

League of Women Voters Concord-Carlisle

Looking Back on 2020

'Fragility of Democracy'
'Unique, Different'
'Zoom, say their names, staycation, sweat pants,
Isolation, surge, loss, fresh air, insurrection'
'Suppression'
'Challenging, but surprisingly productive'
'Email' 'Maternal'
'My world dissolved' 'Reflective'
'You're muted' 'Creative'
'Face masks' 'Frustrated'
'Pandemic' 'Cautious'

Looking Forward

'Save Lives, get Vaccinated'
'Resilience, Connecting'
'Hope'
'Democracy Prevails'
'We can do this'



2021 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, June 2, 2021
6:40 p.m. Check-in and Social Time
7:00 p.m. via Zoom



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Julie Rohwein, LWVCC President



May 2021

Dear Members,

As our League year comes to a close, I have been reflecting on all that we have done, and the difficulties we have faced and overcome. In the face of the continued need to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, we have found ways to continue and expand our work.

The fall, of course, was election season – normally a time when Leagues across the country put in considerable time and effort. This year called for even more, and I am proud that we were among those who answered that need, providing support for our local and state election officials, help to voters, and information for all. We adapted to new procedures and formats to support our town meetings and local elections.

Programming for our members also had to evolve. We held interesting programs via Zoom and provided training so members could access those programs. League committees continued their work and their discussions when we could not meet in person. You can learn about their activities in their annual reports.

Two years ago, when I started as President of LWVCC, I remember spending significant time thinking about the challenges of this office. Of course, I had no idea what we would actually face. I know I am not alone in hoping that the next year will once again allow us to gather in groups large and small and thus reclaim some of our traditional ways. I am so very grateful and proud to see how members of this League have stepped up to learn new ways of working so that our mission could continue forward. Many of us have noticed that the virtual world has allowed more people the ability to participate in our work. It is my hope that we will strive to maintain that additional access, even as we are able to gather in-person.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your President for the past two years. I look forward to what comes next and I hope that you do as well. The work of the LWV in supporting and promoting democracy remains vital to our community and to our country. Thank you for being part of that work!

Julie Rohwein, President

Thank you to these retiring Board Members for their service

2019-2020: Ardis Bordman, Anne Hayden Dorrie Kehoe, Judy Zaunbrecher

2020-2021: Nancy Beeuwkes, Nancy Brown, Nancy Cronin, Ingrid Detweiler, Susan Frey, Cindy Nock, Anita Tekle

LWVCC Annual Meeting Order of Business

June 2, 2021 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Virtual Gathering Via Zoom

6:40 p.m. Check-in begins (with social time in breakout rooms)

7:00 p.m. Welcome: Julie Rohwein, President
Featured Speaker: Judy Zaunbrecher, Co-President LWVMA

Business Meeting

Call to Order 7:30 p.m.

Julie Rohwein, President LWVCC

- Credentials Report Linda Ziffrin, Membership Chair
- Treasurer's Report Robert Hilsinger, Treasurer
- Budget Report Dee Ortner, Budget Committee
- Bylaw Report Anita Tekle
- Local Positions Reordered Marge Daggett
- President's Remarks Julie Rohwein, President
 - Approval of 2021-2022 Local Program
- Thank You Julie Rohwein, President
- Nominating Report Maureen Kemeza, Nominating Committee Chair
- Election of Officers, Board Members, and Nominating Committee (3 members)
- Direction to the Board
- New Business Julie Rohwein, President
- Adjournment

LWV Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Proposed 2021 – 2022 Budget

LWV Concord - Carlisle	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Proposed
Income & Expense April 2021	2019	2020	2021	YTD	YTD	Budget 2022
INCOME - Total	\$ 22,186	\$ 25,355	\$ 21,500	\$ 34,321	\$ 21,354	\$ 18,501
100-Membership	\$ 10,244	\$ 9,670	\$ 11,000	\$ 9,596	\$ 10,898	\$ 9,500
101-Fundraiser House Tour	\$ 90	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
102-Fundraiser Non-Member App	\$ 2,387	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,078	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
103-Contributions						
Member Contributions	\$ 5,665	\$ 4,933	\$ 5,000	\$ 12,901	\$ 4,956	\$ 3,500
Non-Member Contributions	\$ 0	\$ 25	\$ 250	\$ 67	\$ 250	\$ 50
Phonathon	\$ 1,108	\$ 1,466	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Other 103 Contributions	\$ 50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
104-Forum-Convention Contributi						
Sharfman Grant	\$ 250	\$ 300	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 250
Voter Service Forum Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other 104-Forum-Convention	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
105-Winter Meeting Income	\$ 2,390	\$ 1,916	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
106-Bank Interest	\$ 1	\$ 0	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ 1
107-Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 7,045	\$ -	\$ 9,678	\$ -	\$ 200
EXPENSES - Total	\$ 42,384	\$ 30,774	\$ 29,474	\$ 28,313	\$ 27,305	\$ 33,470
500-Administration						
Annual Meeting						
Honorary Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Invitations & Postage	\$ -	\$ 230	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100
Refreshments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Workbook Printing	\$ 814	\$ 721	\$ 800	\$ -	\$ 800	\$ 750
Other Annual Meeting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 150
Discretionary Office Fund Ho	\$ 260	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Liability Insurance	\$ 502	\$ 502	\$ 505	\$ 443	\$ 505	\$ 450
Paypal Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other 500-Administration	\$ 472	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
501-Assessments						
National Assessments	\$ 5,680	\$ 6,192	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,176	\$ 6,200	\$ 4,864
State Assessments	\$ 3,824	\$ 4,169	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,152	\$ 4,200	\$ 3,278
Other 501-Assessments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
502-Membership Directory						
Postage	\$ 100	\$ 90	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100
Printing	\$ 518	\$ 566	\$ 600	\$ 732	\$ 600	\$ 700
Other Membership Directory	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
503-Membership Mtgs						
Fall Meeting						
Food and Facility Equ	\$ 100	\$ 100		\$ -	\$ 400	
Invitations-Printing ar	\$ 134	\$ 212	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Refreshment Costs	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 150	
Speaker Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -	
Venue Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 150	
Other Fall Meeting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 200
Spring Meeting	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200
Winter Meeting						
Breakfast Speaker	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 500	\$ 150	
Food and Facility Equ	\$ 2,830	\$ 2,460	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000	
Honorary Gifts	\$ 104		\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -	
Postage		\$ 110	\$ 75	\$ 70	\$ 75	
Printing	\$ 126	\$ 124	\$ 150	\$ 113	\$ 150	
Other 503 Winter Meeting						\$ 3,500
504-Membership Activities Gener	\$ 518	\$ 881	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750

LWV Concord - Carlisle	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Proposed
Income & Expense April 2021	2019	2020	2021	YTD	YTD	Budget 2022
505-Conventions and Conferences						
Nat'l Convention (even year)		\$ 150				\$ 5,000
State Convention (odd years)	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Fall Conference	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 1,500	
State Spring Council (even year)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100	
Other 505-Conventions and C	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
506-Fundraiser Annual Appeal Le						
Printing and Postage	\$ 484		\$ 500			\$ 500
Other 506-Fundraiser Annual	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500	
507-Fundraiser House Tour	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
508-Fundraiser Phonothn	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
509-Communcations-Website and						
Email (Constant Contact)		\$ 159	\$ 400			\$ 372
General (Domain Name)			\$ -	\$ 287	\$ 330	\$ 22
Website (MyLO)			\$ 400	\$ 21	\$ -	\$ 400
Zoom			\$ 700	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 750
Other 509-Communcations-W	\$ 1,551	\$ 570		\$ -	\$ 700	\$ 5,000
510-Postage						
Box 34	\$ 145	\$ 140	\$ 160	\$ 150	\$ 160	\$ 160
First Class	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Permit for Bulk Mailing	\$ 235	\$ 235	\$ 260	\$ 240	\$ 260	\$ -
Other 510-Postage	\$ -	\$ -				
511-Printing and Copying						
Bulletin Postage	\$ 391	\$ 173	\$ 200	\$ 1,483	\$ 1,950	\$ 150
Bulletin Printing	\$ 3,051	\$ 2,502	\$ 2,500	\$ 158	\$ 150	\$ 1,500
Local Signs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,325	\$ 1,800	
Postcards and Misc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Printing and Copying			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
512-Book Group	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200
513-Riverfest	\$ 24	\$ 37	\$ 50	\$ -	\$ 25	
514-Misc Donations		\$ 38	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50	
515-Education-Communication	\$ 71	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
516-Forums and Action						
Advocacy Issues		\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 55	\$ 980	
Civic Education	\$ 336	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 55	\$ 100	
Education Forum	\$ -		\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100	
First Friday Conversations	\$ 158	\$ 424	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100	
Imigration Committee	\$ -		\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100	
LWV Aniversary		\$ 826	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 80	
Money in Politics			\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100	
Observer Corp	\$ 117		\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100	
Town Government Initiative	\$ 13	\$ 18	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 75	
Town Meeting	\$ 210	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 75	
Other 516-Forums and Action	\$ 646			\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 1,500
517-Voter Services						
Forum Costs, Rental, etc.	\$ 754	\$ 99	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ 100
How to Get Elected		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	
Other -Voter Services	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
518-Publications-State and Nation	\$ 126	\$ 126	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
519-Donation to LWVMA	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 1,000
520-Miscellaneous Expense						
New Initiative			\$ 3,300	\$ -	\$ 3,300	\$ 1,600
Other Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 15,738	\$ 8,613	\$ 200	\$ 12,621	\$ 150	\$ 50
521-Miscellaneous Donations			\$ -	\$ 350	\$ -	\$ 100
Bank Charge	\$ 24	\$ 36	\$ 24	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 24

LOCAL PROGRAM PLANNING PROPOSALS FOR 2021-2022

- **Making Democracy Work I: Election Support**
 - Protecting and Expanding Voter Access
 - Encouraging Voter Engagement
 - Adapting Program of Voter Education
 - Fight Voter Suppression, We will urge that state and national League of Women Voters resources be used to fight voter suppression and gerrymandering in other states.
- **Making Democracy Work II: Good Government**
 - Fiscal impact of the current emergency on local government (including affordable housing, Middle School Project, etc.)
 - Assess Annual Town Meeting Articles
 - Use of Open Meeting law/community participation
 - Review of Public/Private Partnerships
 - Town Meeting Procedure
- **Making Democracy Work III: Civics**
 - Civics Bee
 - Civics Education Program for the Middle Schools
 - Explore collaboration in Adult Civics Ed with Concord Adult Ed
 - Investigate implementation of ranked choice voting at the town level
 - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - Compile a report on town demographics and issues that may affect DEI.
 - Present report on and advocate for Housing Diversity

Our work in other areas will continue as well with the leadership of strong committees.

In particular, the following will continue:

- Climate Emergency
 - Advocacy and education in Concord/Carlisle (increase number of local programs on this topic)
 - Support town efforts to increase environmental resiliency & sustainability. Support efforts at LWVMA and LWVUS
- Immigration policy
 - Continue support of state & national advocacy and local education efforts

August 18, 2020 celebration on the Carlisle Green in commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of Woman Suffrage and of the League of Women Voters organization. Over 100 people stood in honor of the women who fought for so long for the right to vote in the US. Many dressed in 1920 style attire along with Lady Liberty and Liz Bishop's vintage car of the era.



Barbara Lewis and Cindy Nock (holding banner), made the Suffrage Centennial banner, *Votes For Women* sashes and felt yellow rose pins. Collectable *100 Years* button pin designed by Barbara.



Kate Reid, Carlisle Select Board member and Freddie Kay of SuffrageMA100 stand next to Liz Bishop's vintage Ford car with Cindy.



Nominating Committee Report

*Nancy Brown, Susan Frey, Edie Lipinski, Deena Whitfield and
Maureen Kemeza, Chair*

The Nominating Committee is charged with presenting a slate of officers for election at the Annual Meeting. This Committee functions independently of the Board but is responsive to the goals articulated by the Board.

The Board expressed to the Nominating Committee a renewed commitment to the LWV core mission: *to educate and advocate for democracy*. To effectively support its mission the Board identified the need to *update its efficacy in virtual communication across platforms*.

With these goals in mind, the Nominating Committee members initiated interviews of all Board members who offered candid assessments of what works well, what needs change, and what they aspire to do, including their interest in continuing to serve on the Board. Nearly every member expressed the sense that we need to do things differently.

In particular, we heard that the three-hour monthly meetings are excessively long, often focusing on the details of events and projects. Or sometimes tasks intended for off-Board committees were shouldered by solo Board members. We discovered that these ways of operating were not optimal in two ways.

First, individual Board members or officers felt overburdened. Second, the political passions and talents of League members off the Board was not being systematically engaged or developed. We discovered that to many the operation is top-heavy, burdensome, and static.

In response to what we heard, the Nominating Committee met for a few hours most weeks from the end of January through the end of April. We followed up with current Board members, explored the Presidency with Board members recommended by several others, chased down leads of possible new leaders in Carlisle and Concord, and studied possible new ways of structuring the Board's operations that would relieve some of the weight of leadership and ease the emergence of new leadership in service to the core mission.

We discovered that, in addition to the customary strong Presidential type of leadership, many local Leagues—including Acton and Lexington— are led by Steering Committees. Article XIII in the LWVCC By-Laws permits such a structure and will not require a change in the By-laws until we have the opportunity to assess its effectiveness.

We propose that the 2021 - 2022 LWVCC leadership work be carried out as a Board of Directors acting as a steering committee. Leadership would be shared with a team of equals, each in turn presiding at monthly meetings. Each Director would support the core work carried out by off-Board committees that would be entry-points for the wider membership — more than 200 members—potentially to be engaged and develop leadership within the League.

(Questions may be addressed to any Nominating Committee member;
Maureen Kemeza may be reached at mkemeza@gmail.com)

NOMINEES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022

Nancy Confrey, *At-Large*

Robert Hilsinger, *Treasurer*

Diane Proctor, *Education*

Karlen Reed, *Town Government*

Julie Rohwein, *Operations*

Emily Wheeler, *Clerk*

Linda Ziffrin, *Advocacy*

NOMINEES FOR THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2021 - 2022

Maureen Kemeza, *Chair*

Nancy Brown

Deena Whitfield

Two more members to be appointed by the Board

Annual Reports of Committees

Membership Report

Linda Ziffrin, Chair

This year has been a challenge for everyone. With our year beginning on July 1, 2020, in a first peak of the pandemic, we have had opportunities to share experiences in new and remote ways. We've learned to pivot on engagement and to try new things, and to work together in new ways.

Beginning with a review of the numbers, we started the year with slightly higher membership dues. Last year, we approved an increase in dues from \$55 to \$60 for single membership and from \$80 up to \$90 for a household membership. Rather than send out an additional mailing for renewals, we added the updated membership form to the Fall Bulletin, reminded members weekly in our Monday Member News bulletin, and created an online form, for those who wish to renew in a paperless manner. The Membership Directory was published and mailed to the membership in December.

As the year comes to a close, LWVCC has 18 new members, 25 life members (members of the League of Women Voters for 50+ years) and a total of 200 members overall. Special thanks to Irmingard Doane, who expertly managed, edited and entered all of our membership data into the LWV US national roster database.

From an engagement standpoint, we started a pilot of a new application, OutreachCircle, provided to our League at no cost by LWV US. OutreachCircle is a tool that not only keeps our members up to date on activities and calls to action, but also allows our members to easily reach out to friends and family, to share with them LWVCC activities, actions for advocacy, notifications, reminders, invitations, etc. It was especially helpful in this election year. Cindy Nock, Voter Service Chair, used OutreachCircle to share critical voting information, including how to check your voter registration, links to requesting mail-in ballots, where to drop your ballots, reminders on deadlines, changes in precincts, etc.

You can join LWVCC OutreachCircle, too, by going to this link: <https://vc0.co/A3h> or by using your smartphone camera and pointing it at this QR code, and then clicking on the link it displays, or by reaching out to membership@lwwcc.org to help get you started!



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee formerly the Racial Justice Committee

Nancy Brown and Cindy Nock, Co-Chairs

The Racial Justice Committee (RJC) formed in response to the horrific killing of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis Police Officers. Committee members resolved to take actions to address systemic racism in our country and in our communities. The first step we took was to look inside ourselves for signs of racism that we had learned from living in a racist society. We began reading and listening and learning about systemic racism that has been built into every institution in our country. Some of our activities this year included:

- Met via Zoom with Concord Police Chief O'Connor to talk about his letter of testimony to the MA House Judiciary Committee regarding his concerns about the Police Reform Bill SB2820.
- Attended a socially distanced Robbins House exhibit at the Emerson Umbrella.
- Held a virtual movie night and discussion of the movie *Suppression 2020* about the Georgia black voter experiences in the 2018 and 2020 elections.
- Met via Zoom with another newly formed group in Concord called Communities Organized Against Racism (COAR) which is focusing on working with the schools on issues of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). We are collaborating with COAR on addressing DEI issues beyond the schools to our broader communities of Concord and Carlisle.

- Met via Zoom with the LWVCC Housing Issues Committee to discuss common concerns about lack of opportunity for people of color in obtaining housing in Concord.
- We are proposing to assemble a report (see Local Program Planning) on the demographics of our Towns in order to have data that will guide us in formulating action items in our communities to address DEI issues.
- A resource list has been established and we are looking for ways to share and engage with organizations and institutions in our Towns.

Concord Town Government Committee

Diane Proctor, Chair

The Concord Town Government Committee has enjoyed a busy year, despite the complexity of following Town committee meetings via Zoom and then gathering to meet on Zoom. Our busy agendas have included discussions as varied as following the contract resolutions between the Town of Concord and the CFPL (Concord Free Public Library), to helping to support the Town Clerk during the demanding November elections. We have facilitated First Fridays with: Carol Rose, Executive Director of the ACLU in Massachusetts; Concord's Department of Public Works (three highly informing sessions on water, sewage, and trash; Concord's Middle School Building Committee, the Town's IT program and the Open Meeting Law. As well, we supported a forum with Pam Rockwell discussing the 2229 Main Street redevelopment project. The Warrant has been reviewed in preparation for Concord Annual Town Meeting. The First Fridays are available on the LWVCC website and on the MMN YouTube Network.

In each forum or gathering, we have been aided by sterling League Observers who have taken their time to "attend" meetings and share their observations with the committee. We need more observers, particularly when that practice can occur so easily by watching the committees in the comfort of our homes. We deeply appreciate all who remain involved in Town work.

Housing Issues Committee

Dorrie Kehoe, Chair

In spite of COVID19, this has been a busy and productive year for our Committee comprised of Dorrie Kehoe, Marge Daggett, Ardis Bordman, Clare Gordon, Evin Phillips, Stephan Bader, Ingrid Detweiler and two new members: Nancy Brown and Jonathan Aibel.

Our most significant accomplishment was the completion and presentation to town housing committees of Publicly Owned Potential Sites for Affordable Housing in Concord, 2021. Following on information provided to Ardis and Marge by former Town Manager, Chris Whelan, this impressive document presents 12 potential sites with GIS maps, sewer connection information and possible uses. In April, 2021 we presented the report to representatives of Concord's housing groups -- and it will now be the Committee's task to aid committees in utilizing this information.

Additionally, the Committee held serious discussions and made recommendations which were incorporated by Marge Daggett and Ingrid Detweiler into the proposed reordering of Concord LWV Housing and Land Positions which will be presented for approval at the League's June annual meeting.

Environmental Committee

Alice Kaufman & Janet Rothrock, Co-Chairs

The Environmental Committee held a Climate Policy Discussion by Zoom on Monday, March 22, 12:00-1:00 pm, titled, "*What State and Local Legislation Do We Need to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions? What We Hope to Pass at the State House and at Concord Town Meeting*". We billed it as a Lunch and Learn hoping that the noon time slot would attract a large group. Upwards of 60 people signed up so we are hoping to do something similar in the future.

We heard from Representative Tami Gouveia about the status of the Next Generation Roadmap for Climate Policy bill. The bill passed with overwhelming support in both houses of the Massachusetts legislature, but the Governor vetoed it amid concerns from industry lobbyists about the cost of implementation. By the time the Lunch and Learn took place, the Governor had signed the bill. Senator Mike Barrett was also invited to speak, but a few days before the event he learned he was required to attend a Ways and Means Committee Hearing.

Kate Hanley, Concord's Sustainability Director, gave an update on local efforts and what to expect at Town Meeting this spring to help Concord achieve its goals for a reduction in Greenhouse Gas emissions.

Observer Corps

Karlen Reed, Chair

The Observer Corps met via Zoom several times during the 2020-21 year and each time the Observers gave short reports of what they had seen, heard, and concluded. We focused on several key committees – the Select Board, the Finance Committee, the School Committees, Public Works, Concord Housing Authority, Light Board, and the Middle School Building Committee – but we also heard special reports. For example, the Transportation Advisory Committee and the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Committee discussions were especially enlightening as they demonstrated the need for committee volunteers to adhere to good governance procedures and to keep in line with the Open Meeting Law.

We watched the progression of Town Meeting articles from formulation stage at the Planning Board to fruition for the 2021 June 13th Town Meeting. The Observers shared their views on the impact of the Historic Districts Commission and the Disabilities Commission on the Main Library parking debate. We discussed the merits of the Highland Street development and Sudbury's Quarry Road development behind White Pond.

These discussion sessions expanded from an hour to an hour-and-a-half in length because, well, there was so much to talk about. The Observer Corps meetings are scheduled to occur just before the Town Government Committee meetings and are designed to feed information to the TGC, and ultimately the Board, on topics of interest and relevance to the League.

Newly Formed Civics Education Committee

Susan Frey, Chair

Between the January 6th insurrection at the Capitol and Inauguration Day, the LWVCC Board approved the creation of the new Civics Education Committee. The timing could not have been better. The Board recognized a growing opportunity for local LWV members to get involved in rolling out the newly mandated civics education requirement in Massachusetts. As a non-partisan organization, the LWV is a perfect partner to work with students and teachers in our local schools.

Despite the challenges the pandemic presented, the Committee met monthly on Zoom. Our first major accomplishment was partnering with the 8th grade social studies teachers at the Concord Middle School to host a webinar with State Rep. Tami Gouveia. 240 8th graders prepared over 500 questions about social justice issues and also asked Rep. Gouveia about her career path. Committee Chair, Susan Frey asked Rep. Gouveia questions ranging from what can the state legislature do about climate change and what needs to happen to end the pandemic, to how can we get more electric school buses in Concord and what can the state legislature do to stop hate crimes against Asian - Americans.

The committee is looking forward to expanding its scope of work. We hope to forge a partnership with teachers in Carlisle. We also hope to offer CC Adult and Community Education classes on such topics as Ranked Choice Voting or other timely topics. We will be organizing and coaching the new Civics Bee team that will compete in 2022. In order to accomplish all these exciting plans and projects, we are looking to welcome many new committee members, especially parents of middle school and high school students!

Communications Committee

Ingrid Detweiler, Chair

Everything a League does involves communications: voter service, citizen information, advocacy, membership, fundraising, and publicizing events. To be effective, a communications strategy must be built into every activity and project the League undertakes to ensure the best possible visibility in the community.

The past year's focus was on identifying someone to update and manage the LWVCC website, evaluating our print communications, reaching out to younger members using social media and managing the weekly Monday Member News. A Fall newsletter, January Bulletin and Annual Meeting booklet were published.

We identified someone to update and manage the website on a part-time basis, but she was unable to follow through. So the search continues for a part-time website manager. Linda Ziffrin spearheaded a pilot program using OutreachCircle and is managing the messages that are sent as part of social media outreach.

Payment of our annual fees for the website platform, our LWVCC domain name and Constant Contact has been consolidated under the Treasurer. There was a review of our mailing and printing services and use of the non-profit bulk permit.

We are indebted to Cynthia Rainey, our webmaster, who formats the information and emails the weekly Monday Member News, updates the website and sends special notices to members via Constant Contact. Thank you Cynthia.

Immigration Committee

Nancy Cronin, Chair

Covid-19 has prevented the LWVCC Immigration Committee from taking in-person action on Immigration issues. However, the committee has undertaken education and advocacy throughout the year. Once again, two important state bills that the League supported, failed to pass the last legislative session. The committee has continued working with state legislators on the following bills this year—the Driving Families Forward Act which would allow undocumented immigrants, with training, to receive drivers' licenses, and the Safe Communities Act which would prevent state and local law enforcement officers from assisting federal immigration officials in the arrest of undocumented immigrants.

The Committee has kept informed about current changes in immigration law and policies under the Biden administration, including passage in the House of the Dream and Promise Act which would allow “Dreamers” to apply for citizenship. This bill passed the House, and there is a chance that this bill could pass the Senate since a number of Republicans support it. The committee supported the U.S. Citizenship Act, which is less likely to pass both Houses.

With the LWVCC Book Group in March the committee read and discussed *The Line Becomes a River* by Francisco Cantu. The author joined the Border Patrol to learn more about it. He worked with others in the desert bringing in the dead and delivering those to detention who were alive. After he leaves the Border Patrol he befriends an undocumented Mexican immigrant and his family in Texas. This man returns to Mexico to see his dying mother and is prevented from returning to his home and family.

Cantu writes vividly about his feelings invoked by these experiences.

In February Nancy Brown and Nancy Cronin wrote a column for the editorial page of the *Concord Journal* about the current state of immigration reform and the action the LWVCC is taking.

In March the Immigration Committee arranged for the LWVCC to co-sponsor a talk entitled “Immigration in the Biden Administration: What Now?” with the Immigration Task Force at First Parish Church in Concord and the Follen Church in Lexington. The speaker was Muzaffar Chishti, Senior Fellow and Director of the Migration Policy Institute at the New York University School of Law.

Book Group

*Ann Hayden, Barbara Finan, Janet Miller,
Diane Proctor, Mary Sterling*

The LWVCC Book Committee hosted some lively Zoom discussions of six books in the past year:

- August, *The Education of an Idealist* by Samantha Power
- September, *The Common Good* by Robert Reich
- November, *How to Be an Anti-Racist* by Ibram X. Kendi
- January, *How the South Won the Civil War*, by Heather Cox Richardson
- March, *The Line Becomes River* by Francisco Cantú
- May, *A Promised Land* by Barak Obama

The Book Committee selects books that focus on topics of current issues or local interest. Book meetings are open to the public; League members and their friends are welcome to participate.

Events Committee

Stephan Bader, Chair

The event schedule this year was busy, notwithstanding the quadrennial election cycle and the pandemic. While we were not permitted to gather in person, we experimented with the venue and timing flexibility and co-sponsorship opportunities made possible by the Zoom platform. The experience suggests that next year is likely to include virtual, hybrid and in-person events as features of the post-vaccine “new normal” landscape.

Instead of the usual Fall Gathering event at Concord Greene and as part of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, LWVCC cosponsored, with Kerem Shalom and others, a virtual performance of “*I Want to Go to Jail*,” the original play by Concord’s Pamela Swing, Ph.D., and Brandeis undergraduate Elizabeth Dabanka. Presented on October 25, 2020, the play transported us back to February 1919, when women suffragists grappled with unexpected obstacles in their quest for the final vote needed to pass the suffrage amendment.

Instead of the usual December Holiday membership potluck event, our membership was encouraged to attend the LWVMA virtual 100th Anniversary Gala on Dec 13, 2020. LWVCC was well represented at both the pre-program cocktail party and at the main event. Nancy Beeuwkes was most appreciative and thanked the board for selecting her to be recognized for the many years she has supported the LWV.

Instead of our usual Winter Member Breakfast, the Events group (Nancy Beeuwkes, Nancy Brown, Nancy Cronin, Ingrid, Susan, Linda, Julie and Stephan) arranged to host Juliette Kayyem on

Thursday evening, Jan.28, 2021. Ms. Kayyem addressed questions on cybersecurity, immigration, and the media landscape. Possibly the last ‘save the date’ postcard was developed to make certain that all members (even those who do not open MMN) would know about the event. Keeping within the budget, we paid both an honorarium to our speaker and made a contribution of \$500 to Open Table, in support of breakfast for others who appreciated the extra help this year. Additionally, we encouraged attendees to consider a contribution to Open Table, since attending the Zoom event was free and they would otherwise have paid \$25.

Other activities included the numerous First Friday programs, a candidate forum, Town Meeting warrant reviews – all of these involved the imaginative efforts of the Committee members who kept the LWVCC members and guests safely informed and comfortably entertained. Some of these events were recorded and links can be found on the LWVCC website or at Minuteman Media Network.

www.concordma.gov/mmn

Looking ahead, we hope to host the Civics Bee next year and work cooperatively with co-sponsors and coalition partners on education and advocacy issues. Some of the various program ideas include a membership social event, such as a coffee hour or cocktail hour, via Zoom; a program from the racial justice committee, featuring METCO, COAR and other parties, a ‘People Powered Fair Maps’ program focused on redistricting using 2020 US Census counts, and events providing information and supporting legislative advocacy for environmental and immigration issues.

Massachusetts State League Report Some highlights

Nancy Beeuwkes, Liaison to LWVMA

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the MA League of Women Voters, with its Legislative Action Committee of 23 legislative specialists, has followed more than 160 bills. These volunteer specialists submitted written testimony, testified in person at hearings on many state legislative bills, and worked to encourage local League members across the state to contact their legislators in support of selected bills.

- The state's legislative specialists, working on police reform, met with our League's Social Justice Committee and gave us helpful information on the police reform bill before the legislature.
- Partnering with the "MassCounts Coalition", the state League helped ensure that everyone, especially hard to count communities (low income, communities of color, disabled individuals, and students) were counted for the 2020 decennial census.
- The LWVMA worked to educate the public on the emergency election reform laws (vote by mail).
- In December the LWVCC celebrated the 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote with the state League.
- In January, the LWVCC ran a successful phonathon raising \$3,000 for the state League.
- The LWVCC submitted priorities for the state League's future work. Housing and climate change were suggested as special emphasis at our state planning meeting.
- On June 26, 2021 there will be a virtual State Convention involving local Leagues throughout Massachusetts. I hope many of you will attend virtually.
- For more information see our state league website www.lwvma.org

Thank you to Patricia Comfort, Executive Director, LWVMA, for her help.

LWVUS 2020-2021

The National League was and continues to be a leading protector of voting rights and democratic norms. LWVUS fought to ensure a fair and accurate census and is now focused on redistricting process that will be taking place on a short timetable given the late completion of the census. The League promotes transparent and accountable redistricting processes rather than the hyper-partisan redistricting which is the norm in many states. To accomplish this, the League favors independent commissions with diverse membership. On April 29th the League hosted a National Day of Action to kick off redistricting activities in the various states.

The League issued a strong response to the attack on the Capitol on January 6th. It included the following statements:

"This is a dark day in the history of the United States of America. Today's activity on Capitol Hill should have been a procedural exercise to finalize the 2020 election. Instead, our nation's Capitol was attacked by domestic terrorists seeking to invalidate the will of the people...."

"Donald Trump has emboldened and empowered violent agitators, perpetuated dangerous conspiracy theories, and dishonored the office of the President. Furthermore, the members of Congress who continuously lie to the American people about the proven legitimacy of this election are also responsible for today's horrific events. There is blood on their hands."

As always, voting rights was a key focus of the League during the 2020 election cycle and continues in face of the voter suppression efforts that have been rampant in many states following the election. The League regularly joins with other voting rights groups in fighting these actions in the courts.

Other issues which the National League is pursuing include the environment and immigration policy.

Voter Service

Cindy Nock, Chair

The Covid-19 pandemic brought challenges and opportunities to the Voter Service Committee. Due to social distancing the usual outreach to the community did not involve any face-to-face interaction. Voter Service received a special appropriation of up to \$600 for new signage. Instead of voter registration tables outside grocery stores or at back-to-school nights, large 2'x3' corrugated sign boards and heavy-duty wire sign stakes were printed for sandwich boards and placed in locations where pedestrians might see them in their outings during the pandemic. Laminated election specific flyers were taped to the reverse sides to remind voters of election specific deadlines.

VOTE411 Sandwich Board signs pointing voters to the LWV voter information website were placed outside of the following locations for pedestrians to see:

1. Sidewalk (by school crossing)- Julie Rohwein
2. Concord Market- Nancy Beeuwkes
3. Crosby's Market, Concord- Susan Frey
4. Concord Free Public Library- Stephan Bader
5. Fowler Library, West Concord- Stephan Bader
6. Gleason Library, Carlisle- Barbara Lewis
7. Middlesex Bank, 64 Main St, Concord- Stephan Bader

These ten large corrugated plastic posters can be used in future elections whenever Vote411.org is available and up-to-date. Thank you to the above individuals who established a relationship with these businesses and facilities.



VOTE BY TUESDAY lawn signs

Five other local Leagues heard about our new lawn signs through League Leader email and expressed interest in purchasing new lawn signs. Westwood/Walpole/Dedham, Westford, Andover/N. Andover, Hingham and Rockport Leagues made donations toward the new Vote By Tuesday lawn signs which enabled us to bring down the cost of each sign to \$5. One hundred Vote By Tuesday double sided lawn signs and 100 wire stakes were purchased; 52 went to other Leagues, with 48 left available to LWVCC.



Vote Yes On 2 Ranked Choice Voting lawn signs were also available to members as the LWVMA had endorsed Question 2 on the ballot.

Voter Service – con't

For the **March 25 Local election in Concord** we taped a laminated paper over the “Tuesday” to say “Thu -Mar 25”. Stephan Bader was able to secure permission from the Town Manager to place some signs in strategic places on public property.

LWVCC Virtual Concord Candidate Forum 2021- Seventy-eight people attended the forum via Zoom on March 7 for the only contested race in Concord which was for two positions on the Select Board. Lynne Brodsky of LWV Winchester served as moderator. A recording of the forum was posted on the LWVCC.org website. Changes to the forum format, which were very popular with the candidates and the viewers, included giving League questions to the candidates two days before the forum so they could be better prepared and the addition of some quick warm-up questions that required only answers of: Yes, No, I don't know or It depends. Special thanks to Peggy Wargelin and Linda Ziffrin for handling the Zoom logistics and to Court Booth and Cynthia Rainey for monitoring and posing viewer chat questions.

A **Local Candidate Web Page** was added to the LWVCC.org website. It included a picture and answers to questions from all the individuals running for office so that voters could have a sense of introduction to all of the candidates running for office whether or not it was a contested race.

Voter Service—Carlisle Election

Eleven positions are open for election in Carlisle. Information about nominations and Mail-In voting is at Carlislema.gov/875/Town-Election.

Tue, June 22, 2021 -- **Town Election** 2-7 PM – Carlisle Town Hall
Sat, June 19, 2021 – **Early Voting** 2-4 PM – Carlisle Town Hall
Fri, June 18, 2021 – **Early Voting** 3-8 PM – Carlisle Town Hall
Thu, June 17, 2021 – **Early Voting** 7-11 AM – Carlisle Town Hall

Sat, June 5, 2021 -- Tentative 4 PM LWVCC Carlisle Candidate Forum
Sun, June 6, 2021 – **Carlisle Town Meeting** 1 PM – Outdoor Plaza at CPS
Tue, June 2, 2021 – **Deadline to register** for June 22 Town Election
Mon, May 17, 2021 – **Deadline to submit Nomination Forms** by 3 PM
Thu, May 13, 2021 – **Citizens Caucus** at 7 PM – Corey Auditorium
Tue, May 4, 2021 – **Nomination Forms available** – 25 signatures required

The following positions are open for Nominations:

- One Town Clerk – 3 year term
- One Member of the Select Board – 3 year term
- One Member of the Board of Assessors – 3 year term
- Two Members of the Board of Health – 3 year term
- One Member of the Library Trustees – 3 year term
- Two Members of the Planning Board – 3 year terms
- One Member of the Planning Board – 2 year term
- One Member of the School Committee – 3 year term
- One Town Moderator – 3 year term

Explanation of Proposed Bylaw Changes

Bylaw Working Group – Nancy Brown, Ingrid Detweiler, Anita Tekle

New sections are written in **red** on the revised bylaw document. Deletions are indicated with a ~~strikethrough~~. Here is a summary of the proposed changes:

Article II, Sec. 2 – Housekeeping; add Diversity, Equity & Inclusion statement, as requested and required by the LWVUS (needs to be reflected across all Leagues).

Article IV, Sec. 1 – Housekeeping; clarify that Officers are elected at the Annual Meeting.

Article IV, Sec. 2 – Housekeeping; clarify that the President presides at all meetings of the board and at other meetings, as appropriate (rather than all meetings of the organization).

Article IV, Sec. 4 – Housekeeping; clarify that the Secretary keeps minutes of the Annual Meeting, all meetings of the Board of Directors, and performs other duties as designated by the President and/or board (deletes reference to business meetings).

Article IV, Sec. 5 – Housekeeping; clarify that the books are reviewed annually by a qualified individual appointed by the Board.

Article IV, Sec. 6 – New Section providing for terms of office (two years each for Officers), and term limits for consecutive terms in the same position. Goal to provide for healthy turnover, while allowing individuals to move to other positions.

Article V, Sec. 1 – Housekeeping; clarify that officers and board members are elected at the Annual Meeting.

Article V, Sec. 3 – Introduces the Nominating Committee into the process of filling a vacancy on the Board (rather than putting the authority solely on the board to fill vacancies).

Article V, Sec. 6 – Housekeeping; provides for electronic conferencing for board meetings.

Article V, Sec. 8 – New Section providing for terms of office and term limits in the same position. Goal to provide for healthy turnover, while allowing individuals to move to other positions.

Article VII, Sec. 1 – Housekeeping; clarify that there are at least two meetings of the general membership each year, in addition to the Annual Meeting (rather than “three meetings of the membership.”)

Article VIII, Sec. 1 – Clarification of how the Nominating Committee is elected (at the Annual Meeting—3 members) and appointed (by the Board—2 members). Clarification of how vacancies are filled.

Article VIII, Sec. 2 – New Section providing for terms of office and term limits. Goal to provide for healthy turnover.

Article VIII, Sec. 3 – Housekeeping; delete, as unnecessary.

Article IX – delete existing Article IX and substitute new section; provides for clarification of Program and Positions. No substantive changes—just introduces language that distinguishes between these two terms and documents how amendments are made.

Feel free to contact Anita Tekle at anitatekle@gmail.com, prior to Annual Meeting, if you have questions about the proposed bylaw changes.

**BYLAWS OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF CONCORD-CARLISLE**

as updated June 2020 **Proposed Revisions as of 5.1.2021**
Proposed Changes in Red with deletions in strikethrough

As adopted May 20, 1947 and amended May 20, 1953; May 9, 1962; May 19, 1965; May 25, 1966; May 24, 1967; May 15, 1974; May 21, 1975; May 26, 1976; May 24, 1978; May 27, 1981; May 21, 1982; May 23, 1984; May 20, 1987; May 18, 1988; May 17, 1990; May 23, 2007; May 20, 2009; May 21, 2014, May 2016; June 2020; June 2021	
	ARTICLE I
Sec. 1 as amended 1965, 1975, 1988	The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle. 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 Massachusetts.
	ARTICLE II Purposes and Policy
Sec. 1 as amended 1967, 1975, 1988, 2014	<i>Purposes.</i> The purposes of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.
Sec. 2 as amended 1962, 1967, 1975, 1988, 2014, 2021	<i>Political Policy.</i> The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate. <i>Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.</i> The League is fully committed to ensure compliance—in principle and in practice—with LWVUS’ Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy.
	ARTICLE III Membership
Sec. 1 as amended 1967, 2014	<i>Eligibility.</i> Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League of Women Voters shall be eligible for membership.
Sec. 2 as amended 1967, 1970, 1974, 1975, 1988, 2014, 2016	<i>Types of Membership.</i> The membership of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be composed of voting members and associate members. (a) Voting members: Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be voting members of the local league, the LWV of Massachusetts and the LWVUS. Those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members, excused from the payment of dues. (b) Associate members: All others who join the League shall be associate members.
	ARTICLE IV Officers
Sec. 1 as amended, 1984, 1988, 2014, 2021	<i>Enumeration and Election of Officers.</i> The Officers of the League of Women voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be a President or two co-Presidents, up to two Vice Presidents who shall be ranked numerically, a Secretary and a Treasurer. If there is a single President, there shall be at least one Vice President. These By-Laws shall be interpreted so that references to the President may include co-Presidents. Officers

	shall be elected at the Annual Meeting and shall serve in accordance with Article V, Section 1.
Sec. 2, 2021	<i>The President.</i> The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and/or the Board of Directors, and others as appropriate. The President may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes. That person shall be, <i>ex officio</i> , a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. That person shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President, and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.
Sec. 3 as amended, 1975, 1984, 2014	<i>The Vice Presidents.</i> The Vice President(s), in the order of their rank, shall, in the event of the absence, resignation, disability or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office. In the event that no Vice President is able to serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of their members to fill the vacancy. The Vice President(s) shall perform such other duties as the President and Board may designate.
Sec. 4 as amended, 1975, 1984, 2014, 2021	<i>The Secretary.</i> The Secretary shall keep minutes of business meetings the Annual Meeting of the League and of all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall perform such other duties as may be designated by the President and/or the Board.
Sec. 5 as amended, 1975, 1981, 2014, 2021	<i>The Treasurer.</i> The Treasurer shall collect and receive all money due. The Treasurer shall be a custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank and/or interest-bearing account designated by the Board of Directors and shall disburse the same as required to pay bills for the organization. only upon the order of the Board. That person shall present statements to the Board at their regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting. The books of the Treasurer shall be audited reviewed annually by an auditor a qualified individual appointed by the Board of Directors.
Sec. 6, as amended, 2021	<i>Term of Office.</i> The President and Vice President(s) shall serve two-year terms, with a maximum of one consecutive two-year term in each position. There is no prohibition from an individual serving consecutive two-year terms as Vice President and President (for a total of 4 consecutive years). The Secretary and Treasurer shall serve two-year terms, with a maximum of three consecutive two-year terms (for a total of six consecutive years). One individual may serve a maximum of six consecutive years in any combination of Officer positions. In unusual circumstances, the Nominating Committee may make exceptions to this section of Article IV. All terms of office shall expire at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting at the end of the individual's term, or until the individual's successor has been elected and qualified. Section 6 of Article IV shall go into effect following the 2022 Annual Meeting.
	ARTICLE V Board of Directors
Sec. 1 as amended, 1953, 1967,	<i>Number and Manner of Selection and Term of Office.</i> The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League and at least five (5) elected directors. The officers and elected directors shall be elected by members at the Annual Meeting. The officers and

1974, 1975, 1978, 1984, 2021	elected directors shall be elected by the Annual Meeting and shall serve until the conclusion of the next regular Annual Meeting or until successors have been elected and qualified. The Board of Directors shall appoint such additional directors as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall be one (1) year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.
Sec. 2 as amended 1967, 1975, 1988	<i>Qualifications.</i> No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless that person is a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle.
Sec. 3 as amended 1975, 2014, 2021	<i>Vacancies.</i> Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member may 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 on the Board of Directors by reason of resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member, and upon the request of the Board of Directors, the Nominating Committee will be charged with nominating candidate(s) to fill the vacancy. Following the nomination, if any, a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors would fill the position until the next Annual Meeting. Three consecutive absences from a board meeting without a valid reason may be deemed a resignation.
Sec. 4	<i>Powers and Duties.</i> The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct 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. 5 as amended 2009, 2020	<i>Meetings.</i> There shall be at least nine (9) regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually, which shall be open to all members of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle. 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. Meetings may be conducted by electronic means, such as telephone conference call, video conferencing or email.
Sec. 6 as amended 2009, 2021	<i>Quorum.</i> A majority of the members of the Board of Directors 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 one or more members of the board may participate in a meeting by means of conference telephone or other similar equipment electronic conferencing , allowing 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. 7 as amended 1975, 2014	<i>Executive Committee.</i> The Board may appoint an executive committee consisting of no fewer than five (5) members of the Board. The executive committee shall act in emergencies between meetings of the Board and shall exercise such other power and authority as may be delegated to it by the Board. Any action of the executive committee shall be reported to the Board at its next regular meeting.
Sec. 8, as amended, 2021	<i>Term of Office.</i> All Board members shall serve two-year terms, with a maximum of three consecutive two-year terms (for a total of six consecutive years). The terms shall be staggered as much as possible, so that approximately half of the member terms

	<p>expire each year. In unusual circumstances, the Nominating Committee may make exceptions to Section 8 of Article V.</p> <p>Section 8 of Article V shall go into effect following the 2022 Annual Meeting. For the purpose of creating staggering, in 2022, the initial terms of half of the Directors shall be for one year, and the other half shall be for two years.</p> <p>All terms of office shall expire at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting at the end of the individual's term, or until the individual's successor has been elected and qualified.</p>
Sec. 1 as amended 1998, 2009	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE VI Financial Administration</p> <p><i>Fiscal Year.</i> The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall commence on the first day of July in each year and shall end on June 30 of the following year.</p>
Sec. 2 as amended 1962, 1966, 1967, 1971, 1972, 1975, 1976, 1981, 1982, 1987, 1990, 2009, 2014	<p><i>Dues.</i> Annual membership dues shall be payable on July 1. Any member who fails to pay dues within seven (7) months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership roll.</p>
Sec. 3	<p><i>Budget.</i> A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.</p>
Sec. 4 as amended 1962, 1974, 1975	<p><i>Budget Committee.</i> A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two (2) months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members at least two (2) weeks before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall be ex-officio a member of the Budget Committee, but shall not be eligible to serve as Chairman.</p>
Sec. 5 as added 2014	<p><i>Distribution of Funds on Dissolution.</i> In the event of the dissolution of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle, all moneys and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be paid to the LWV of Massachusetts after the state and national per member payments and other obligations have been met. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed that may at the time be owned or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be disposed of to such person, organization, or corporation for such public, charitable or educational use and purposes as the Board in its absolute discretion may designate.</p>
Sec. 1 as amended 2009, 2020, 2021	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE VII Meetings</p> <p>Membership Meetings. There shall be at least three (3) two (2) meetings of the membership each year, in addition to the Annual Meeting. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Meetings may be conducted by electronic conferencing.</p>

<p>Sec. 2 as amended 1967, 1975, 1988, 1990, 2014, 2020</p>	<p>Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting shall be held yearly, the exact date and place to be determined by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Adopt a local program and a budget for the ensuing year. (b) Elect officers and directors, and members of the Nominating Committee. (c) Transact such other business as may properly come before it. (d) Quorum. Ten (10%) of the members shall constitute a quorum. Annual meetings may be conducted by electronic conferencing.
<p>Sec. 1 as amended 1953, 1967, 1988, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE VIII Nominations and Elections</p> <p><i>Nominating Committee.</i> The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) members, two (2) of whom shall be selected by the President from among members of the Board, and approved by the Board immediately following the Annual Meeting. members of the Board of Directors. The Chairman and two (2) members who shall not be members of the Board of Directors, shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected at the Annual Meeting. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. The other two (2) members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, immediately after the Annual Meeting. Vacancies occurring in the Nominating Committee shall be selected by the President and approved filled by the Board of Directors.</p>
<p>Sec. 2, as amended, 2021</p>	<p>Term of Office. The three elected members shall serve a term of two years, with a maximum of two consecutive terms (for a total of four consecutive years). The two appointed members shall serve one-year terms, for a maximum of two consecutive terms (for a total of two consecutive years).</p> <p>Section 2 of Article VIII shall go into effect following the 2022 Annual Meeting. The elected member terms shall be staggered, so that no more than two member terms expire each year. For the purpose of creating staggering, in 2022, the initial terms of two of the elected members of the Nominating Committee shall be for one year, and the remaining elected member shall have a term of two years.</p> <p>All terms of office shall expire at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting at the end of the individual's term, or until the individual's successor has been elected and qualified.</p>
<p>Sec. 3 as amended 2014</p>	<p><i>Elections.</i> The election shall be by ballot, provided that when there is but one nominee for an office, the vote shall be by voice. A majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election.</p>
<p>Sec. 1 as amended 1962, 1967</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DELETE THIS ARTICLE IX & REPLACE WITH NEW ARTICLE IX Program</p> <p><i>Authorization.</i> The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.</p>
<p>Sec. 2 as amended 1962, 1967, 1974, 1975, 1988</p>	<p><i>Program.</i> The Program of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall consist of: (a) action to protect the right to vote of every citizen; (b) those local government issues chosen for concerted study and action.</p>

<p>Sec. 3 as amended 1967, 1974, 1975, 2009</p>	<p><i>Action by the Annual Meeting.</i> The Annual Meeting shall act upon the program using the following procedures:</p> <p>(a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations either submitted in writing or made at a program planning meeting by the voting members at least two (2) months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Program.</p> <p>(b) The Proposed Program shall be sent to all members at least two (2) weeks before the Annual Meeting.</p> <p>(c) A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.</p> <p>(d) Recommendations for Program submitted by voting members two (2) months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by 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.</p> <p>(e) Changes in the Program, in case of altered conditions, may be made provided that (1) 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 (2) final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.</p>
<p>Sec. 4 as amended 1984</p>	<p><i>Member Action.</i> Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the President and/or Board of Directors.</p>
<p>Sec. 1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NEW -- ARTICLE IX <i>As adopted and amended 1962, 1967, 1974, 1975, 1984, 1988, 2009, Proposed 2021</i> Local Program and Positions</p> <p><i>Authorization.</i> The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.</p>
<p>Sec. 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Local Program</p> <p>The Program of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall consist of those local government issues chosen for concerted study, advocacy and action for the coming year.</p> <p>The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recommendations for the Program for the upcoming year shall be considered by the Board of Directors prior to adoption at the Annual Meeting. Recommendations come either from the Program Planning meeting, or from individual LWVCC voting members. In either situation, the recommendations shall be submitted to the Board at least six weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. b. Upon consideration of the recommendations, the Board shall formulate a Proposed Program for the coming year. c. The Proposed Program shall be sent to all voting members at least two (2) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. d. A <u>majority vote</u> of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting

	<p>shall be required for adoption of the Proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.</p> <p>e. If a recommendation submitted to the Board and considered by the Board is not included in the Program formulated and recommended to the Annual Meeting, then it may still come to the Annual Meeting for adoption under the following procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A <u>majority</u> of voting members at the Annual Meeting <u>agree to consider the proposal</u>; and • A minimum of <u>two-thirds vote</u> is required for adoption. <p>f. <u>Changes in the Program</u>, in case of altered conditions, may be made at any time during the year upon recommendation of the Board, provided that 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. A <u>majority vote</u> of voting members present and voting is required for passage.</p>
Sec. 3	<p style="text-align: center;">Local Positions</p> <p>The LWVCC has adopted positions on a wide variety of local issues over the years. Many of these positions build on those adopted by the State and National Leagues. These are annually reviewed, as needed, by the Board. Any changes in the local positions of the LWVCC must be approved by members at the Annual Meeting. Notice of any proposed changes to local positions should be sent to members at least two (2) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. A <u>majority vote</u> of voting members present and voting is required for passage.</p>
Sec. 4	<p><i>Member Action.</i> Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the President and/or Board of Directors.</p>
Sec. 1 as amended 1962, 1967, 1975, 1988	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE X</p> <p style="text-align: center;">National Convention, State Convention and Council</p> <p><i>National Convention.</i> 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 the convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle under the provisions of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.</p>
Sec. 2 as amended 1962, 1967, 1975, 1988	<p><i>State Convention.</i> 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 the Convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle under the provisions of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.</p>
Sec. 3 as amended 1962, 1967, 1975, 1988	<p><i>State Council.</i> 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 Concord-Carlisle under the provisions of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.</p>

<p>Sec. 1 as amended 1975, 2014</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XI Parliamentary Authority</p> <p><i>Parliamentary Authority.</i> The rules contained in the current version of Roberts 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.</p>
<p>Sec. 1 as amended 1974, 1975, 2009</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XII Amendments</p> <p><i>Amendments.</i> These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting.</p>
<p>Sec. 1 as added 2007</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XIII Temporary Variations in Governance Structure</p> <p><i>Temporary Variations in the Governance Structure.</i> Notwithstanding any provision of these By-Laws to the contrary, the membership may, at any Annual Meeting, accept a slate of officers and directors that varies from that otherwise required by Articles IV and V of the By-Laws. The leadership group elected at any such annual Meeting shall carry out the responsibilities assigned to officers and directors in these Bylaws.</p>

**BYLAWS OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF CONCORD-CARLISLE
as updated June 2020**

As adopted May 20, 1947 and amended May 20, 1953; May 9, 1962; May 19, 1965; May 25, 1966; May 24, 1967; May 15, 1974; May 21, 1975; May 26, 1976; May 24, 1978; May 27, 1981; May 21, 1982; May 23, 1984; May 20, 1987; May 18, 1988; May 17, 1990; May 23, 2007; May 20, 2009; May 21, 2014, May 2016; June 2020	
	ARTICLE I
Sec. 1 as amended 1965, 1975, 1988	The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle. 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 Massachusetts.
	ARTICLE II Purposes and Policy
Sec. 1 as amended 1967, 1975, 1988, 2014	<i>Purposes.</i> The purposes of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.
Sec. 2 as amended 1962, 1967, 1975, 1988, 2014	<i>Political Policy.</i> The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.
	ARTICLE III Membership
Sec. 1 as amended 1967, 2014	<i>Eligibility.</i> Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League of Women Voters shall be eligible for membership.
Sec. 2 as amended 1967, 1970, 1974, 1975, 1988, 2014, 2016	<i>Types of Membership.</i> The membership of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be composed of voting members and associate members. (c) Voting members: Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be voting members of the local league, the LWV of Massachusetts and the LWVUS. Those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members, excused from the payment of dues. (d) Associate members: All others who join the League shall be associate members.
	ARTICLE IV Officers
Sec. 1 as amended, 1984, 1988, 2014	<i>Enumeration and Election of Officers.</i> The Officers of the League of Women voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be a President or two co-Presidents, up to two Vice Presidents who shall be ranked numerically, a Secretary and a Treasurer. If there is a single President, there shall be at least one Vice President. These By-Laws shall be interpreted so that references to the President may include co-Presidents. Officers shall be elected and shall serve in accordance with Article V, Section 1.

Sec. 2	<i>The President.</i> The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and or the Board of Directors. The President may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes. That person shall be, <i>ex officio</i> , a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. That person shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President, and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.
Sec. 3 as amended 1975, 1984, 2014	<i>The Vice Presidents.</i> The Vice President(s), in the order of their rank, shall, in the event of the absence, resignation, disability or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office. In the event that no Vice President is able to serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of their members to fill the vacancy. The Vice President(s) shall perform such other duties as the President and Board may designate.
Sec. 4 as amended 1975, 1984, 2014	<i>The Secretary.</i> The Secretary shall keep minutes of business meetings of the League and of all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall perform such other <i>duties as may be designated by the Board.</i>
Sec. 5 as amended, 1975, 1981, 2014	<i>The Treasurer.</i> The Treasurer shall collect and receive all money due. The Treasurer shall be a custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank and/or interest-bearing account designated by the Board of Directors and shall disburse the same only upon the order of the Board. That person shall present statements to the Board at their regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting. The books of the Treasurer shall be audited annually by an auditor appointed by the Board of Directors.
Sec. 1 as amended 1953, 1967, 1974, 1975, 1978, 1984	<p>ARTICLE V</p> <p>Board of Directors</p> <p><i>Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office.</i> The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League and at least five (5) elected directors. The officers and elected directors shall be elected by the Annual Meeting and shall serve until the conclusion of the next regular Annual Meeting or until successors have been elected and qualified. The Board of Directors shall appoint such additional directors as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall be one (1) year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.</p>
Sec. 2 as amended 1967, 1975, 1988	<i>Qualifications.</i> No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless that person is a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle.
Sec. 3 as amended 1975, 2014	<i>Vacancies.</i> Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Three consecutive absences from a board meeting without a valid reason may be deemed a resignation.
Sec. 4	<i>Powers and Duties.</i> The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct 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. 5 as amended 2009, 2020	<i>Meetings.</i> There shall be at least nine (9) regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually, which shall be open to all members of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle. 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. Meetings may be conducted by electronic means, such as telephone conference call, video conferencing or email.
Sec. 6 as amended 2009	<i>Quorum.</i> A majority of the members of the Board of Directors 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 one or more members of the board may participate in a meeting by means of conference telephone or other similar equipment allowing 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. 7 as amended 1975, 2014	<i>Executive Committee.</i> The Board may appoint an executive committee consisting of no fewer than five (5) members of the Board. The executive committee shall act in emergencies between meetings of the Board and shall exercise such other power and authority as may be delegated to it by the Board. Any action of the executive committee shall be reported to the Board at its next regular meeting.
Sec. 1 as amended 1998, 2009	<p>ARTICLE VI</p> <p>Financial Administration</p> <p><i>Fiscal Year.</i> The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall commence on the first day of July in each year and shall end on June 30 of the following year.</p>
Sec. 2 as amended 1962, 1966, 1967, 1971, 1972, 1975, 1976, 1981, 1982, 1987, 1990, 2009, 2014	<i>Dues.</i> Annual membership dues shall be payable on July 1. Any member who fails to pay dues within seven (7) months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership roll.
Sec. 3	<i>Budget.</i> A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.
Sec. 4 as amended 1962, 1974, 1975	<i>Budget Committee.</i> A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two (2) months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members at least two (2) weeks before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall be ex-officio a member of the Budget Committee, but shall not be eligible to serve as Chairman.
Sec. 5 as added 2014	<i>Distribution of Funds on Dissolution.</i> In the event of the dissolution of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle, all moneys and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be paid to the LWV of Massachusetts after the state and national per member payments and other obligations have been met. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed that may at the time be owned or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall be disposed of to such person, organization, or corporation for such public, charitable or educational use and purposes as the Board in its absolute discretion may designate.

	ARTICLE VII Meetings
Sec. 1 as amended 2009, 2020	Membership Meetings. There shall be at least three (3) meetings of the membership each year. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Meetings may be conducted by electronic conferencing.
Sec. 2 as amended 1967, 1975, 1988, 1990, 2014, 2020	Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting shall be held yearly, the exact date and place to be determined by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) Adopt a local program and a budget for the ensuing year. (f) Elect officers and directors, and members of the Nominating Committee. (g) Transact such other business as may properly come before it. (h) Quorum. Ten (10%) of the members shall constitute a quorum. Annual meetings may be conducted by electronic conferencing.
	ARTICLE VIII Nominations and Elections
Sec. 1 as amended 1953, 1967, 1988	<i>Nominating Committee.</i> The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) members, two (2) of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The Chairman and two (2) members who shall not be members of the Board of Directors, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. The other two (2) members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, immediately after the Annual Meeting. Vacancies occurring in the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors.
Sec. 2 as amended 1967, 1974, 1975	<i>Report of the Nominating Committee and nominations from the Floor.</i> The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors and members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members at least two (2) weeks before the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting members provided the consent of the nominee has been secured
Sec. 3 as amended 2014	<i>Elections.</i> The election shall be by ballot, provided that when there is but one nominee for an office, the vote shall be by voice. A majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election.

	ARTICLE IX Program
Sec. 1 as amended 1962, 1967	<i>Authorization.</i> The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.
Sec. 2 as amended 1962, 1967, 1974, 1975, 1988	<i>Program.</i> The Program of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle shall consist of: (a) action to protect the right to vote of every citizen; (b) those local government issues chosen for concerted study and action.
Sec. 3 as amended 1967, 1974, 1975, 2009	<i>Action by the Annual Meeting.</i> The Annual Meeting shall act upon the program using the following procedures: (f) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations either submitted in writing or made at a program planning meeting by the voting members at least two (2) months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Program. (g) The Proposed Program shall be sent to all members at least two (2) weeks before the Annual Meeting. (h) A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors. (i) Recommendations for Program submitted by voting members two (2) months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by 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. (j) Changes in the Program, in case of altered conditions, may be made provided that (1) 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 (2) final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.
Sec. 4 as amended 1984	<i>Member Action.</i> Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors.
	ARTICLE X National Convention, State Convention and Council
Sec. 1 as amended 1962, 1967, 1975, 1988	<i>National Convention.</i> 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 the convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle under the provisions of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.
Sec. 2 as amended 1962, 1967, 1975, 1988	<i>State Convention.</i> 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 the Convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle under the provisions of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.

<p>Sec. 3 as amended 1962, 1967, 1975, 1988</p>	<p><i>State Council.</i> 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 Concord-Carlisle under the provisions of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.</p>
<p>Sec. 1 as amended 1975, 2014</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XI Parliamentary Authority</p> <p><i>Parliamentary Authority.</i> The rules contained in the current version of Roberts 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.</p>
<p>Sec. 1 as amended 1974, 1975, 2009</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XII Amendments</p> <p><i>Amendments.</i> These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting.</p>
<p>Sec. 1 as added 2007</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XIII Temporary Variations in Governance Structure</p> <p><i>Temporary Variations in the Governance Structure.</i> Notwithstanding any provision of these By-Laws to the contrary, the membership may, at any Annual Meeting, accept a slate of officers and directors that varies from that otherwise required by Articles IV and V of the By-Laws. The leadership group elected at any such annual Meeting shall carry out the responsibilities assigned to officers and directors in these Bylaws.</p>

Reordering of LWVCC Positions

The LWVCC Board authorized the reordering of existing positions titled Housing, Concord; Growth; Land Acquisition and Management, Concord; Land Use and Agricultural Land Use under new Headings: Land: Uses and Management—Concord; Planning—Concord; Housing—Concord; and Agricultural Land use—Concord. None of the wording has been changed. The positions have simply been reordered for better clarity and understanding.

The Carlisle Housing position stays the same.

If you have questions prior to the Annual Meeting about the reordering of Positions, please contact Marge Daggett at mmdaggett@verizon.net

11. Land: Uses and Management -- Concord

- 11.1 Support strategic land management to achieve: preservation of open space, a diversity of housing types and land for municipal uses.
- b. municipal use
 - c. stewardship of our historic and literary past
 - d. recreation-active and passive (conservation)

Decisions about purchases should be made by weighing acquisitions against an overall plan with attention to balance, location, and possibilities for multiple uses. Modified in 2007.

- 11.2 Support Town acquisition of land for:
- a. affordable housing, including subsidized housing
- 11.3 Support land taking by eminent domain only as a last resort and when it satisfies the public need and the public good; this could also be useful in clearing title to a property when ownership is unclear. Modified 2007.
- 11.4 Support the protection of wetlands and lands in the flood plain through strong enforcement of legislation regulating wetlands, flood plains, and conservation lands; through such methods as percolation tests and Town acquisition of such Concord lands.
- 11.5 Support acquiring open land in densely populated areas of Concord. Support visibility of land as an important criterion of Town acquisition.
- 11.6 Support a land transfer tax. (Note: This position was adopted prior to Concord and Carlisle approving the Community Preservation Act real estate property tax surcharges.) Modified in 2008.

12. Planning -- Concord

- 12.1 Support development of a land use plan in Concord that 1) has land capacity as a key component, 2) defines specific principles and policies, and 3) utilizes appropriate data maps.
- 12.2 Support positive action towards the achievement of Concord town planning goals in the conversion of any municipal buildings.

- 12.3 Support regular updating of the Concord accessory apartment conversion bylaw as a means to provide housing alternatives within existing housing stock. Modified in 1999 and 2007. Delete? No longer applicable.
- 12.4 Support the principle of acquiring land with the intention of later leasing or selling parts of it if the intent to do so was made clear at the time of purchase or if the land was found to be surplus to Town needs.
- 12.5 Support the concept of land banking.

(Criteria to be considered for Town land acquisition includes the ability to be developed, location, linkage, potential uses, preservation, access, public safety and health. Each parcel of land is unique, therefore it is difficult to establish priorities in criteria for purchase, but the ability to be developed may be the most important.) Adopted in 1987. Modified in 2007.

13. Housing – Concord

- 13.1 Support housing at all income levels in Concord. In particular, there should be a supply of low and moderate income housing in Concord to ensure inclusion of the elderly, those on fixed incomes, young people, families, disabled/handicapped persons, teachers, and town employees.
- 13.2 Support the following criteria to support implementation: (a) sound planning should be the basis of such development; (b) private and public efforts to provide such housing should be encouraged, especially if they provide economic mix within neighborhoods; (c) low rise, low density, multi-family dwellings would fulfill the Town's need and would be most in keeping with the desire to preserve the "open land" character of Concord. Revised in 1999. Modified in 2007.
- 13.3 Support a mix of housing to meet the needs of a variety of age and income levels.

14. Agricultural Land Use -- Concord

- 14.1 Support preservation of farmland in Concord by the following methods: The Farmland Assessment Act, conservation restrictions, purchase of development rights, land trusts, and tax reform.
- 14.2 Support Concord acquisition of farmland where other methods of preservation could not be used and the alternative would be the likely loss of the land to development.
- 14.3 Support the agricultural use of MCI-Concord agricultural land, and public education on the problems and potentials of farming in Concord.

15. Housing – Carlisle

- 15.1. Support mixed income housing (low, moderate, and fair market) in Carlisle with priority to housing needs for the elderly. We recommend that consideration be given to rehabilitation and/or conversion of existing buildings and new construction of housing units that will be in keeping with the rural character of Carlisle. We further recommend the use of rent subsidies and tax abatements where applicable. Adopted in 1978.

LWV CONCORD-CARLISLE LOCAL POSITIONS

Summary of Positions

1. Town Government
2. Education
3. Public Health/Condom Availability
4. Recreation
5. Animal Control
6. Crime Prevention
7. Tourism
8. Hanscom Field
9. Long Range Planning
10. Town Facilities
11. Housing
12. Growth
13. Land Acquisition & Management
14. Land Use
15. Agricultural Land Use
16. Environmental Health
17. Wetlands
18. SuAsCo River Basin

1. Town Government, Concord

The League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle supports a local government which is based on the fullest possible participation of informed citizens in its policy and decision-making processes. The League finds that Town Government as now practiced in Concord is both democratic and effective. To make it more responsive, open, and fair, we would support the following improvements:

1. 1. 1 Increased communications between:
 - a) committees and their appointing authorities, including periodic review and supervision, as well as more explicit definition of committee's charges
 - b) committees and the public
 - c) committee chairmen and members, including once yearly training/orientation sessions, and detailed and written orientation information for new members. (Modified 2001)
1. 1. 2 Increased citizen participation through:
 - a) more publicity of hearings
 - b) early notices of committee meetings and hearings with agendas
 - c) use of all available media to inform public on town affairs
 - d) distribution of town information package to newcomers
 - e) wider distribution of green cards.
- 1.1.3 Committee procedures made more effective by:
 - a) specific term lengths for committee members
 - b) use of sub and ad hoc committees for specific studies and to relieve overburdened committees
 - c) informative minutes, publicly available
 - d) termination process for unneeded committees
- 1.1.4 Adequate clerical and financial support with information given to committees by the Town Manager on services available.
- 1.1.5 Fair and responsible appointment process strengthened by:
 - a) expanding use of green cards, with regular updating and review by citizens and the Town Manager's office.
 - b) posting vacancies with at least two weeks between posting and appointment
 - c) flexible, informal interviews with prospective appointees
 - d) prompt appointments
 - e) reasonable use of recommendations from committee members
 - f) geographical distribution of committee members for those committees whose functions warrant it.
 - g) use of the following criteria in appointing committee members: availability for attendance at committee meetings; eagerness to serve; expertise; work and/or volunteer experience; ability to work with others; stamina (not in order of priority).
- 1.2 League members were firm in opposition to:
 - a) use of green cards as an exclusive source of appointees
 - b) use of a search committee to nominate appointees
 - c) election of more town committees (Adopted March 1977)

- 1.3 The League supports the continuation of the Town Meeting as the primary deliberative and legislative body of the Town (Adopted February 1996)
- 1.4 The League supports open Town Meeting as currently practiced with voting on Town Meeting issues taking place within the sessions of the town meeting. (Adopted February 1996.)
- 1.5 The League believes that it is the obligation of the Town to provide all citizens seeking to attend Town Meeting, the opportunity to participate. If it should become impossible, on a regular and frequently recurring basis, to accommodate all of the persons wishing to attend Town Meeting, then the League would support a representative form of town meeting as an alternative to the present open Town Meeting. (Adopted February 1996.)
- 1.6 The League opposes any change in Town Meeting Voting that would separate the vote from the deliberative process. (Adopted February 1996.)
- 1.7 The League opposes any voting method that would constrain participants from having full access to information about the questions on which they are voting. (Adopted February 1996.)
- 1.8 To further ensure that the residents of Concord are informed participants, the League urges that the Town take greater measures to:
 - a) Increase the understanding of citizens about their local government.
 - b) Offer a fuller explanation of committee and board duties along with the Green Cards. Advertise committee vacancies promptly and widely.
 - c) Give wider distribution to the Town Report. (Adopted February 1996.)

Town Government, Carlisle

That the town of Carlisle should continue its present form of government, strengthening its effectiveness by improved communication and cooperation among boards and by the use of administrative and technical support when needed.

- 1.9.1 Support the use of administrative and technical assistance to foster the effective use of volunteers' time and expertise.
- 1.9.2 Support an annual meeting, chaired by the Selectmen at which all town committees present their accomplishments and goals.
- 1.9.3 Support issue-oriented meetings as needed, among pertinent boards. The ultimate responsibility for these meetings lies with the Selectmen.
- 1.9.4 Support timely distribution of pertinent information by committees to townspeople. (Adopted 1980. Amended 1983.)

2. Education

Concord and Carlisle in pursuit of quality education in the public schools:

- 2.1 Support a school organization that encourages the following: stability—requiring few major changes and little redistricting in order to preserve a sense of school community; low pupil-teacher ratios with the lowest in the primary grades; respect for parental preference among a range of teaching styles; broad uniform program aims; sound fiscal management.
- 2.2 Support for a system of guidance and social work that allows for department flexibility and staff mobility and interaction, particularly with the elementary schools. (Adopted July 1980.)
- 2.3 Support for a system of guidance and social work which has as its primary role maintenance of the climate of learning of the student body as a whole and the consideration of the needs of the individual student; and which communicates openly with parents and provides information through channels such as workshops, written material, PTG meetings, etc. (Reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.4 Support additional, vocational education in the school system. An ideal system would include a) adequate up to date facilities; b) flexibility in time, choice, program, and amount of concentration on vocational or academic courses by each student; c) coordination with instruction in the Concord and Carlisle systems; d) full use of facilities for the whole community after regular school hours, evenings and summers; e) expansion of an improved

- work-study program; f) career awareness beginning in the elementary grades. (Reaffirmed 1999).
- 2.5 Support at Concord-Carlisle High School a curriculum development process utilizing inputs by departments, cooperation between departments, citizen input, and administrative and school committee review. Curriculum to afford flexible scheduling of student and teacher time to create opportunities for course options. Curriculum to emphasize interdepartmentally a sampling of many areas; development of analytic skills, written and oral communication skills; preparation for citizenship; and requirements for graduation in courses in many disciplines. (Adopted 1971. Amended 1978, 1979, 1983, 1985.)
 - 2.6 Support a program of staff development and teacher evaluation to be reviewed regularly by the School Committees (Adopted 1971. Modified 1999.)
 - 2.7 Support the availability of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities for students of Concord-Carlisle High School and at the Concord and Carlisle Middle Schools. (Adopted 1971. Amended 2001.)
 - 2.8 Support a budget that includes adequate funding. (Adopted 1971. Modified 1999.)
 - 2.9 Support efforts by the schools and the parents associations to improve communications with the community. (Adopted 1971.)

3. Public Health: Condom Availability

The Concord-Carlisle League of Women Voters recognizes that AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) remains a major health problem in this country, particularly for young adults. The League also recognizes that sexual intercourse is the most frequent although not the exclusive mode of transmission for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) as well as hepatitis B, and other STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases).

- 3.1 Support a program for making condoms available to young people under conditions that include counseling and education as to the risk of disease and unplanned pregnancy and the need to assume responsibility for the consequences of their actions.
- 3.2 Support doing such a program in conjunction with the Regional School Committee, the Boards of Health and the Boards of Selectmen of both communities.
- 3.3 Support the involvement of other public and private agencies in developing the program. (Adopted January 1995. Language updated 2002, 2011.)

4. Recreation, Concord

- 4.1 Support a comprehensive public recreation program in Concord.
- 4.2 Support a master plan for recreation in Concord.
- 4.3 Support the acquisition of land to meet the active recreational needs of the Town.
- 4.4 Support the development and maintenance of public swimming facilities, and the improvement of natural bodies of water. (Modified 2007.)
- 4.5 Support the improvement and extension of Concord's present bike/foot path system including the preparation of a long-range construction plan.
- 4.6 Support the additional facilities for bicyclists, including a bike/foot path map, marked paths and street crossings, and safe racks well-placed around Town.
- 4.7 Support recreational activities on conservation lands that do not alter the integrity of the land for conservation purposes.
- 4.8 Support the increased distribution of information on conservation lands to townspeople.
- 4.9 Support making information on conservation land available upon request to visitors to Concord. (Amended 2000)

Bike Footpaths, Carlisle

- 4.10 Support the development of bike/foot ways in Carlisle and the promotion of bicycle and pedestrian safety.
- 4.11 Support a pilot project for the development of bike/foot ways (Adopted 1982.)
- 4.12 Support a master plan for bike/foot ways for all existing town roads.
- 4.13 Support the Planning Board regulations requiring developers to build bike/foot paths in all new developments. (Adopted 1973. Amended, 1980, 1982.)

5. Animal Control, Concord

- 5.1 Support a dog control by-law that: is consistent and easy to understand; defines “under control by owner”; prohibits dogs from school property during classroom hours except with express permission of the principal; included a limited leash law for the business areas of Concord, school property outside of classroom hours, and town playgrounds; includes a “pooper scooper” provision for the business areas of Concord, playgrounds, and school property
- 5.2 Support enforcement of Concord’s animal control by-law that: is based on a complaint responsive system; includes limited patrolling by dog officer in problem areas such as playgrounds, business districts, and school property plus areas that have a high number of complaints; encourages dog licensing by charging higher fines for unlicensed dogs; encourages citizen participation by expedient and appropriate response to legitimate dog-related complaints.
- 5.3 Support license fees to be set at a level to encourage neutering. (Amended 2000.)
- 5.4 Support an innovative approach to dog licensing that: encourages licensing by mailing reminders to owners of all dogs reported on the Town census; follows up on known unlicensed dogs; has mail-in license forms; has a flexible licensing schedule—perhaps every three years when dog is due for rabies shot; encourages prompt licensing by charging late fees.
- 5.5 Support educational activities such as: information packets prepared by the town and widely distributed to town citizens explaining law and responsibilities of dog owner; community programs on animal care, possibly through the schools. (Adopted May 1985.)
- 5.6 Support the immunization of cats against rabies (in accordance with state law) and strongly urge the immunization of all domestic animals against rabies and other contagious and potentially life-threatening diseases.

6. Crime Prevention

- 6.1 Support efforts to heighten public awareness about crime prevention, including educating citizens to report suspicious incidents to the police, and establishing neighborhood groups both to prevent crime and as a method of developing a stronger sense of community.
- 6.2 Support efforts to prevent juvenile crime by identifying youth needs and concerns and coordinating the development and implementation of youth services. (Modified 2008.)
- 6.3 Support police Department crime prevention efforts, particularly educational programs in the schools and in the community at large, including an active “Operation identification” program.
- 6.4 Support increased use by the Concord district court of restitution and alternative sentencing, including the community service work program in Concord.
- 6.5 Support effective methods of identifying and publicizing the costs of vandalism to Town property.
- 6.6 Support effective methods of supervising heavily used Town conservation land. (Adopted December 1980.)

7. Tourism Concord

In order to provide a pleasant experience in Concord for visitors to the revolutionary and literary sites and to maintain and improve the quality of life for Concord residents, the League supports:

- 7.1 Visitors' services with adequate public parking and toilet facilities located in the vicinity of the Milldam and at the West Concord shopping district. (Revised 2001.)
- 7.2 Improved directional signs. Mini- informational maps of the vandal-proof roadside type are especially needed.
- 7.3 Public or private groups publishing maps or tapes which will direct visitors taking walking or biking tours of the Town.

8. Hanscom Field

- 8.1 Oppose extension of Hanscom field into a major airport
- 8.2 Support maintenance of general aviation activity at Hanscom Field at no higher than the 1973 level.

- 8.3 Support the participation of Concord and other Towns in the solution to problems associated with Hanscom Field.

9. Long Range Planning

- 9.1 Support of local and regional long-range planning. Cooperation in the development of comprehensive planning criteria for the towns.

10. Town Facilities

- 10.1 Support for the re-use of surplus buildings: (a) consistent with the character of the neighborhood; (b) consistent with the current zoning; and (c) consistent with the preservation of architectural features.
- 10.2 Support for the reuse of surplus buildings which: (a) use private funding whenever possible; (b) satisfy a need within the community; (c) are sound economic investments for the community; and (d) which are planned to be self-supporting when possible.
- 10.3 Support for rehabilitation of Stow Street surplus buildings for: (a) elderly housing; (b) low income and family housing; (c) recreation; and (d) education.
- 10.4 Oppose extensive retail or commercial development on Stow Street.

11. Housing, Concord

- 11.1 Support housing at all income levels in Concord. In particular, there should be a supply of low and moderate income housing in Concord to ensure inclusion of the elderly, those on fixed incomes, young people, families, disabled/handicapped persons, teachers, and town employees.
- 11.2 Support the following criteria to support implementation: (a) sound planning should be the basis of such development; (b) private and public efforts to provide such housing should be encouraged, especially if they provide economic mix within neighborhoods; (c) low rise, low density, multi-family dwellings would fulfill the Town's need and would be most in keeping with the desire to preserve the "open land" character of Concord. (Revised 1999. Modified 2007.)

Housing, Carlisle

- 11.3 Support mixed income housing (low, moderate, and fair market) in Carlisle with priority to housing needs for the elderly. We recommend that consideration be given to rehabilitation and/or conversion of existing buildings and new construction of housing units that will be in keeping with the rural character of Carlisle. We further recommend the use of rent subsidies and tax abatements where applicable. (Adopted 1978.)

12. Growth

- 12.1 Support development of a land use plan in Concord that 1) has land capacity as a key component, 2) defines specific principles and policies, and 3) utilizes appropriate data maps.
- 12.2 Support positive action towards the achievement of Concord town planning goals in the conversion of any municipal buildings.
- 12.3 Support the regular updating of the Concord accessory apartment conversion bylaw as means to provide housing alternatives within existing housing stock. (Modified 1999, 2007.)

13. Land Acquisition and Management, Concord

- 13.1 Support Town acquisition of land for
- a) affordable housing, including subsidized housing
 - b) municipal use
 - c) stewardship of our historic and literary past
 - d) recreation-active and passive (conservation)

Decisions about purchases should be made by weighing acquisitions against an overall plan with attention to balance, location, and possibilities for multiple use. (Modified 2007.)

- 13.2 Support land taking by eminent domain only as a last resort and when it satisfies the public need and the public good; this could also be useful in clearing title to a property when ownership is unclear. (Modified 2007.)
- 13.3 Support the concept of land banking
- 13.4 Support a land transfer tax. (Note: This position was adopted prior to Concord's and Carlisle's approvals of the Community Preservation Act real estate property tax surcharges.) (Modified 2008.)
- 13.5 Support the principle of acquiring land with the intention of later leasing or selling parts of it if the intent to do so was made clear at the time of purchase or if the land was found to be surplus to Town needs.

(Criteria to be considered for Town land acquisition include the ability to be developed, location, linkage, potential uses, preservation, access, public safety and health. Each parcel of land is unique, therefore it is difficult to establish priorities in criteria for purchase, but the ability to be developed may be the most important.) (Adopted 1987. Modified 2007.)

14. Land Use

- 14.1 Support the protection of wetlands and lands in the flood plain through strong enforcement of legislation regulating wetlands, flood plains, and conservation lands; through such methods as percolation tests and Town acquisition of such Concord lands.
- 14.2 Support acquiring open land in densely populated areas of Concord. Support visibility of land as an important criterion of Town Acquisition.
- 14.3 Support a mix of housing to meet the needs of a variety of age and income levels.
- 14.4 Support strategic land management to achieve: preservation of open space, a diversity of housing types, and land for municipal uses.

15. Agricultural Land Use

- 15.1 Support preservation of farmland in Concord by the following methods: The Farmland Assessment Act, conservation restrictions, purchase of development rights, land trusts, and tax reform.
- 15.2 Support Concord acquisition of farmland where other methods of preservation could not be used and the alternative would be the likely loss of the land to development.
- 15.3 Support the agricultural use of MCI-Concord agricultural land, and public education on the problems and potentials of farming in Concord (Reaffirmed 1999)

16. Environmental Health

Solid Waste Disposal

- 16.1 Support a solid waste disposal method that is safe and protects the health of the community and the environment; any method must be economically feasible and well managed.
- 16.2 Support improved methods of operation at existing landfill sites.
- 16.3 Support regionalization of solid waste disposal facilities
- 16.4 Support recycling education programs in the schools

Sanitary Sewage Facilities

- 16.5 Support improvements needed to maintain present systems at their peak performance.
- 16.6 Support first priority for tie-ins for those areas contiguous to the existing collection line, which are in dire need of service. (Reaffirmed 1999)

17. Wetlands

- 17.1 Support preservation and/or acquisition of wetlands and related uplands in the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord River Basin as well as other actions by appropriate federal state and local agencies.
- 17.2 Support the preservation and/or acquisition of the wetlands and related uplands in the Shawsheen River basin in Concord (Elm Brook).
- 17.3 Support strengthening Concord flood plain and wetland bylaws. (Adopted March 1981. Moved from 12.4 2007.)

18. SUASCO River Basin

The SuAsCo River Basin Group represents nine Leagues in the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord River Basin. The SuAsCo River Basin Group allows the Leagues to approach water resource problems on a regional basis.

- 18.1 Support (a) comprehensive long range planning and coordinated action for use of water and related land resources in the SuAsCo Basin (b) measures to protect and maintain water supply, flood control, fish and wildlife, state and local agencies to accomplish the above; (c) adequate funding for federal, state and local agencies to accomplish the above; (d) federal, state, and local action to achieve flood plain zoning, stream encroachment planning, conservation easements, and the improvements of river flows.
- 18.2 Oppose high power transmission lines running overhead through areas zoned for residence.