



## **59<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**

**Saturday, April 13, 2019**

**Brewer's Alley**  
124 N. Market Street, Frederick

**9:00 a.m. – Breakfast**

**Speaker**

**Dr. Barbara Brookmyer**  
Health Officer, Frederick County Dept. of Health

**Business Meeting:**  
Adoption of Budget and Local Program  
Election of Officers and Directors

**[www.lwvfc.org](http://www.lwvfc.org)**

**59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**League of Women Voters of Frederick County**

**NOTICE**

The Annual Meeting is one of four general membership meetings required of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County (LWVFC) in its bylaws. As a convening body, the Annual Meeting prescribes by its action the basic direction of the organization and its elected leaders.

The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to:

- 1) Adopt a Local Program for the ensuing year;
- 2) Elect Officers, Directors, and members of the Nominating Committee;
- 3) Adopt an adequate budget; and
- 4) Transact other business as may properly come before it, such as:
  - a. accept the previous Annual Meeting minutes;
  - b. approval of the annual Treasurer’s report after audit;
  - c. amendments to the Bylaws;
  - d. changes in the membership dues.

The Annual Meeting Workbook contains:

The Agenda .....	Page 3
Rules for Conducting the Meeting .....	Page 3
Minutes of 2018 Annual Meeting .....	Page 4
Reports .....	Page 6
Proposed Amendments to Bylaws.....	Page 16
Review of Local Program .....	Page 23
Proposed 2019-20 Budget .....	Page 32
Recommended changes to dues.....	Page 34
Report of the Nominating Committee .....	Page 35
Upcoming Events .....	Page 36

Members may not vote absentee or by proxy to elect officers of the local League. Members whose dues are current are eligible to vote and are entitled to take an active part in all business conducted by the Annual Meeting. Members may pay their dues at the door or mail dues in advance to Shirley McDonald, 3677 Ridgeview Rd., Ijamsville, MD 21754.

After review of the Workbook, members may suggest changes in the Proposed Local Program. Suggestions must be written, signed, and submitted to the League Co-President Sarah Matthews, 5005 Bobwhite Court, Frederick, Maryland 21703.

## **AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Credentials Report
- III. Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Adoption of Rules for Annual Meeting
- V. Acceptance of the Minutes of the 58th Annual Meeting, April 21, 2018
- VI. Report of the Treasurer
- VII. Report of the Auditor
- VIII. Report of the Co-Presidents
- IX. Report on Membership
- X. Report on Voter Services
- XI. Board-Recommended Amendments to the By-Laws
- XII. Presentation, Discussion and Update of Local Program for 2019-2020
- XIII. Report of the Budget Committee
- XIV. Recommended Changes to Membership Dues and Adoption of Budget
- XV. Special Recognitions
- XVI. Report of the Nominating Committee and Election of Officers
- XVII. Directions to the Board
- XVIII. Adjournment

### **I. Call to Order**

Welcome, introductions

Greetings from LWVMD, LWWNCA

Celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday of LWVFC: Dr. Hoda Zaki, Hood College

### **II. Credentials Report**

### **III. Adoption of the Agenda**

### **IV. RULES**

#### **Voting Eligibility**

All members of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County whose dues for the current year are paid are eligible to vote and are entitled to take an active part in all business conducted.

**Parliamentary Procedure: Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised** governs the conduct of business at the Annual Meeting where they are not inconsistent with LWVFC Bylaws.

- A member who wishes to speak shall rise and address the Chair, and, when recognized, give his/her name. No member shall speak in debate twice until all who wish to speak for the first time have been heard. No member may speak longer than three minutes without permission.
- Members who wish to present a motion of substance shall write the motion, sign it and submit it, to the Chair. Twenty percent (20%) of the LWVFC membership constitutes a quorum at the Annual Meeting.

## **Election**

- The current Nominating Committee conducts the election of officers, directors and the three non-Board members (one of whom is designated as the Chair) of the Nominating Committee for the coming year.
- Immediately following the report of the Nominating Committee, voting members may nominate other voting members from the floor with the prior consent of each nominee.
- Members vote by ballot unless there is but one nominee for each office. In that case, the secretary will be directed to cast a unanimous vote to accept the Nominating Committee's report.

## **VOTE REQUIREMENTS FOR ANNUAL MEETING ACTION**

Adoption of issues in the **Proposed Local Program**  
Recommended by the Board

**Majority** vote of the voting  
members present and voting

**Consideration of issues not recommended by the Board**  
(A voting member may move consideration and present reasons in a statement limited to 5 minutes. A Board may present the official negative in a limited to 5 minutes.)

**Majority** vote  
Members may not debate a motion to consider an issue not recommended member by the Board; but they may ask statement questions for clarification.

Adoption of issues not recommended by the Board

**Two-thirds** vote

Adoption of a recommended amendment to a program  
issues

**Two-thirds** vote

Consideration of a not recommended amendment

**Majority** vote

Adoption of a not recommended amendment

**Two-thirds** vote

Adoption of amendments to the **Bylaws**

**Two-thirds** vote of the voting  
members present and voting

Adoption of **dues change**

**Two-thirds** vote of members present

## **V. MINUTES of the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, April 21, 2018**

**Guests:** Michael O'Connor, mayor of Frederick; Kimberly Scott and Rochelle Kithcart, members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; and Andrea Gruhl, Howard County representative to the League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area

- I. Call to Order:** President Melanie Cox called the meeting to order following breakfast, guest speaker Mayor O'Connor, and presentation to the mayor of a league T-shirt by Vice President Sarah Matthews.
- II. Credentials Report:** Membership director Shirley McDonald reported the attendance of 23 league members, constituting a quorum (by-laws require at least 20 percent of the membership, currently 100).
- III. Adoption of Agenda:** The agenda, as presented in the Annual Workbook, was approved.
- IV. Adoption of Rules for Annual Meeting:** The rules, as presented in the Annual Workbook, were approved.

- V. **Acceptance of the Minutes of the 57th Annual Meeting, April 22, 2017:** The minutes, as presented in the Annual Workbook, were approved.
- VI. **Report of the Treasurer:** Claire Kondig reported a balance of \$8916.39 and that she had filed her report for audit.
- VII. **Report of the Auditor:** Kathy Rossen reported that she has reviewed the financial books of the LWVFC and that to the best of her knowledge they are accurate and reflect the financial status of the organization.
- VIII. **Report of the President:** Cox reported on the upcoming candidate forum for congressional District 6 to be held in Hagerstown as a way to help the struggling Washington County league. She pointed to her metrics in the Annual Workbook as a way to measure the league's successes. Cox encouraged the league to seek more diversity (in gender, age, race, ethnicity, region of the county, viewpoint) and to ponder how we can do it better. She recognized Margaret Hindman for her work on the DRRAs (Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreements). Cox reported on the league's difficult decision, made with the concurrence of state league leaders, to put on hold until after the election its study on the county's 287(g) program because it had become a campaign issue for several candidates. Cox also reported on the success of the ethics bill and the fact that she would be leaving as president.
- IX. **Report of the Membership:** McDonald pointed to her report on page 6 of the Annual Workbook and asked members to let her know when they change their email addresses.
- X. **Report of Voter Services:** Matthews said that she had nothing to add to her report in the Annual Workbook or to Cox's comments about upcoming forums.
- XI. **Board Recommended Amendments to the By-Laws:** The board had voted to increase the number of appointed board members in order to spread the work around better. The by-laws, as presented with changes in the Annual Workbook, were approved.
- XII. **Presentation, Discussion and Adoption of Local Program for 2018–2019:** The local programs, as presented in the Annual Workbook, were approved.
- XIII. **Report of the Budget Committee:** Kondig reported the need to increase individual membership dues from \$55 to \$60/year because the league currently has only \$5.47 remaining after it pays its own dues to the national, state, and capital area leagues. She noted the need to retain the contingency fund as such and not to dip into it.
- XIV. **Recommended Changes to Membership Dues and Adoption of Budget:** After league member Gail Bowerman received assurances that scholarships and subsidies existed for those who wished to join the league but could not afford the dues, the budget, as presented in the Annual Workbook and including the increase in dues, was adopted and approved. Bowerman pointed to the need to publicize the subsidies better.
- XV. **Special Recognitions:** Outgoing President Cox presented Auditor Rossen with a certificate of appreciation for her service to the league.
- XVI. **Report of the Nominating Committee and Election of Officers:** Chairwoman Margaret Hindman presented the slate of nominations, as listed in the Annual Workbook. With no nominations from the floor, attendees approved the slate of nominees for terms of one year.
- XVII. **Directions to the Board:** Outgoing President Cox reiterated her appeal to increase league membership and diversity and then handed over the meeting to the two new co-presidents. Betty Mayfield noted that Matthews had scheduled a meeting at her home for the Monday, April 23, to discuss different ways of conducting voter registration. Matthews pointed out that the league would be doing internal as well as external forums.
- XVIII. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11 am.

(Submitted by Rosemary Orthmann on April 24, 2018)

**REPORTS**  
2018-2019

**VI. Report of the Treasurer**

**League of Women Voters of Frederick County  
Treasurer's Report – April 3, 2019**

<b>March Balance: \$7476.33</b>			
<b>Expenses:</b>		<b>Deposits</b>	
<b>Memberships:</b>			
3/8/19	Karl Bickel	\$60.00	
	Mary Krause	\$60.00	
	Rosemary Orthman	\$60.00	
	Fran Keeley	\$60.00	
3/22/19	Sharon Cox	\$60.00	
	(Donation)	\$40.00	
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>\$340.00</b>	
<b>Contingency Fund: \$2029.00</b>		<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$7816.33</b>
LWVFC Education Fund			
<b>Balance Pending: \$1219.77</b>			

The Board has recently voted to establish a LWVFC Memorial Fund to recognize and honor our members. It is part of the Education Fund and therefore gifts are tax-deductible.

To make a gift, you may send a check to Treasurer Claire Kondig, 416 Fairview Avenue, Frederick 21701, indicating that it is for the Memorial Fund. You may also want to consider including this fund in your estate-planning, as a place for your family and friends to make donations.

## **VII. Report of the Auditor**

### **VIII. Membership**

We almost reached our membership goal by reaching 123 in total membership with 12 new regular members and 25 Hood student members, despite some loss of existing members. Again, congratulations to all who contributed directly and indirectly to the recruitment and retention of members under the guidance of Shirley McDonald. Three orientation sessions were held this past year for new members. This year we also included prospective members (often identified on Facebook) in these sessions, which was fruitful.

It is important that we continue our efforts for diversity in membership. This diversity needs to be in gender, age, race, ethnic backgrounds, opinions and regions of our County. Continuing to move toward the goals for diversity will strengthen and help to ensure the future of our League. We are pleased that our Board is becoming more diverse.

We have been communicating with members via monthly email blasts and on Facebook. We have also updated our membership brochure and designed and provided name tags for all members and business cards for the Board. The membership brochure, a Microsoft Publisher document, can easily be adapted to changing issues and needs.

### **IX. Voter Services**

#### **Voter Registration:**

We did not meet our goal for voter registration this year despite increased efforts. Registrations were conducted at all high schools (twice), Frederick Community College, Hood College, and Mount St. Mary's University, in addition to other sites such as farmers' markets, National Night Out (with Delta Sigma Theta), In the Street, First Saturdays, and the Green Neighbor Festival. Reasons vary for low-registration numbers (interactions with State agencies automatically registers citizens to vote; Board of Elections Director Stuart Harvey reports that most new voters in Frederick County register online; most high school students register when they get their learner's permit or driver's license), but we feel this is still an important activity of the League, as it raises awareness about voting. In the future we may turn our focus towards Get Out the Vote.

#### **Voter's Guide:**

We are once again happy and grateful that the Frederick News-Post published Voter's Guides for both the primary and general elections. In each case, the Guide was published and distributed prior to the Early Voting date. Sarah Matthews and Rosemary Orthmann continue to do an admirable job in development of the candidate questions, ensuring all candidate responses are received promptly and working with VOTE411 and the FNP to provide complete information for the voters of Frederick County. These two publications are effective instruments to enable our citizens to be informed voters. Our League is indebted to the owners and management team of the Frederick News Post for their commitment to the League and the citizens of our County. This is the only newspaper in Maryland to provide this service.

**Forums:**

We hosted seven different candidate events this year:

- Maryland Sixth Congressional District: two forums, for the primary and general election, which were televised, in partnership with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and LWV of Washington County.
- At-large candidates for Frederick County Council, primary election, in partnership with Common Market. The forum was live-streamed via Facebook.
- Frederick County Board of Elections, with Delta Sigma Theta.
- Frederick County Executive (forum) and County Council (meet and greet), with United Way.

**Yard signs:**

Working with LWV of Montgomery County and LWV NCA, we made available 20 new nonpartisan yard signs for the election. Members displayed them proudly in their yards and neighborhoods. Sorry we ran out – we will get more for next time!

**Poll Monitoring:**

Again, this year our League conducted poll monitoring for the primary and general elections including early voting. We thank Stuart Harvey and the Board of Elections Board members for asking us to participate in this important process.

**Library services**

Sarah Matthews worked with Frederick County Public Libraries by attending four Teen Advisory Board meetings and offering information and advice on voting, elections, and democracy. We hope to use these contacts to support our work with high school students.

**X. Report of the Co-Presidents****Annual Metrics:**

The Annual Metrics spreadsheet follows this report. The establishment of goals and measuring ourselves against these goals is an important step in moving toward establishing outcome measures to gauge the impact of our League, encouraged by the national LWV. We think you will see encouraging trends in the data.

We were pleased and excited that former Board member Hoda Zaki published an article about the history of our League in Frederick Magazine (“Polling Place: League of Women Voters Promotes Good Government,” November 2018).

**Report on actions related to Program Priorities:****Promote an informed voting citizenry:**

County Council meetings were monitored and attended on a regular basis. We offered testimony on a variety of issues: human trafficking, composting, adjustment of school construction fees, a proposed amendment to the County Code, and a bill supporting the impartiality of Planning Commission and Board of Appeals members. On the last issue, we worked with Council Member Tony Chmelik to broaden our ethics position.



**Monitor state actions regarding (alternate) school funding:**

Several members have closely followed the Kirwan Commission's meetings and actions. We are hopeful that the recommendations of that report will result in increased funding and support for public schools.

**Monitor APFO, impact fees and mitigation fees:**

Actions by the County Executive and County Council were monitored on a regular basis by several League members with public comments made before the County Council several times.

**Monitor DRRA's within the County and State:**

Our League supported the DRRA bill submitted by the County Executive and presented public comments before the County Council several times. (That bill was ultimately tabled.) We are currently following a newly proposed Council bill.

**Track Livable Frederick project:**

An updated report of this project is now available, and the League hosted a well-attended public forum to discuss this new innovative approach to planning. We gave testimony at a Planning Commission's public hearing in support of this new document, as reported in the Frederick News- Post.

**Monitor ethics:**

Mary Ellen Rhoderick continues her work with the Ethics Nominating Committee. According to the County's Ethics Law, the League is responsible for chairing the committee and appointing several other members. This is an exciting but time-consuming function for our League, as Frederick County is the only jurisdiction within the State with this type of structure for selection of Ethics Commission members; we will fulfill this duty until and unless the law is changed.

**Identify and monitor the social and fiscal impact of Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Immigration Act:**

Due to 287(g)'s becoming a campaign issue in the 2018 election the Board, after consulting with State League leadership, decided to put the study "on hold" until after the November general election. The Board hopes to revisit this issue in the new year.

**Monitoring Charter Government:**

We have monitored changes to the operations of the Council and discussed proposed amendments to the Charter (later adopted in a County referendum). The Charter's Five-Year Review is scheduled for the coming year, which we will closely monitor.

**Monitor County's Committee on Human Trafficking:**

The League provided testimony in support of several proposed pieces of legislation which followed up on recommendations of the County's Task Force on Human Trafficking; all of those bills were passed.

**Programs for the Membership**

- Consensus meetings:
  - Death with Dignity
  - Bail and Corrections
- Fall dinner and speaker Nikki Charlson, MD Board of Elections, "Election Security"
- Lemonade social

- Legislative luncheon for County delegation
- Book club
- Two planning meetings
- Annual meeting

### **Programs for the Public**

- Hood College event: “LWV, A Force for Democracy in Frederick County,” Prof. Hoda Zaki and students
- Livable Frederick panel
- Candidate forums, as reported above
- Elbridge Gerry Birthday Bash on Carroll Creek (with LWVMD)
- Elaine Weiss, “The Woman’s Hour” (with Heritage Frederick and Curious Iguana)

### **Involvement of Hood College students**

When Board member Fran Keeley registered voters at Hood, she also recruited 25 new student members of the League! (The National, State, and Local Leagues have agreed to make membership free for high school and college students, through January 2021.) Kerri Burson agreed to serve as the student liaison for the League. The Hood students later formed a LWV of Hood College club, officially approved by the Student Government Association. Political Science professors Hoda Zaki and Tamelyn Tucker-Worgs will serve as faculty advisors to the club; Kerri Burson will be the liaison between the club and the LWVFC Board. Hood students have also been chosen as interns in the State League office. Brielle Rozmus served in the 2018 Legislative Session, and Nadia Monnier has been working in Annapolis with LWVMD staff during the 2019 session.

### **Participation in external events**

We were gratified that more League members attended State and regional LWV events:

Both co-presidents served on the Board of LWV of the National Capital Area. We attended Board meetings in downtown DC on the first Friday of every month, hearing from other local Leagues and learning from them. We also represented this Inter-League Organization at the annual meetings of the Montgomery County and Fairfax Area Leagues.

Members participated in:

- LWVMD Bi-Annual Council Meeting, Harford Community College
- LWNCA workshop, “Building Stronger Leagues,” Bethesda
- LWVMD Fall Workshop, Ellicott City
- LWVMD Winter Workshop, Ellicott City
- LWNCA Convention, Washington, DC
- LWVMD Legislative Day, Annapolis
- LWNCA Presidents Luncheon
- Reception in DC for National League officers and staff
- AAUW Frederick Annual Tea celebrating 100 years of women’s suffrage

## Book Club

Under the able coordination of Board member Kerri Burson, we have started a League Book Club this year – an idea we got from other Local Leagues in the National Capital Area. We have met about once a month, on Friday nights at Pizzeria Uno on Urbana Pike, for pizza and beer and lively discussion. We have also partnered with other Frederick County organizations to widen our discussion and impact. We are officially registered as a local book club at the Curious Iguana independent bookstore and get a 20% discount on all of our selected books.

The books we have read:

- *The Fight to Vote* by Michael Waldman.
- *Go Back to Where You Came From: The Backlash Against Immigration and the Fate of Western Democracy* by Sasha Polakow-Suransky.
- *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover.
- *Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive* by Stephanie Land. We partnered with the Curious Iguana Bookstore and Frederick County Public Libraries to invite the author to Frederick; Curious Iguana donated \$5 for every book sold to the Housing Authority of the City of Frederick. Unfortunately, the event was snowed out.
- *Locked In: The True Causes of Mass Incarceration—and How to Achieve Real Reform* by John F. Pfaff.
- *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote* by Elaine Weiss. We partnered with Heritage Frederick and the Curious Iguana to bring the author to Frederick for a lecture and book-signing.

## Website

After years of struggling with the (free) software provided by the State League, we bit the bullet and subscribed to a new web service, My League Online (MyLO), designed and supported by LWV California. We also purchased the easy-to-remember URL [www.lwvfc.org](http://www.lwvfc.org). The new site is colorful, easy to navigate, and easy to maintain. This platform provides us with another way to keep in touch with our current and potential members. Please bookmark this site and visit it often!

## Centennial planning

Both the LWVUS and the Nineteenth Amendment will celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> birthdays in 2020, and local, state, regional, and national Leagues are busy planning celebrations. At the local level, Hoda Zaki has agreed to chair a committee planning centennial events; we hope to partner with other community organizations to host events and share information.

**LWVFC  
ANNUAL METRICS**

<b>METRICS</b>	<b>Metrics</b>	<b>2016-17 Goals</b>	<b>2016-17 Actual</b>	<b>2017-18 Goals</b>	<b>2017-18 Actual</b>	<b>2018-19 Goals</b>	<b>2018-19 Actual</b>
<b>Membership</b>							
	Total Membership	65	80	100	101	125	123
	New (Regular) Members	6	24	25	22	25	12
	Dropped Members*		1		0		7 Ind, 3 HH
	Death		2		1		2
	Hood Students (new)						25
<b>Meetings</b>					27		
	Board Meetings	12	11	11	12	11	11
	Membership Meetings	5	5	4	4	4	5
	New Member Meetings				2	3	3
<b>Public Events</b>							
	Public Forums	4	0	2	3	3	3
	Candidate Forums	1	1	1	7	5	7
<b>Voter Services</b>							
	Voters Registered	200	161	100	51	50	30
	High School Voter Registration events		14	11	11	20	20
	College Voter Registration events		5	5	5	6	6
	Teen library sessions				3	3	4
	Other voter registration events					0	8
	Voter's Guide						
	Primary		0	0	1	1	1
	General		1	0	1	1	1
<b>Public Awareness</b>							
	Presence at County Mtgs	15		12	8		9
	Public comment				5		7
	Letters to Editor				2		4
	Op Ed Articles	2		1	0		0
	General print media	3			0		5
	TV Presence	2					2
<b>Individual Contacts</b>							
	Facebook likes	300			366		850

\* Moved; dropped out.

## Outreach via Facebook

For the first time this year, we decided to “boost” some of our Facebook events and posts, by spending a little money and asking FB to show our posts to more people – not just people who were already our “Friends” or who had “Liked” us in the past. For instance, we spent \$20 to promote our candidate forum for primary election candidates for the at-large seats on the County Council, held on June 12<sup>th</sup> and co-hosted by the Common Market. In terms of people reached and reader responses, this was our most successful promotion.

A summary of results from Facebook:

### Performance

You've spent **\$20.00** over **285 days**.

Event Responses

57

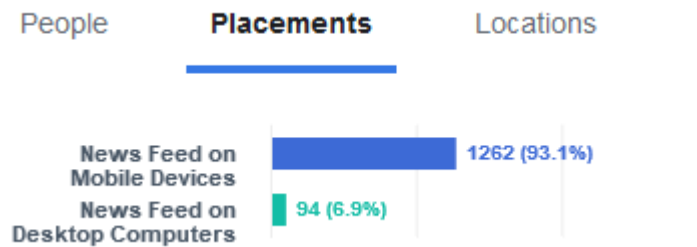
People Reached

1,314

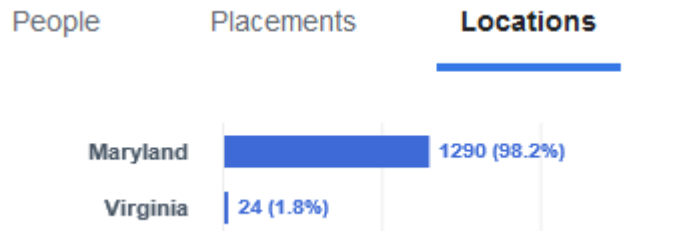
\$0.35 [We spent 35 cents per person who responded to the ad.]

We targeted FB users who live within 20 miles of Frederick. We can look at the demographics of the people whom we reached in several different ways.

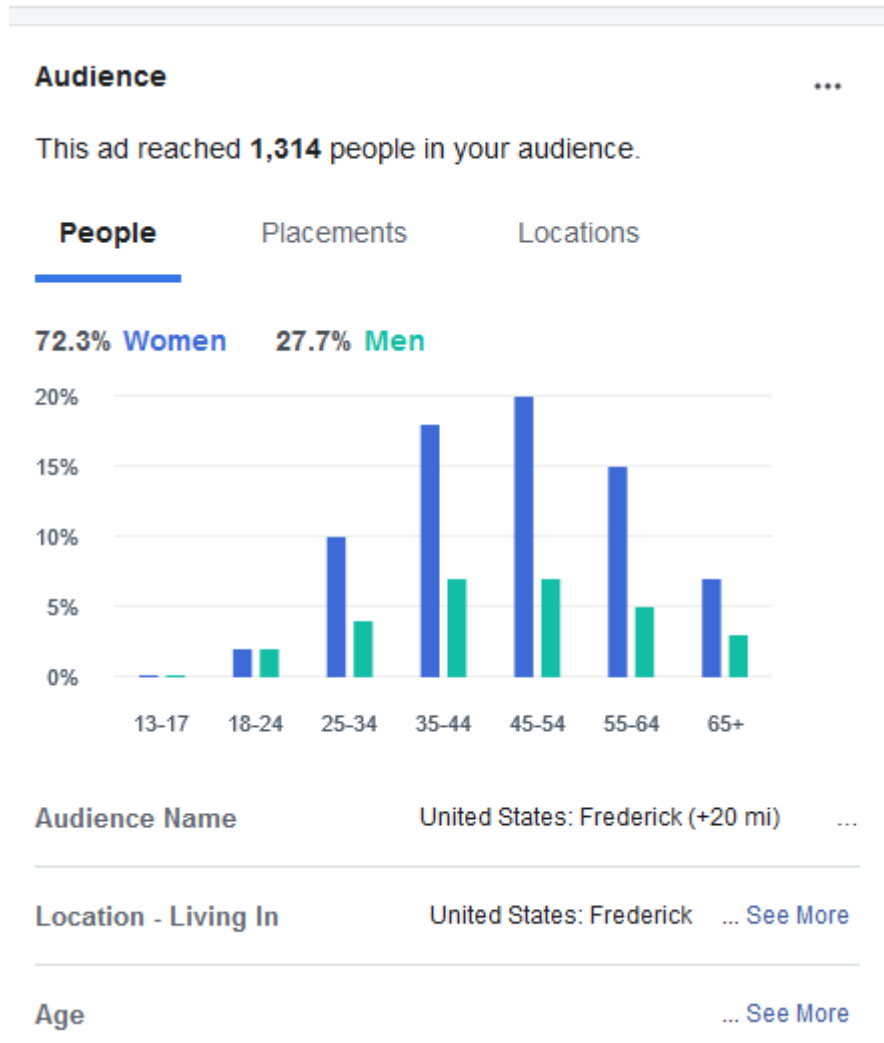
First of all, we see that most people read the post on a mobile device:



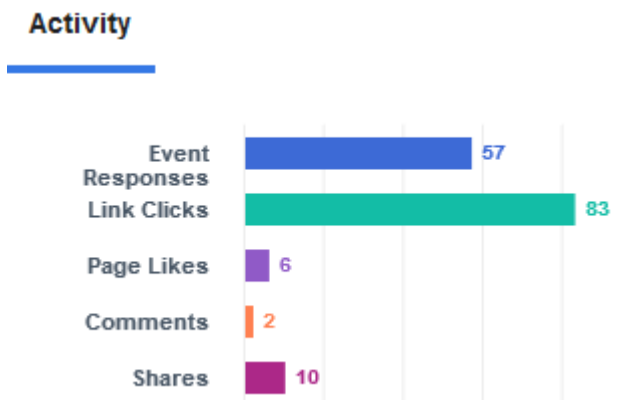
And most of them lived in Maryland:



We can also look at responses by gender and age:







Finally, we can see how many people liked, commented, shared, and clicked through to find out more about the event – all impressive numbers.



In order to boost or promote events, and because our events looked political, we had to provide security documents (passport, driver's license, home address – to which they mailed a physical piece of mail) to prove that we were not Russian operatives! That was actually a daunting process.

All in all, we boosted three candidate forums and one event (with a little \$5 grant they gave us):

Recent Ads on League of Women Voters, Frederick, MD				<a href="#">+ Create Ad</a>
Ads activity is reported in the time zone of your ad account.				
	<b>Boosted Post</b> Annual Legislative Luncheon: Wishing our Fre... Promoted by B Mayfield on Dec 9, 2018 Completed	<b>577</b> People Reached	<b>68</b> Post Engagement	<b>\$5.00</b> Spent of \$5.00 <a href="#">View Results</a>
	<b>Event Promotion</b> Maryland Sixth Congressional District Forum Thursday, October 11, 2018, 7 PM - 9 PM Promoted by B Mayfield on Sep 26, 2018 Completed	<b>935</b> People Reached	<b>41</b> Event Responses	<b>\$20.00</b> Spent of \$20.00 <a href="#">View Results</a>
	<b>Event Promotion</b> Forum: At-Large Candidates for Frederick Cou... Tuesday, June 12, 2018, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Promoted by B Mayfield on May 30, 2018 Completed	<b>1,314</b> People Reached	<b>57</b> Event Responses	<b>\$20.00</b> Spent of \$20.00 <a href="#">View Results</a>
	<b>Event Promotion</b> District 6 Congressional Forum Tuesday, June 5, 2018, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Promoted by B Mayfield on May 22, 2018 Completed	<b>1,184</b> People Reached	<b>40</b> Event Responses	<b>\$20.00</b> Spent of \$20.00 <a href="#">View Results</a>

Members of our legislative delegation loved the photos of the luncheon; their families and staffs often shared the post with others. We are happy with these results and believe that our Facebook experiment was a success, bringing the League's message to more people in the community.

## Summary

Your League has been very, very busy in the past year! We have enjoyed serving as your presidents and we appreciate your support. We are grateful to our Board of Directors, particularly to those who took on special tasks:

- Mary Beth Coker: Vice President
- Annelie Weber and Susan Rovin: Co-Secretaries
- Claire Kondig: Treasurer
- Shirley McDonald: Membership
- Mary Ellen Rhoderick: Ethics Commission
- Rosemary Orthmann: VOTE 411
- Linda Norris-Waldt: Facebook and Livable Frederick
- Kerri Burson: Book Club

... and to all who worked with them on formal and informal committees. We especially thank the Nominating Committee for all their work in bringing you an exciting slate of officers for the coming year.

We know that you have a bright future ahead of you with a brand new Board and wonderful officers for the coming year. We are Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy!

## **XI. Proposed Changes to the Bylaws**

### **Bylaws of the League of Women Voters Frederick County, Maryland *Proposed Revisions April 2019 in red***

“The Purpose of the League of Women Voters of the United States is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues. The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.”

*From bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States since 1923.*

#### **Article One Name**

Sec. 1. Name. The name of this corporation shall be League of Women Voters of Frederick County. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and of the League of Women Voters of Maryland.

#### **Article Two Purposes & Policy**

Sec. 1. Purposes. The purposes of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Sec. 2. Political Policy. The League of Women Voters of Frederick County shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

#### **Article Three Membership**

Sec. 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Sec. 2. Types of Membership. The membership of the League shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

- a. *Voting members.* Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of the LWVUS, the LWVMD, the local League to which the member belongs, and any regional League to which that local League belongs;



- (1) Individuals who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League;
  - (2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be LWVMD members-at-large;
  - (3) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be honorary life members excused from the payment of dues
- b. *Associate Members.* All others who join the League shall be associate members.

## **Article Four Board of Directors**

Sec. 1. Number. The Board of Directors shall consist of the five officers of the League, six elected Directors and not more than eight appointed Directors. **Up to two (2) Young Directors, under the age of 25, may be appointed.**

Sec. 2. Selection. The six (6) elected Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall take office immediately. A majority of the elected Board members shall appoint such additional Directors, not exceeding eight (8) **including Young Directors**, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League.

Sec. 3. Term of Office. All elected Directors shall serve for two years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The term of office for the appointed Directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.

Sec. 4. Qualifications. No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an Officer or Director of this organization unless this person is a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County.

Sec. 5. Withdrawal. Three consecutive absences by any member from Board meetings without a valid reason, as determined by the Board, shall be deemed a resignation.

Sec. 6. Vacancies. Any vacancy, other than in the Presidency, occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of the resignation, disqualification or death of an Officer or elected member, shall be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. In the event of a vacancy in the Presidency, by reason of resignation, disqualification or death, the Board shall elect by majority vote one of its elected members to fill this vacancy until the next Annual Meeting.

Sec. 7. Powers and Duties. The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to conduct the same, subject to the instructions of the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program as adopted by the National Convention, the State Convention and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

Sec. 8. Meetings. There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board.

Sec. 9. Quorum. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum and decide its action.

**Sec. 10. Director Emeritus. A member of the Board who has served at least eight (8) years on the Board of Directors may ask the Board to become a Director Emeritus. Those serving as Director Emeritus shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall continue to provide advice and counsel to the Board of Directors. In such capacity, such person shall not have any of the duties of a director, nor shall she or he be counted in determining a quorum of the Board of Directors or vote as a director.**

## **Article Five Officers**

Sec. 1. Enumeration. The officers of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

Sec 2. Election. All officers shall be elected by the general membership at the Annual Meeting and take office immediately. The President, the First Vice-President and the Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The Second Vice-President and the Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years.

Sec. 3. Term of Office. All elected officers shall serve for two years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. Officers shall not hold the same office for more than two consecutive elected terms.

Sec. 4. The President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors. The President may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes; shall be *ex officio*, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint the chair of such committees as the Board shall create; shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of President and perform other such duties as may be designated by the Board.

Sec. 5. The Vice-Presidents. The two Vice-Presidents, in the order of their rank, shall in the event of absence, disability, resignation, disqualification or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of the presidency until the Board of Directors shall have selected a successor to the President. The Vice-Presidents shall perform such other duties as the President and Board may designate.

Sec. 6. The Secretary. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and of all business meetings of the League; shall notify all Officers and Directors of their election; shall send copies of the Board minutes to members in advance of meetings; shall notify all directors of the time and place of regular and special Board meetings; shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board; and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Sec. 7. The Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due; shall be the custodian of these moneys, shall deposit them in a bank or banks designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same in accordance with the budget or upon order of the Board; shall present statements to the Board at its regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting. The Board may appoint an Assistant Treasurer to share the duties of the Treasurer. The books of the Treasurer shall be audited by a professional accountant prior to the Annual Meeting.

## **Article Six**

### **Financial Administration**

Sec. 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County shall commence on the first day of April each year.

Sec. 2. Dues. Annual dues shall be payable on the first day of the anniversary month of the member's joining the League. Dues may be changed by the Board with a two-thirds vote of members present at the Annual Meeting. Dues may be adjusted by the Board for particular individuals in special circumstances. When two members reside at the same address in a common household, their dues shall be one and one-half times the established amount. Any member who fails to pay dues within three months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

Sec. 3. Budget Committee. A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least three months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year, and to report this budget to the Board. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as chair of the Budget committee; but the Treasurer and the Finance Chair shall be *ex officio* members of this committee.

Sec. 4. Budget. The Board of Directors shall propose a budget for the ensuing year; shall send the proposed budget to all members at least one month before the Annual Meeting; and shall submit same to the Annual Meeting for adoption. A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of the proposed budget.

Sec. 5. Financial Support. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole. Per Member Payment (PMP) to the League of Women Voters of Maryland and to the League of Women Voters of the United States shall be based on the number of local League members on January 1 of each year. The PMP for the second member of a two-member household shall be one-half the determined PMP for a regular member.

Sec. 6. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of a dissolution, for any cause, of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County, all moneys and securities which may at the time be owned by, or under the absolute control of, the League of Women Voters of Frederick County shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Maryland after the Board of Directors has paid or has made provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal or mixed, which may at the time be owned by, or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County shall be disposed of by any officer or employee of the organization having possession of same to such person, organization or corporation, for such public, charitable or educational uses and purposes as may be designated by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County.

## **Article Seven**

### **Meetings**

Sec. 1. General Membership Meetings. Each year there shall be at least four meetings at which all members meet together. The Annual Meeting shall be counted as one of these. Meetings designed primarily for the public (e.g. Candidates' Nights) are not considered general membership meetings. The time and place of these meetings shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. Annual Meetings. An Annual Meeting shall be held between April 1 and May 30, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting shall:

- a) Adopt a local Program for the ensuing year;
- b) Elect Officers, Directors and members of the Nominating Committee;
- c) Adopt an adequate budget; and
- d) Transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Sec. 3. Other meetings. Other meetings shall be established by the Board of Directors as may be necessary to carry out the Program of the League.

Sec. 4. Quorum. Twenty percent (20%) of the membership shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County.

## **Article Eight Nominations and Elections**

Sec. 1. Nominating Committee.

- a) Number. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors.
- b) Selection. The chair and two members, who shall not be members of the Board, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current nominating committee. The other two members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting.
- c) Term of Office. Term of office for this committee shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.
- d) Qualifications. No person shall be elected or appointed or continue to serve on this committee unless the person is a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County.
- e) Vacancies. Any vacancy, other than that of chair, occurring on the Nominating Committee by reason of resignation, disqualification or death of a member, shall be filled within one month by majority vote of the remaining members of the committee, provided that the proportion of representation on the committee remains three non-Board members to two members from the Board. A vacancy in the chair shall be filled by one of the remaining elected members and chosen by the committee.

Sec. 2. Suggestions for Nominations. It shall be the duty of the chair of the Nominating Committee to request, by a public call to the membership, suggestions for nominations for the positions to be filled. Recommendations for nominations may be made to the Nominating Committee by any voting member at least two months before the Annual Meeting.

Sec. 3. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor.

- a) The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors and non-Board members of the Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members at least one month before the date of the Annual Meeting.
- b) The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented at the Annual Meeting.
- c) Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

Sec. 4. Election.

- a) The election shall be in the charge of the Nominating Committee.

- b) The election shall be by ballot provided that when there is but one nominee for each office, the election shall be by voice vote.
- c) Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.
- d) A majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election.

## **Article Nine Program**

Sec. 1. Authorization. The Principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.

Sec. 2. Program. The Program of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County shall consist of:

- a) Action to implement the Principles of the League of Women Voters of the United States and
- b) Those local governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action.

Sec. 3. Action by the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:

- a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a proposed Program.
- b) **A draft of** the proposed Program shall be **made available** to all members at least one month before the Annual Meeting.
- c) A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of issues in the proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.
- d) Recommendations for Program submitted by voting members at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not included in the Proposed Program recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered at the Annual Meeting provided that: 1) The Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote and 2) the Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.
- e) Changes in the Program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made provided that:
  - i. information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed and
  - ii. final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Sec. 4. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors. They may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the League of Women Voters of Frederick County, the League of Women Voters of Maryland and/or the League of Women Voters of the United States.

## **Article Ten National Convention, State Convention and Council**

Sec. 1. National Convention. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the national office shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Frederick County under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Sec. 2. State Convention. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office shall select delegates to that Convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Frederick County under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Maryland.

Sec. 3. State Council. The membership of the Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office, shall select delegates to that Council in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Frederick County under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Maryland.

### **Article Eleven Parliamentary Authority**

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

### **Article Twelve Amendments**

Sec. 1. Amendments. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, provided that amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

*Revised: April 2015*  
*April 2017—to comply with LWVUS By-Laws changes*  
*April 2018*  
*April 2019 proposed*

**XII. Proposed Local Program for the Coming Year**

**LWVFC Local Program  
April 2019- April 2020**

<b>PROPOSED PROGRAM ACTIONS</b>	<b>POSITION</b>
Continue to promote an informed voting citizenry that engages in the political process within all levels of government.	<b>LWV Position: (1984)</b> The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation at all levels of government. The League further believes that governmental bodies must protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.
Monitor state actions regarding alternate school funding to identify possible fiscal, social and academic impact on Frederick County schools necessitating response of the League.	<b><u>LWVMD: CHOICE IN EDUCATION – VOUCHERS</u></b> (2001, 2002) <b>Opposition to:</b> Using public funding for vouchers to enable parents to send their children to private elementary and secondary schools. Action to support measures which recognize the primary responsibility for funding public elementary and secondary education lies with the state (1972, 1975)
Continue monitoring of APFO, impact fees and mitigation fees within the County.	<b><u>NATURAL RESOURCES – Promote the management of natural resources as interrelated parts of life-supporting ecosystems.</u></b>  <b><u>Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (1995)</u></b> <b>Action to Support:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) is a tool available to local government to use as a means of ensuring adequate public facilities are available concurrent with new development.</li> <li>• The League believes that municipalities should have APFO's compatible with the County's and that they should be encouraged to adopt compatible ordinances.</li> <li>• The League believes that business development should be encouraged by means other than reducing requirements or granting exemptions (other than the existing school-related exemption) from the APFO standards for business development.</li> </ul>



<p>Monitor the Livable Frederick project as the update of the comprehensive plan for Frederick County.</p>	<p><b><u>Land Use (1971, 1995)</u></b>  <b>Action to Support:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative and diverse membership on the Planning and Zoning Commission</li> <li>• Continuation and revision of the Comprehensive Plan of Frederick County</li> <li>• Zoning that limits rural residential development in designated areas of Frederick County</li> </ul>
<p>Continue to monitor ethics within Frederick County government including recommending reforms to the State Public Ethics Laws and County Ethics ordinances.</p> <p>Continue to chair the Nominating Committee for the County Ethics Commission, as specified in the Frederick County Ethics Law.</p>	<p><b><u>GOVERNMENT—Promote an open governmental system that is representative, responsive and accountable through measures such as open meetings, accessibility of records to the public and a code of ethics for government office holders and officials.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Ethics Law</u></b> (1988, 1994, 2015)</p>
<p>Identify and monitor the impact of Section 287 (g) of the Immigration and Nationality Immigration Act within Frederick County.</p>	<p><b><u>LWV Position: Immigration (2008)</u></b>  Promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises; and provide for student visas. Ensure fair treatment under the law for all persons. In transition to a reformed system, support provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status.</p> <p><b>Unauthorized Immigrants Already in the United States:</b> In achieving overall policy goals, the League supports a system for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status, including citizenship, by paying taxes, learning English, studying civics and meeting other relevant criteria. While policy reforms, including a path to legal status, remain unachieved, the League does not support deporting unauthorized immigrants who have no history of criminal activity.</p>
<p>Monitor the five-year Charter Government Review process.</p> <p>(Note Article 7, Section 703 of the Frederick County Charter: Charter Review Commission (a) A Charter Review Commission shall be</p>	<p><b><u>Form of Local Government (1963, 1968, 1995, 2007)</u></b></p> <p><b>Action to Support:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charter Home Rule for Frederick County</li> </ul>



<p>appointed by the Council no later than six months following the installation of newly elected council members after the election of 2018.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An elected-executive and county council structure that provides for a system of checks and balances (2007)</li> <li>• Criteria for good government</li> </ul>
<p>Monitor action taken on the Recommendations from the Report of the County Council’s Human Trafficking Task Force.</p>	<p><b>LWV Position: Human Trafficking (2014)</b>  The League of Women Voters opposes all forms of domestic and international human trafficking of adults and children, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking. We consider human trafficking to be a form of modern day slavery and believe that every measure should be taken and every effort should be made through legislation and changes in public policy to prevent human trafficking. Prosecution and penalization of traffickers and abusers should be established, and existing laws should be strictly enforced. Extensive essential services for victims should be applied where needed. Education and awareness programs on human trafficking should be established in our communities and in our schools.</p>
<p>Evaluate the findings of the United Way ALICE Report in light of LWV positions and support when possible.</p>	<p><b>LWV Position on Social Policy:</b> Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice, and the health and safety of all Americans.</p> <p><b>Education, Employment and Housing:</b>  Support equal access to education, employment and housing.</p>
<p>Monitor and evaluate the proposed County Council legislation on Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreements</p>	<p><b>Development Rights and Responsibilities/ DRRAs (2014)</b>  <b>Action to Support:</b>  Strategic use of DRRAS for high-density development projects in defined areas, to secure public infrastructure contributions from developers that are significantly greater than would otherwise be required.</p>

## LWVFC LOCAL PROGRAM POSITIONS 2019-2020

### Proposed Action for the Coming Year

**GOVERNMENT—Promote an open governmental system that is representative, responsive and accountable through measures such as open meetings, accessibility of records to the public and a code of ethics for government office holders and officials.**

**LWVUS Position:** The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation at all levels of government. The League further believes that governmental bodies must protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.

**Ethics Law** (1988, 1994, 2015)

**Action of Support:**

- Ethics Law provides essential tools to ensure that the judgment of public officials is impartial and independent.
- Ethics Law should set minimum standards related to conflict of interest, require financial disclosure, and avoid the appearance of improper influence.
- The powers and duties of the Ethics Commission should be clearly defined.

**Statement of Position:**

1. An essential responsibility for enabling the public trust resides in the system of government itself in promoting, monitoring and ensuring the impartial and independent judgment of public officials.
2. Ethics Law should:
  - a. Set minimum standards of conduct related to conflict of interest;
  - b. Require public officials to disclose their financial affairs;
  - c. Be prefaced by a statement of policy;
  - d. Clearly define the powers and duties of the Ethics Commission;
  - e. Set clear standards;
  - f. Have enforcement powers.
3. Conflict-Of-Interest Regulations should:
  - a. Clearly apply to direct financial gain;
  - b. Avoid the actual as well as the appearance of improper influence;
  - c. Regulations should apply to indirect relationships to the extent necessary to realize the intent of the Ethics Law;
  - d. Require that appointing bodies avoid the nomination of individuals where known conflict of interest exist and make them responsible for the quality of their appointments.
4. Financial disclosure is an essential tool for monitoring potential conflicts of interest:
  - a. Elected officials, division directors and department heads should provide full disclosure, i.e., gifts, interests in real property, corporations, businesses (doing or not doing business with entity), employment and liabilities owned to persons doing business with entity.
  - b. Members of boards and commissions, as well as those key employees listed in the current Ethics Law should provide simple disclosure, i.e., gifts, interests (real property and businesses) and employment.
  - c. Disclosure for all employees is not recommended.
5. Lobbying disclosure provides the public's right to know if expenditures are made to influence public policy and is a tool for monitoring potential conflict of interest.
6. Ethics Commission is responsible for the effective implementation and enforcement of the Ethics Law. An effectively administered Ethics Commission should:
  - a. Have an adequate staff;
  - b. Have an office arranged to ensure confidentiality and the efficient maintenance of records;
  - c. Schedule meetings on a regular basis, sufficient to fully perform all duties of the commission;

- d. Provide orientation for its members as well as encourage participation in the state-supported training sessions;
  - e. Have the funding to support an effective operation.
7. The powers and duties of an Ethics Commission should include but not be limited to:
- a. Investigating only written, signed complaints alleging violations of the Ethics Law;
  - b. Initiating investigations upon the signed complaint of a member of the Commission;
  - c. Providing advisory opinions to persons subject to the Ethics Law;
  - d. Receiving and reviewing disclosure statements for compliance with provisions and notifying officials and employees of any omissions;
  - e. Developing an effective information program on the purpose and application of the Ethics Law for employees, officials, members of boards and commissions and the public;
  - f. Issuing an annual report to government officials and the public which summarizes its activities and issues;
  - g. Periodically evaluating the adequacy of the Ethics Law and making recommendations for change.
8. Vacancies on boards and commissions should be publicly announced to broaden public participation and to avoid potential conflict of interest.

**Proposed action for the coming year:**

- **Continue to monitor ethics within Frederick County and City governments including recommending reforms to the State Public Ethics Laws and County and City Ethics ordinances.**
- **Continue to chair the Nominating Committee for the County Ethics Commission, as specified in the Frederick County Ethics Law.**

**Form of Local Government (1963, 1968, 1995, 2007)**

**Action to Support:**

- Charter Home Rule for Frederick County
- An elected-executive and county council structure that provides for a system of checks and balances (2007)
- Criteria for good government

**Statements of Position:**

1. Charter Home Rule is the ideal form of government for Frederick County because it gives the voters the authority to write a constitution for their government and to amend it.
2. The Charter should reflect a clear delineation of executive and legislative functions. (2007)
3. An elected County Council with legislative responsibility is a good principle.
4. The Charter should:
  - a. Be the one best adapted to the needs of the area;
  - b. Be representative of all people of that area;
  - c. Provide checks and balances through the separation of the legislative, executive and judicial branches;
  - d. Provide for efficient and economical operation through
    1. the clear definition and assignment of responsibility,
    2. the hiring of competent personnel,
    3. providing ease of access to public records and documents,
    4. establishing amendment procedures for the basic written document or constitution,
    5. and employing procedures designed to stimulate informed and active participation of the citizens of the area.
  - e. Be responsive to the will of the people by:
    1. providing open lines of communication,
    2. providing ease of access to public records and documents,
    3. establishing referendum procedures for legislation,
    4. establishing amendment procedures for the basic written document or constitution, and employing procedures designed to stimulate informed and active participation of the citizens.

**Proposed action for the coming year: Monitor the five-year Charter Government Review process.**

**NATURAL RESOURCES – Promote the management of natural resources as interrelated parts of life-supporting ecosystems.**

**Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (1995)**

**Action to Support:**

- An Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) is a tool available to local government to use as a means of ensuring adequate public facilities are available concurrent with new development.
- The League believes that municipalities should have APFO's compatible with the county's and that they should be encouraged to adopt compatible ordinances.
- The League believes that business development should be encouraged by means other than reducing requirements or granting exemptions (other than the existing school-related exemption) from the APFO standards for business development.

**Statements of Position:**

1. An Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) is one of several growth management tools available to local governments that should be used to meet their responsibility to ensure that adequate public facilities and services are available concurrent with new development.  
In order to enhance the effectiveness of the APFO, municipalities should be encouraged to adopt APFO's that are compatible with the County's.
2. An APFO should:
  - a. Be reviewed and updated every five years after public hearings;
  - b. Be considered a working document and be compared annually with the county's Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) to ensure that growth and public facilities are compatible, and an annual report of all APFO actions should be prepared;
  - c. Focus on essential public services first, such as schools, roads, water and sewer. However, recognizing that the county is experiencing rapid growth, consideration should be given to adding public transportation, including school transportation, and fire stations to the APFO; and
  - d. Evaluate the cumulative impact of approved developments when testing new development proposals.
3. Schools are an important component of the APFO and the current criteria for adequacy should be re-evaluated in the following ways:
  - a. Consideration should be given to strengthening the school adequacy to reflect 100% capacity for county planning purposes, rather than relying on the higher state funding standards.
  - b. Local pupil yield for each school affected by a proposed development, as well as countywide averages currently available should be used.
  - c. As state above, the cumulative impact of approved developments should be considered when evaluating new development proposals.
4. The current criteria for traffic impact statements should be strengthened to include cumulative impact and safety concerns.

- **Proposed action for the coming year: Continue monitoring of APFO, impact fees and mitigation fees within the County.**

**Land Use (1971, 1995)**

**Action to Support:**

- Representative and diverse membership on the Planning and Zoning Commission
- Continuation and revision of the Comprehensive Plan of Frederick County
- Zoning that limits rural residential development in designated areas of Frederick County

**Statements of Position:**

- Representative and diverse membership on the Planning and Zoning Commission
- Continuation and revision of the Comprehensive Plan of Frederick County

- Zoning that limits rural residential development in designated areas of Frederick County

**Statements of Position:**

1. The Frederick County Planning and Zoning Commission should have a membership that reflects:
  - a. Representation of urban and rural interests;
  - b. Diversity of business and community interest; and
  - c. Minority group representation.
2. The Comprehensive Plan should be reviewed and revised on a regular schedule.
3. The basic goals of the Comprehensive Plan should include:
  - a. Conservation of the natural environment;
  - b. Quality living environment for people; and
  - c. A sound and diversified economy.
4. The Comprehensive Plan should continue to include:
  - a. A transportation plan which emphasizes public transportation including a county-wide network and rapid transit system to the metropolitan areas;
  - b. A watershed protection and flood control plan; and
  - c. Pollution controls for each element.
5. Provision for public participation in the planning process is essential.

**Proposed action for the coming year: Monitor the Livable Frederick project as the update of the Comprehensive Plan.**

**Development Rights and Responsibilities/ DRRAs (2014)**

**Action to Support:**

- Strategic use of DRRAS for high-density development projects in defined areas, to secure public infrastructure contributions from developers that are significantly greater than would otherwise be required

**Statements of Position:**

1. LWFVC opposes
  - extensive use of DRRAs in order to guarantee development ‘rights’, because this hampers the county’s ability to ensure orderly growth.
  - using DRRAs for low-density and greenfield residential development serviced by roads and in areas where roads, schools and other public infrastructure are inadequate.
  - a 20-25-year time frame for DRRAs, which limits the flexibility of future county leaders and developers in reacting to changing conditions.
2. LWFVC supports use of DRRAs that
  - have a strategic purpose to meet a specific capital-intensive public need, such as projects that will support infrastructure for public transportation (transit-oriented development or TOD).
  - are limited to defined zones in the Comprehensive Plan and those identified in the state’s priority funding areas (PFAs).
  - limit freezing laws to include only use, density and intensity without freezing other development laws or fees.
  - be approved for an initial five-year default period, recognizing that longer-term agreements come with risks.
3. LWFVC recommends that each DRRA proposal should
  - provide an analysis, available to the public, that clearly defines the benefits to the county and its citizens beyond what would be provided through the standard development process.
  - define a clear process for extensive public participation, including posting of the land under consideration for a DRRA at the onset of negotiations.
  - include early input to county elected officials from the Board of Education and Frederick County Public Schools staff, as well as other county agencies affected such as Fire and Public Safety, Parks and Recreation, Libraries, and Department of Public Works. This information also should be available to the public.

- under Charter Government, be considered by the County Council as well as the Executive, with continuing oversight by both.

**Proposed action for the coming year: Monitor and evaluate the proposed County Council legislation on Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreements.**

**Solid Waste Disposal (1973)**

**Action to Support:**

- Resource recovery and recycling
- A mandatory county-wide collection system

**Statements of Position:**

1. Frederick's methods of solid waste disposal are not adequate to meet our current and future needs.
2. A county-wide garbage collection service should be established, participation in which is mandatory.
3. Private contractors should be used for a county-wide garbage collection system and outmoded equipment should be gradually replaced.
4. The system should be financed through a county-administered tax, the amount and purpose of such tax to be clearly itemized on the bill.
5. Garbage should be separated for collection, initially emphasizing newspapers, magazines, etc., when reclamation of resources becomes technically and economically feasible.
6. More landfills should be established as an interim measure, bearing in mind the ultimate goal of a system involving resource recovery.

**Water Resource Management and Development (1977)**

**Action to Support:**

- Joint management of water resources on a county-wide level in cooperation with state agencies
- Water conservation
- Enforcement of pollution controls
- Planning for water supply sources (with conservation as a priority)

**Statements of Position:**

1. Water resources in Frederick County should be jointly managed by the County and its municipalities in cooperation with State agencies.
2. Water conservation measures are necessary to:
  - a. Meet future water needs during drought periods;
  - b. Provide additional supply for future residential and industrial growth; and
  - c. Meet water supply and sewerage treatment needs with the least cost.
3. The county and municipalities should prepare a comprehensive drought emergency plan.
4. Alternative water supply sources are available for meeting future growth demands.
5. Development of these alternative sources should depend on study.
6. Planning for additional supply must be on-going and must be coordinated with other planning tools.
7. Past reliance on individual water and septic tanks for residential development in the County should be discouraged.
8. Individual water and septic systems should be strictly regulated.
9. Cooperation on a regional level is advisable.

**SOCIAL POLICY—Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice and the health and safety of all Americans.**

**LWVUS Position on Social Policy:** Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice, and the health and safety of all Americans.

**Equality of Opportunity (1989, 1992, 2010)** The League of Women Voters believes that the federal government shares with other levels of government the responsibility to provide equality of opportunity for education,



employment and housing for all persons in the United States regardless of their race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation or disability.

### **Planning for Education (1984, 1994)**

#### **Action to Support:**

- Long range educational planning
- Adequate local funding
- Measures to promote gender equity

#### **Statements of Position:**

##### **Long Range Planning (1984)**

1. Any long-range plan should be comprehensive, consistent, realistic and equitable.
2. Any plan should provide for evaluation procedures after the implementation.
3. As quality of education is determined at the most basic level of the quality of teachers in the system, teachers, must be:
  - a. Offered competitive salaries;
  - b. Helped to maintain and improve their skills;
  - c. Assigned classes of manageable size.
4. A sound education system requires adequate local funding and development of public support for the education budget.

##### **Gender Equity (1984)**

1. The school system should continue to take an active role in educating to reduce sexist attitudes and practices in school and society.
2. Positive implementation of Title IX needs to be reaffirmed periodically and evidenced by policy and program.
3. A monitoring system to assure the application of Title IX principles to curriculum, teaching materials, counseling, vocational training and administration; educational plans.

#### **Proposed actions for the coming year:**

- **Monitor state actions regarding alternate school funding to identify possible fiscal, social and academic impact on Frederick County schools necessitating response of the League.**
- **Monitor action taken on the Recommendations from the Report of the County Council's Human Trafficking Task Force.**
- **Evaluate the findings of the United Way ALICE Report in light of LWV positions and support when possible.**

### **LWVUS Position: Immigration 2008**

Promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises; and provide for student visas. Ensure fair treatment under the law for all persons. In transition to a reformed system, support provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status.

**Unauthorized Immigrants Already in the United States:** In achieving overall policy goals, the League supports a system for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status, including citizenship, by paying taxes, learning English, studying civics and meeting other relevant criteria. While policy reforms, including a path to legal status, remain unachieved, the League does not support deporting unauthorized immigrants who have no history of criminal activity.

**Suggested action for the coming year: Identify and monitor the impact of Section 287 (g) of the Immigration and Nationality Immigration Act within Frederick County.**

**XIII. Report of the Budget Committee**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FREDERICK COUNTY  
PROPOSED 2019 – 2020 BUDGET - LWVFC Board Approved**

	Approved 2018 – 2019	Actual	Proposed
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Dues (\$60.I/\$80.HH)*	\$6,020.00	<b>\$3835</b>	<b>\$6180</b>
Proposed dues based on \$90 HH (1½ Individual dues.)		6@\$55 9@80 46@60 1@25	82@\$60 14@\$90
Contributions** (\$100 – Ed. Fund)	\$ 300.00	<b>\$715.00</b>	\$300
<b>Major Contribution \$600</b>			
<b>Memorial – Jean Friedmann \$50</b>			
<b>Donations to be transferred. \$65</b>			
Annual Meeting	\$ 700.00	<b>\$490</b>	\$500
Delegation Breakfast/Lunch	\$ 250.00	-----	-----
Food was donated.			
International Dinner	\$ 220.00	<b>\$200</b>	\$200
Other Fundraisers: Election	\$ 400.00	<b>\$500</b>	\$200
Revenue from Sales (Yard Signs)	-----	<b>\$100</b>	-----
Misc. Revenue	-----	<b>\$ 6</b>	\$50
Donations to LWVFC	\$ 100	<b>\$110</b>	\$100
Bequest Contingency Fund*	-----	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$7,900.00</b>	<b>\$5,956</b>	<b>\$7,530</b>
<b>Transferred to Education Fund</b>	-----	<b>\$715</b>	
<b>Balance</b>	-----	<b>\$5,241</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
General Administration (Wireless Mike / Bank)	\$ 430.78	<b>\$672.02</b>	\$265.55
* <b>Wireless Microphones \$406.91</b>		<b>*(\$553.16)</b>	
<b>Board Meeting Materials \$74.30</b>			
<b>Business Cards \$15.89</b>			
<b>LWV Badges \$25.00</b>			
<b>Planning Meeting Materials \$9.67</b>			
* <b>Name Badges for Meetings - 116.25</b>			
<b>Bank Fees (Paper copy) \$24.00</b>			
Workshops	\$ 200.00	-----	\$120
Conventions (LWVUS) (MD)	\$ 200.00	<b>\$250.00</b>	\$200
Membership Committee	\$ 100.00	<b>\$ 8.78</b>	\$100
Program Committees (Immigration)	\$ 200.00	-----	\$200
Voter Service (Yard Signs)	\$ 200.00	<b>\$140.00</b>	\$255
Annual Meeting	\$ 800.00	<b>\$627.13</b>	\$600
<b>Gladchuk's \$540</b>			
<b>Workbook \$87.13</b>			



	Approved	Actual	Proposed
Annual Meeting – LWVNCA	-----	<b>\$120.00</b>	\$120
Delegation Breakfast (Lunch)	\$ 75.00	-----	\$ 50
International Dinner	\$ 100.00	-----	\$ 50
Forums	\$ 200.00	<b>\$144.82</b>	\$200
<b>Materials - \$69.82</b>			
<b>Use of Presbyterian Church \$75.00</b>			
Website Fee	\$ 300.00	<b>\$615.15</b>	\$415.15
* <b>One-time set-up: \$200</b>			
<b>Website – LWVCA \$400</b>			
<b>Domain Name Fee - \$15.15</b>			
<b>*Reimbursement for Mileage to</b>	-----	<b>\$638.85</b>	-----
<b>Brielle Rozmus – Internship at LWVMD</b>			
	<b>\$2,805.78</b>	<b>3216.75</b>	<b>\$2575.70</b>
Per member payments (PMP):			
<b>LWVUS (\$32.00 I/\$48.00 HH)</b>	\$ 3,280.00	\$2,752	\$3,296
<b>LWVMD (\$15.00 I/\$22.50 HH)</b>	\$ 1,537.50	\$1,290	\$1,545
<b>LWV Capital Area (\$1.10I/\$1.65 HH)</b>	\$ 112.75	(\$112.75)	\$113.30
Liability Insurance (\$2.33** /member x 56)	\$ 253.97	-----	-----
<b>(Total PMP (\$49.53I/ \$75.46 HH)</b>	<b>\$ 5,184.22</b>	<b>\$4,154.75</b>	<b>\$4954.30</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$7,990.00</b>	<b>\$7,371.50</b>	<b>\$7,530</b>
		<b>Less income:</b>	
		<b>(-\$1115.50)</b>	

\* **Note one time expenses: \$1361.25**

**Contingency Fund (\$2029.00) – A legacy donation held for emergencies.**

**Education Fund Balance: \$1,174.77**

**Includes \$50 Memorial to Jean Friedmann**

**Memorial Contributions become part of the Education Fund**

**Members are encouraged to contribute to the LWVFC Education Fund which is tax-deductible. Write checks to LWVMD – Education Fund. Write Frederick County on the memo line. Or: Write checks to LWVFC and note amount on the memo line. Funds for the Ed. Fund are forwarded. This makes it easy to include a donation with your dues.**

**Several members provided “in-kind” support to the LWVFC by paying for their attendance at workshops, for paper, for stamps, and for administrative costs.**

**Note: Proposed budget categories are flexible and may shift based on need and with LWV Board approval.**

#### **XIV. Recommended Changes to Membership Dues and Adoption of Budget**

Last year we increased individual dues to \$60 per year, but we did not change household dues. At this time we need to change the household dues in order to be in compliance with our bylaws:

**Article Six, Section 2 Dues:** When two members reside at the same address in a common household, their dues shall be one and one-half times the established amount.

This recommendation comes to you from the Board of Directors.

**Motion:** Household dues (two members residing at one address) shall be \$90 per year.

#### **XV. Special recognition**

*To be announced at the meeting.*

## **XVI. Report of Nominating Committee and Election of Officers**

### **LWVFC NOMINATIONS 2019-20**

#### Officers to be elected

Co-Presidents: Kerri Burson (2-year term) & Linda Norris-Waldt (1-year term)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Kimberly Scott (2-year term)  
Secretary: Carole Sepe (2-year term)  
Treasurer: Claire Kondig (1-year term)

*Note: Mary Beth Coker will serve the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of her term as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.*

#### Directors to be elected (2-year terms)

Rochelle Kithcart  
Sue Krause

*Note: James Filson, Fran Keeley, and Sara Malec will serve the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their terms.*

#### Nominating Committee to be elected (1-year terms)

Mary Ann Crosson Ford  
Margaret Hindman, chair  
Hoda Zaki

#### Directors to be appointed (1-year terms)

Gail Bowerman  
Melanie Cox  
Dani Holt  
Shirley McDonald  
Rosemary Orthmann  
Mary Ellen Rhoderick  
Sue Rovin  
Annelie Weber

*Submitted by Nominating Committee members Margaret Hindman, Chair; Mary Ann Crosson Ford; Hoda Zaki; Fran Keeley, Board Member; Mary Ellen Rhoderick, Board Member*

## **XVII. Directions to the Board**

Members of LWVFC are invited to give direction to their newly-elected Board members for completing their work in the coming year.

## **XVIII. Adjournment**

## Upcoming Events – Mark your Calendars!

### **Tuesday, April 30, 2019, 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM** **A Day on Capitol Hill with LWVMD**

- Visit both US Senate and Representative Offices
- Enjoy Lunch at the staff dining facility
- Take part in advocating an LWVUS topic
- Have Fun!

See [https://www.lwvmd.org/lobby\\_on\\_capitol\\_hill\\_2019](https://www.lwvmd.org/lobby_on_capitol_hill_2019) for information about how to participate.

### **Saturday, May 4, 2019, 10 AM - 1:30 PM.** **Annual Convention of LWV of the National Capital Area**

Maggiano's Little Italy, 5333 Wisconsin Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20015  
Speaker, business meeting, elections, Naumann Award presentation.

More info at <http://www.lwvnca.org/2019AnnualConvention.html>

### **Friday – Sunday, June 7 – 9, 2019** **LWVMD Convention hosted by LWV Montgomery County**

Courtyard by Marriott Gaithersburg Washingtonian Center

Keep an eye on the State League website, <https://www.lwvmd.org/>, for details.

### **Tuesday, September 24, 2019** **National Voter Registration Day** Register voters at a Nationals Game in DC! Stay tuned for details.

### **TBD: Consensus Meeting on Civic Education**

Watch your email and the website.

**All League members are invited to all of these events! Contact the Presidents if you have questions. We will not continue our practice of providing a print calendar during the year. Instead, we will rely on the Calendar on the website ([www.lwvfc.org](http://www.lwvfc.org)) to keep our events page up-to-date.**