocols</u>. This Corporation shall adopt, and at all times honor, the terms of a written conflicts of interest policy to assure that its Directors, Officers and Key Employees act in the Corporation's best interest and comply with applicable legal, regulatory and ethical requirements. The conflicts of interest policy of the Corporation shall include, at a minimum, the following provisions:

- a. <u>Procedures.</u> Procedures for disclosing, addressing, and documenting Conflicts of Interest and Related Party Transactions to the Board of Directors, or authorized committee, as appropriate.
- b. <u>Restrictions</u>. Stipulations that when the Board of Directors, or authorized committee, as appropriate, is considering a real/potential conflict of interest, the interested party shall not:
 - i. be present at, or participate in, any deliberations,
 - ii. attempt to influence deliberations, and/or
 - iii. cast a vote on the matter.
- c. Definitions. Definitions of circumstances that could constitute a conflict of interest.
- d. <u>Documentation.</u> Requirements that the existence and resolution of the conflict be documented in the records of the Corporation, including in the minutes of any meeting at which the conflict was discussed or voted upon.
- e. <u>Audit-Related Disclosure</u>. Protocols to assure for the disclosures of all real or potential conflicts of interest are properly forwarded to the Audit Committee or Conflicts of Interest Committee, as appropriate, or if there is no such Audit or Conflicts Committee, to the Board of Directors, or another Committee of the Board, as appropriate.

Article XIV

Amendments

These bylaws may be amended at any biennial convention by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting. Changes proposed by local leagues and ILOs shall be submitted to the board at least three months prior to a convention. All such proposed amendments shall be sent by the board to the president of each local League and ILO, and to the chair of each MAL unit, at least six weeks prior to the convention, together with the recommendations of the board. The presidents of all local Leagues shall notify the members of their respective Leagues of the proposed amendments. The failure of a local president to give such notice or failure of any member to receive such notice shall not invalidate amendments to the bylaws adopted at any convention.

If necessary to comply with any law or regulation governing the LWVNYS, bylaws may be adopted, amended or repealed by the board of directors. Any bylaw adopted by the board may be amended or repealed by the members in conformity with the procedure hereinabove described for the adoption, amendment or repeal of bylaws by the members.

NOTE: No Bylaw Amendments were submitted by local Leagues in 2022 – 2023.

Program Planning Recommendations

Every year leading up to the Convention we ask local Leagues for their input in developing State League Program for the two years following the Convention. "Program" really means positions, so this is the time to determine which positions we want to keep, delete, update/revise or even consider new studies for new positions or concurrence with existing positions of other Leagues. Local Leagues had a March 1 deadline for submitting suggestions in order for them to be considered by delegates at the Convention. Board recommended Program items need a majority of delegates and non-recommended items need a majority vote for consideration and a 3/5 vote to pass at Convention.

This year there were 16 program planning submissions from local Leagues. Specific responses to local League suggestions not recommended by the Board are detailed below after the recommended items.

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

The Board is recommending two new Studies and one Concurrence at Convention. Timing and length of the studies will be dependent on the availability of staffing and member interest. The first Study is on the use of Ranked Choice Voting ("RCV") for state and federal elections and alternatives to party primaries for state, congressional, and local offices. The other Study is on the process used by the state Board of Elections to approve voting systems. The Board is also recommending Concurrence at Convention with the Waste position developed by the 4 Capital District Leagues.

 New Study on the use of RCV and alternatives to party primaries for state, congressional and local offices

Eight of the 16 local Leagues suggested a State League Concurrence in some form with the New York City RCV position for local elections that would apply on the state level. Currently New York City uses RCV in primary and special elections. Local Leagues can concur with the NYC position to support RCV in local elections without any action by the State League and several have in the last two years.

Local Leagues suggested adding language to the NYC applying it to state races, or more generally suggested that the NYC position should be adjusted to be statewide. RCV has been used most frequently in general elections for local offices, such as city councils, school boards, and mayoral races. This is because these types of races most often have multiple candidates and RCV can help ensure that the winner has support from a majority of voters. When the NYC League did the study on RCV it only looked at local not state elections. For this reason, the Board does not think that a Concurrence is

the best way for the State League to adopt a RCV position. It is more appropriately done as a new state **Study** and the initial scope should encompass other levels of elections. Maine and Alaska, the two states that have adopted RCV, use it for state legislative and Congress as well as statewide office. In Maine it is only used in primary elections for state races, but it is used for both primary and general elections for Congress and president.

In addition to supporting the RCV Concurrence, the Rochester Metro Area League suggested a study on "All-Party primaries, which would replace party primaries with primaries which pit all candidates for an office against each other to narrow the field to a manageable number of candidates to be voted on using RCV at the general election." Primaries would still rely on a plurality system to select the top candidates, as opposed to RCV which allows voters to rank candidates by order of preference.

Because RCV is sometimes combined in different ways with nonpartisan primaries in an effort to increase voter participation and decrease polarization, the initial scope of the study should include looking at nonpartisan primaries as well, reflecting the suggestion of the Rochester Metro League. Alaska uses both nonpartisan primaries and RCV in general elections.

2. New Study on the process used by the state Board of Elections to approve voting systems with the purpose of seeing if the process can be improved to be more effective in ensuring that approved voting systems meet a balance of the SARAT ("secure, accurate, recountable, accessible and transparent") criteria.

A proposal for a study on New York state's voting system approval process was circulated on the President's list serve outside of the Program planning process and supported by other local Leagues in that context. Under the new policy adopted several years ago, the Board has the right to adopt new studies outside of the Convention program planning process, but board adoption was never meant to be used in place of program adoption at Convention. There was a local League recommendation for a study of the approval process for voting systems that was submitted by the March 1 deadline, so it was considered and approved for Board recommended Program at Convention.

3. Concurrence with the Waste position of the 4 Capital District Leagues Eight Leagues supported a concurrence with the waste position of the 4 Capital District Leagues. Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady were the four Leagues who concurred on the position in 2022. The Waste position can be found on page 41 and background materials will be posted on the State website soon.

Beth Radow, co-chair of the Energy, Environment and Agriculture Committee, supports the Waste Position as showing considerable thought and making commonsense recommendations. It is more specific than most of our state positions but could potentially be more useful to local Leagues in taking local action on waste reduction than our more general natural resource positions.

Changes to the wording of the position to be concurred with can be made for editorial purposes by delegates at Convention but they cannot change the substance of the position.

NON-RECOMMENDED ITEMS

The Board has reviewed and does not recommend the following studies and updates proposed by local Leagues. In doing so we have considered limitations of both leadership and resources, particularly with respect to complicated issues that have not been a major focus of past League activity.

The following are not recommended because of limited interest and resources, or because they were the subject of a recent state study:

- Scarsdale
 - Update position on scheduling of local elections
- Rochester
 - Study on current economic development policies and practices by NYS (economic incentives)
- Port Washington-Manhasset
 - Affordable housing
- Steuben-Chemung
 - The consequences of anti-boycott legislation on First Amendment rights.

ALREADY COVERED BY EXISTING STATE/NATIONAL POSITIONS

- Hamptons
 - New position on Peconic Estuary.

DIRECTIONS TO THE BOARD

Titles, categories and descriptions of Positions in Brief or Summary of Public Policy Positions are Board decisions.

Hamptons – change to the wording of "Support for measures that hold marriage to be an economic partnership with a presumption of equality between the spouses".

Four League Position on Waste

Members of the League of Women Voters in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady Counties agree that effective policies concerning waste are integral to ensuring the clean water, clean air and healthful environment guaranteed in the Environmental Rights Amendment to the New York State Constitution. We also agree that we're embedded in an ecosystem, and that the land, water, air, energy, waste and biota in our ecosystem are dynamically interrelated. We agree that the concept of waste includes greenhouse gases, that waste management practices can themselves emit these gases, and that we urgently need to reduce the production of these gases in society and in waste management in order to preserve and restore the world's climate. We agree that human health and safety, the wellbeing of wildlife, the preservation and restoration of habitat, and the conservation of primary materials such as timber, minerals, ores, and energy are deeply affected by our practices concerning waste. To protect these resources, the Leagues support policies that promote: the reduction of waste, the reuse of products and materials over disposal, and the responsible management of waste that can't be reused. We agree that our ultimate goal is a circular economy with zero waste.

The four Leagues support, first, the following policies aimed at minimizing the production of waste:

- 1. Products and buildings designed to accommodate deconstruction and reuse of component parts;
- 2. The use of durable materials and designs that prioritize longevity in product manufacturing and construction;
- 3. Support for repair, rather than disposal, of products;
- 4. Reduction of single-use plastics and items that cannot be recycled, and promotion of reusable packaging for products;
- Limitation of greenhouse gas emissions and processes that produce them, such as the burning of fossil fuels, excessive fertilizer use, disposal of items containing refrigerants in a way that causes those refrigerants to leak, reliance on landfills for organic waste disposal; and
- Regular monitoring of sources of potential greenhouse gas leaks and speedy fixes
 of leaks in lines carrying greenhouse gases (such as methane and refrigerants),
 and reduction of fugitive emissions from solid waste landfills, wastewater treatment
 plants, and appliances.

We also support the following policies aimed at facilitating the transfer of discarded items and components to entities that can use them:

- 1. The development and strengthening of easy-to-participate-in civic infrastructures for:
 - a. Recycling items to extract useful material for reuse in new products; and

- Collecting, processing, and transferring reusable items to new owners, including excess edible food from restaurants, grocers, and farms to groups addressing food insecurity; and
- 2. The expansion of community-based operations and facilities (e.g., composting, anaerobic digestion, and biochar pyrolysis) that enable communities to create useful products out of non-toxic organic waste, and the diversion of non-toxic organic waste from landfills (where it can produce fugitive methane emissions), towards beneficial use through these processes.

For items that cannot be reused or redistributed, the four Leagues support waste management policies that promote:

- 1. An end to the processing of hazardous waste in ways that can spread its toxicity, including the use of incineration for waste that contains toxins;
- 2. Careful recovery, processing, and safe disposal of hazardous materials in the waste stream, including in biosolids and digestate byproducts of sewage treatment and biodigesters, and at concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs);
- 3. Careful capture and safe disposal of greenhouse gases, including refrigerants from products at time of disposal, and methane and nitrous oxide from large producers, including industrial sites, landfills, and CAFOs;
- 4. Corporate responsibility with public oversight for the end-of-life processing of products and packaging, including all related costs;
- 5. Limited miles of waste transport from its source to where it is processed and stored, with communities encouraged to take responsibility for their waste by, as much as possible, locating needed facilities within their boundaries;
- 6. Collaboration among communities in the siting of regional high-tech waste management facilities as needed to support reuse and recycling;
- 7. Environmental Justice in the siting of waste facilities and provision of services; and
- 8. Easy resident access to legal and responsible waste disposal methods.

To reinforce these efforts, we also support:

- 1. Green procurement policies that boost the market for products made with recycled, recyclable, and non-toxic deconstructable content;
- 2. The expansion of opportunities to purchase items with either reusable, returnable, or purchaser-provided packaging;
- 3. Adequate monitoring and enforcement of waste regulations;
- 4. A rapid transition away from fossil fuels to renewables, and away from high global warming potential (GWP) refrigerant gases to low GWP refrigerant gases;
- 5. The transformation of wastewater treatment plants from simply waste processing centers to facilities that emphasize the capturing of beneficial products (e.g.,

- biogas) while ensuring removal of hazardous waste before returning to the environment:
- 6. Reduction in the use of CAFOs and promotion of more sustainable farming methods;
- 7. Opposition to corporate secrecy about the toxicity of their products and processes; and
- 8. The embedding of sustainability principles into public information campaigns, school curricula and licensure certification programs.

The four Leagues support direct involvement of citizens and local governments at all stages of planning, development, operation, and monitoring of waste management plans and projects. The consumer should be educated to exercise care in purchasing, to demand quality products, to participate in reuse policies, to recycle, and to resist throwaway cultural practices. Standards for operation of these facilities should be established and enforced by the public sector, whether actual operations are conducted by private or public entities.

Adopted by Consensus 5/16/22

Budget Committee Report

To: Delegates to 2023 LWVNYS Convention

From: Stephen Muller, Chair, LWVNYS Budget Committee

First I'd like to thank this year's Budget Committee: George Calvi (LWV of Rivertowns), Nancy Agen (LWV of Utica/Rome), Lori Robinson (LWVNYS Treasurer), and Jane Colvin (LWVNYS Board Member). LWVNYS President Judie Gorenstein and Executive Director Laura Ladd Bierman served as ex officio members of the Committee. Laura provided invaluable experience and advice on the budget process. Attached you will find proposed budgets for both the League and the League's Education Foundation.

We are actually 2 entities: the League is organized as a 501c4, and the Education Foundation (EF) is a 501c3 organization which can accept tax-deductible contributions so it does receive more donations). The EF budget was adopted by the Board at its March meeting (this doesn't need member approval) and the League budget will be considered and recommended for action at the state Council in June 2023. Because of the interrelationship of the two budgets, however, both budgets are provided here for your information.

The state League is currently exploring options to merge the two entities and create a single 501c3 organization. We are in discussions with attorneys; the process is definitely not certain yet. If it happens, it won't be for at least a couple of years, but in the meantime, we believe it makes sense to move as much of the League's operating costs (including payroll) into the EF, leaving the League with a much smaller budget.

In this proposed budget, therefore, we have made a huge change between the two organizations. Up to and including this current year, the EF was used primarily to raise funds and receive grants, while most of the League's work, including salaries and most operating expenses, were included in the League budget. We then would "reimburse" the League from the EF each month for any education-related expenses (EF accounts #5125 and 5126 and LWV accounts #4125 and 4126). This amounted to a huge transfer of money from the EF to the LWV each month. The 2022-23 Budget and Year End projections are based on this method.

For the 2023-24 Proposed Budget, however, many of the expenses, including payroll which is the biggest expense, have been moved from the LWV Budget to the EF Budget. Many of the items which show expenses in the Projected Year End column are, therefore, zero in the 2023-24 League Budget.

A balanced budget is presented for the LWV Proposed Budget, but to balance the EF budget, we will need to transfer \$109,000 from our Reserve Fund.

Since we propose to move most of the expenses to the EF, additional income is needed in the EF. This is addressed by splitting the PMP income from local Leagues in half. The state League will invoice local Leagues for half and the EF will invoice local leagues directly for the other half. Many local Leagues are already paying half of their PMP invoices out of their grants

management account (held by the state EF) or their own education fund. This change will more strongly encourage them to use educational funds to pay half of their PMP and they can still pay the invoice from the EF with their own 501c4 local bank account.

While previously EF funds were transferred to the LWV accounts to reimburse the LWV for education-related expenses, now with payroll costs moved to the EF, there will be money moved from the LWV to the EF to reimburse the EF's payroll related to membership. It is estimated that 15% of payroll is related to membership or LWV expenses, so the LWV will reimburse the EF for 15% of payroll. (See Account #5120 in the LWV Proposed Budget for the \$51,000 (15% of payroll) expenses to transfer to the EF; see the same \$51,000 of income listed in the EF Budget. Similarly, 12% of the rent paid by the EF will be reimbursed by the LWV (Account #5280) and transferred as income to the EF (Account #4280).

Fundraising and donations have been decreased slightly in the LWV and increased in the EF as more gifts to the EF will be encouraged to cover the additional expenses there. The annual League Day at the United Nations has been budgeted again as a fundraiser for the EF. We do not expect any new grants in the EF budget, but we do have the 2nd year of a - year grant from the LWVUS.

Salaries and payroll expenses are roughly 75-80% of our budget. To make any significant reduction in expenses would require a reduction in staff. The proposed budget includes 3% raises for all staff, but staff are evaluated annually to determine the amount of raise.

There will be no state Convention next year, but expenses are listed for the LWVUS Convention. In years with no state Convention, Regional Training workshops are scheduled which are included in the LWV budget but they are a "wash" as the amount charged hopefully covers the costs of these workshops.

In the EF budget, Community and Corporate donations are typically for our Students Inside Albany Conference. We receive some support from other organizations for this, as well as payments from local Leagues who send a 2nd student (1st student is free for each local League).

Also, it is important to note that the League office building which was owned by the EF has been sold; the closing was finalized on Jan. 9, 2023. There are still some building expenses included in the current year's projected year-end budget, but no expenses for the building are included in the EF Proposed Budget. However, the EF is paying \$2,500 monthly rent for our new location which is \$2,500 per month.

As noted previously, the result is that \$109,000 from the EF's Reserve Fund will be used to balance the League's budget. We believe the EF can handle this, especially with our good fundraising years a couple of years ago and the \$ 1 million gift we received last year. The state Board, while adopting the EF Budget in March, was confident that the Reserve Fund can be used to cover the \$109,000 deficit, and there is hope that the full amount of deficit will not be taken from Reserves as we continue to search for grants and other ways to increase our income during the next fiscal year.

LWVNYS Proposed 2023 – 2024 Budget

Account		FY 22-23 budget	Total FY 22-23 (estimated)	FY 23-24 Proposed Budget
Income			Í	
4000 · Me	ember Support			
	4000-1 · PMP Income	60,459	60,459	30,992
	4002-1 · Memberships/Dues	3,600	3,600	3,805
	4010-1 · Spec Gifts From Local Leagues	2,000	16,000	2,000
	4016-1 · Board Contributions	1,000	904	500
	4018-1 · Member Contributions	25,000	25,000	20,943
	4025-1 · Community/Corporate Donations	0	0	
	4026 - In Kind Donations	100	100	
	4150 · Direct Mail Income			
	4151-1 · Direct Mail- Feb mailing	16,000	16,000	12,000
	4154-1 · AF-June mailing	8,000	6,530	8,000
	Total 4150 · Direct Mail Income	24,000	22,530	20,000
Total 400	0 · Member Support	116,159	128,594	78,240
4110 · De	velopment			
	4111 · Election Night Reporting	2,800	9,390	
Total 4110	0 · Development	2,800	9,390	0
4120 · Pro	ojects/Programs			
	4125 · Program Reimbursement			
	4126 · EF Admin. Reimbursement			
	4127 · Grant Income		0	
	0 · Projects/Programs	266,389	245,788	0
4123 · Vo	ter Services	5,000	4,000	0
4130 · Ad	vocacy			
	4130-2 · Legislative agendas	100	0	
	Leg Reference Guides			
Total 413	0 · Advocacy	100	0	0
4300 · Sta	ate Meetings			
	4300-1 State Convention Income	25,000	25,000	0
	4310-1 Advocacy Day	1,500	1,500	0
	4320 · Regional Trainings	0	0	2,000
Total 430	0 · State Meetings	26,500	26,500	2,000
	O · Publication Sales Income	2,000	2,000	0
Total 450	0 · Product Sales	2,500	2,000	0
4600 · Otl	ner Income			

	4600-1 · Interest Income	15	15	
	Total 4600 · Other Income	15	15	15
	Total Income	421,463	418,287	80,255
	Expense			
	5000-1 · PMP National	928	928	1,016
	5020-1 · Mal Unit Support	434	200	468
	5120 · Projects/Programs Expenses			
	5123 · Voter Services	5,500	8,854	0
	5120 · Projects/Programs	0	0	51,000
	Expenses - Other	5.500	0.054	F4 000
	Total 5120 · Projects/Programs Expenses	5,500	8,854	51,000
	5130 · Advocacy Expenses	450	100	
	5132 · Legislative Agenda brochures	150	100	0
-	Lobby Reference Guides	125	226	0
+	5133-1 Lobby Reports	200	0	0
	Total 5130 · Advocacy Expenses	475	326	0
+	5163 · Development Expenses-	110	020	
-	5163-1 · Revenue Share-Elec.	2,500	7,945	0
	Night Rep.	_,=,===	1,616	
	Total 5163 · Development Expenses-	2,500	7,945	0
	5200-2 · Administrative Expenses			
	5220 · Professional Fees			
	5221-1 · Audit	10,000	10,000	7,000
	5220 · Professional Fees - Other	12,000	13,046	0
	Total 5220 · Professional Fees	22,000	23,046	7,000
	5230 · Technology			
	5230-1 · Repairs &	2,000	1,636	0
_	Maintenance- Equip.		000	
	5230-2 · Website Hosting	250	200	0
	5230-3 · Website Maintenance	5,000	2,000	1,500
	5230-7 · Outlook License (Old- Email)	842	645	650
	5230-91 · Zoom	600	495	300
	Total 5230 · Technology	8,692	4,976	2,450
	5240 · Supplies			
	5240-1 · General Office	1,000		
	5240-2 · Copying	150		
	5240-6 · Printing	2,000		
	Total 5240 · Supplies	3,150	3,000	2,000
+	5250 · Postage	1,500	500	200
	5265 · Travel	100	502	0
	5266 · Facilities/Lodging/Meals	2,000	34,000	2,741
_	5269 · Dues, Fee &	300	500	400
	Subscriptions			

	5270 · Insurance			
	5271-1 · Directors & Officers	340	330	330
	5282-1 · General Liability Insurance	2,600	2,183	2,200
	Total 5270 · Insurance	2,940	2,513	2,530
	5296-1 · Checking Account		15	0
	5296-6 · Credit Card Processing Expenses	850	850	850
	Total 5200-2 · Administrative Expenses	41,532	69,902	18,171
	5200 · Payroll Related Expenses		0	
	5200-1 · Salaries- General Admin.	278,400	258,940	
	5201-1 · Paid Time Off Expense	0	12,870	
	5202-1 · Employee Benefits			
	5209-1 · Employee Pension Expense	8,313	7,998	
	5210-1 · Employer Paid Payroll	Taxes	21,267	
	5214-1 · Health/Dental Insurance	23,396	19,287	
	5215-1 · Disability Insurance	1,989	987	
	5219-1 · Workers Compensation	995	744	
	Total 5202-1 · Employee Benefits	55,990	50,284	
	5200 · Payroll Related Expenses - Other	1,404	1,232	
	Total 5200 · Payroll Related Expenses	335,794	323,326	0
	5280-1 · Rent Expense	28,800	29,125	3,600
	5300 · Meetings			
	5301-1 State Convention	2,000	2,000	0
	5302-1 · National Convention	0	3,000	4,000
	5303-1 · Regional Meetings		0	2,000
	5310-1 Lobby Day Expenses	1,500	1,500	0
	Total 5300 · Meetings	3,500	6,500	6,000
	5400 · Publications Expense	1,000	500	0
	5500 · Products Expense	1,000	707	0
Net Income	Total Expense	421,463	448,314	80,255
		0	-30,027	0

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW YORK STATE DESCRIPTION OF BUDGET CATEGORIES

(see Budget Memo for explanation of dollar amounts in each category)

INCOME

MEMBER SUPPORT

- 4000-1 Per Member Payments from local Leagues, based upon reported membership on January 31st of previous year
- 4002-1 Membership dues from NYS Members-at-Large, including members of MAL units
- 4010-1 Special gifts from local Leagues
- 4016-1 Gifts from Board members
- 4018-1 Gifts from members
- 4026 In Kind Donations usually for printing of documents and brochures
- 4151-1 Direct mail appeal, mailed in February
- 4154-1 Action Fund letter sent in June, asking for funds to support specifically advocacy efforts

DEVELOPMENT

4111 Election Night Reporting -Payment for local League participation with election night reporting for AP; funds are received and a portion passed on to local Leagues for their participation

PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

- Program Reimbursement from EF Reimbursement from EF for educational programs that will be operated by League
- Administrative Reimbursement from EF Reimbursement from EF for administrative expenses of the EF, eg, salaries and building expenses related to maintaining the office building.

VOTER SERVICES

4123 Voter Services Income – sales of Voter Guides

STATE MEETINGS

- 4300-1 State Convention Income no state Convention in 2021-22 so no income budgeted
- 4310-1 Advocacy Training Workshop Inc received for registrations of attendees at advocacy training workshop
- 4320 Regional Trainings Income received for registrations of attendees at regional training workshops

PUBLICATIONS/PRODUCTS

- 4400 Publication Sales income from sales of publications.
- 4500 Product Sales income from sales of t-shirts, mugs, pins, etc on website or at Conventions.

EXPENSES

GENERAL EXPENSE

- 5000-1 PMP National PMP paid to LWVUS for NYS MAL members
- 5020-1 State support for MAL Units; all dues payments for MAL unit members go directly to the state and small rebate goes to MAL Units.

PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Voter Services – Expenses for creation, printing and postage of Voter Guides and other voter service activities.

ADVOCACY

- 5132 Legislative Agenda Brochure Creation, printing and postage for Legislative Agenda Brochure
- 5133-1 Lobby Reports fee paid to NYS for reporting on LWVNYS lobbying activities

DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES

5163-1 Revenue Share – Election Night Reporting - Payment for local League participation with election night reporting for AP; funds are received and a portion passed on to local Leagues for their participation

PROFESSIONAL FEES

5221-1 Audit -Expenses associated with the outside independent yearly audit of the League's books

TECHNOLOGY

- 5230-1 Repairs & Maintenance Equipment computer and other equipment repairs
- 5230-2 Website hosting Fee required to host website on internet.
- 5230-3 Website Maintenance Expenses for webmaster to update website.
- 5230-4 Software Expense for possible new software.
- 5230-5 General Maintenance Costs for services on computer hardware in office.
- 5230-7 Outlook License monthly fee for emails and programs
- 5230-9 Zoom- subscription for webinars and virtual programs

SUPPLIES

5240 Supplies include office and building supplies, copying and printing (Accounts 5240-1, 5240-2 and 5240-6).

POSTAGE

5250 Postage includes general postage for League business

TRAVEL

5265 Travel and transportation includes staff and board travel

FACILITIES/MEALS/LODGING

5266 Expenses for board meetings and hotel and food at state Convention were budgeted for this year; only board exps in next year.

DUES, FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Dues, Fees and Subscriptions include tax return payments, professional association memberships, and subscriptions

INSURANCE

- 5271-1 Directors and Officers insurance indemnifies Board members and staff
- 5282-1 General Liability Insurance includes coverage of the League events including local Leagues.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

5291-1 Depreciation Expenses

5298-1 Master Card/Visa/Paypal expenses

PAYROLL RELATED EXPENSES

- 5200-1 Salaries of Executive Director, Deputy Director, Finance Administrator and Comms and Dev Associate
- 5202-1 Employee benefits includes pension, FICA expense, Medicare expense, disability insurance, federal unemployment, NYS unemployment, workers compensation, etc.
- 5200 Payroll Related Expenses Other expenses for payroll service

RENT

5280-1 Rent - LWVNYS rents office space from the EF for \$500 per month til the bldg. sold and pays rent to new space

MEETINGS

- 5301-1 State Convention Expenses no expenses in 23-24 budget because there will not be a State Convention; current year Convention costs are mostly in specific accounts for the purpose, eg, printing, postage, etc.
- 5302-1 National Convention/Council Expenses associates with sending Board members and staff to National Convention/Council
- 5310-1 Lobby Day expenses for annual Advocacy Training/Lobby Day

PUBLICATIONS/PRODUCTS

- 5400 Publications Expenses printing cost for League publications
- 5500 Products Expenses associated with purchasing products such as t-shirts, mugs, banners, etc.

LWVNYS Education Foundation 2023-2024 Budget Approved by LWVNYS EF Board of Directors, March 24, 2023

Account	FY 22-23 budget	Total FY 22- 23 (estimated)	FY 23-24 Proposed Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 · Support Income			
4010-1 · LL Contributions	2,500	2,500	2,500
4018-1 · Member Contributions	70,000	110,000	85,000
4020-1 · Board Donations	50,000	55,000	50,000
4025-1 · Community/Corporate Donations	20,000	24,900	30,000
Total 4000 · Support Income	142,500	192,400	167,500
4100 · Grant Income	0	26,500	4,500
4110 Income - Development			25,000
4150 · Direct Mail Income			
4151-1 · Feb Direct Mail (LWV)	500	250	10,000
4154-1 · June D/M Action Fund (LWV)	0	0	0
4157-1 · Fall Direct Mail (EF)	30,000	20,000	25,000
Total 4150 · Direct Mail Income	30,500	20,250	35,000
Reimbursement from LWV			51,000
4200 · Other Income			
1010-21 · Interest Income	100	50	50
4280-1 · Rent from LWVNYS	0	2,000	3,600
4290 Bibby Endowment Year End Income	8,000	0	8,000
4291 Centennial Year End Income	1,500	0	1,500
RNS Year End Income	30,000	0	30,000
4200 Other Income - Other		-150	
6420-1 LWVNYS Sustainers Plaque	200	0	0
Sales of Pubs and Products			6,000
Total 4200 · Other Income	39,800	1,900	49,150
4300 · State Meetings			
4310-1 Advocacy Day			1,500
Total 4300 · State Meetings			1,500
Total Income	212,800	241,050	333,650
Expense			
5120 · Programs/Projects			
5123 Voter Services		2,061	0
5125 · Program reimbursement to LWVNYS		245,788	0
5126 · EF Admin. Reimburse to LWV			0
5190-1 · Grant- Special Projects		19,275	
Total 5120 · Programs/Projects	266,389	267,124	0
Total 5150 · Development/Projects	3,000	2,618	21,300
5157 · Direct Mail Expenses			
5157-2 · Printing	2,400	3,690	3,800
5157-3 · Postage	800	506	600

Total 5157 · Direct Mail Expenses	3,200	4,196	4,400
5200 · Payroll Related Expenses			
5200-1 · Salaries- General Admin.			282,251
5201-1 · Paid Time Off Expense			
5202-1 · Employee Benefits			
5209-1 · Employee Pension Expense			6,851
5210-1 · Employer Paid Payroll Taxes			22,287
5214-1 · Health/Dental Insurance			24,725
5215-1 · Disability Insurance			1,900
5219-1 · Workers Compensation			750
5202-1 · Employee Benefits - Other			
Total 5202-1 - Employee Benefits			56,513
5200 · Payroll Related Expenses - Other			1,404
Total 5200 Payroll Related Expenses			340,168
5200-2 General Administrative			
5221-1 · Professional Fees-Legal & Acctg	10,000	14,000	7,000
5230-1 · Equipment Repair & Maintenance	2,124	2,611	4,108
5230-2 Technology			
Zoom license			300
5230-2 · Website Hosting			200
5230-3 · Website Maintenance			1,500
5230-2 Total Technology			2,000
5235-1 · Equipment Expenses	3,822	21,530	7,000
5240-1 · Supplies	350	809	5,500
5250-1 · Postage	1,120	75	2,000
5265-1 Travel/Transportation	0	81	200
5266-1 · Meals/Lodging	30,300	24,000	28,000
5271-1 · Directs & Officers Insurance	340	333	333
5272-1 · General Liability Insurance		1,028	1,100
5281-1 · Building Maintenance			
5281-12 · Building Repairs and Upkeep	0	1,178	0
5281-1 · Building Maintenance - Other	0	4,638	0
Total 5281-1 · Building Maintenance	0	5,816	0
5282-1 · Building Insurance	1,000	1,475	500
5284-1 · Building Utilities	0	2,152	0
5294-1 · Dues, Fees, Subscriptions	10,166	11,772	13,000
Total 5200-2 · General Administrative	59,222	85,682	70,741
5280-1 · Rent Expense			30,000
5296 · Bank Charges			
5279-1 B. Bibby Interest - Rochester	4,000	0	4,000
5298-1 · Credit Card Processing Charges	1,700	1,863	2,000
Total 5296 · Bank Charges	5,700	1,863	6,000
5600-1 · Depreciation Expense	0	0	
5300 · Meetings			
5310-1 Lobby Day Expenses			1,500
Total 5300 · Meetings			1,500
Total Expense	337,511	361,483	474,109

Net Ordinary Income	-124,711	-120,433	-140,459
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
4000-1 · Local PMP GRANTS MANAGEMENT	3,182	3,200	30,993
4161-0 Use of Cash Reserves	121,529	43,473	109,016
4300-1 · Admin Fee-GRANTS MANAGEMENT		400	450
Use of Carry Over Grants		73,360	
Total Other Income	124,711	120,433	140,459
Net Other Income	124,711	120,433	140,459
Net Income	0	0	0