



League of Women Voters[®] of Falmouth Bulletin

Summer 2022

Steering Committee Report

Welcome to all new and current members of the LWVF. The May Annual Meeting at the Coonamessett Inn introduced the new slate of officers for the coming year, including myself as first VP.

Recent rulings by the Supreme Court have had me thinking about women's rights. But local events have me thinking about this topic, too. I attended the Museums on the Green Celebrating Independence! Program on July 2. As I listened to the reading of sections of "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" by Frederick Douglass, I thought, "What to the woman is the Fourth of July?" About 100 years ago, Alice Paul introduced the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA): "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." It did not pass. Fifty years ago we came close to ratifying the ERA, putting protection of women and marginalized genders into the U.S. Constitution. It was short of passing by the votes of three states. The ERA is still not an amendment to the Constitution.

The midterm election in November 2022 is very important. The recently passed election law (S2924) for permanent mail-in and early voting should remove barriers from voting. To vote by mail, you must fill out the application that is being sent to all registered voters in Massachusetts. The applications must reach your local election office by 5 p.m., Monday, August 29, for the September 6 Massachusetts state primaries.

However, the next hurdle to overcome is voter apathy. Invigorating the youth vote through civics education and reaching out to marginalized communities to encourage participation are important goals.

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With new initiatives and League support for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI), and support of civics education, we can reach those goals.

Democracy is not a spectator sport. I look forward to working with League members to ensure the common goal of making democracy work for everyone.

Together, let's work to make everyone's vote count!

—**Janet Lauer**

First Vice President

RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP YET?

It's not too late! Send your check or go to www.lwvf.org to renew by July 31. Full details are available on Page 12.

Legislative Committee Report

This is where we stand legislatively as the 2021-2022 session draws to a close. Although we have done well, time is short and we still have some work to do.

Common Start morphed into legislation that has already passed the Massachusetts Senate but action on the House version, H.4795, (An Act to Expand Access to High-Quality, Affordable Early Education and Care), is still needed. Our two Representatives, David Vieira and Dylan Fernandes, are supportive. Now, please email or call them, thank them for their support, and urge them to press leadership for favorable action before the end of this legislative session.

The **Safe Communities Act, H. 2418**, is out of Committee so passage is still possible this year. Regarding **Driving Families Forward**, the good news is that it is now law. But that is only half the story. The law does not take effect for a year and, during that time, it will not only become a fall campaign issue but also is now the subject of a signature campaign to put a repeal petition on the fall ballot. The Massachusetts League opposes this petition and is taking part in a Decline to Sign campaign. If you are interested in helping on immigration, please let me know.

The current status of the bill regarding the proposed warning system at the Pilgrim nuclear site is unclear. Regarding the **dumping of nuclear waste** into Cape Cod Bay, a state Senate vote on an amendment to the Senate Economic Development bill was scheduled for July 21. If passed, this amendment would at least temporarily postpone implementation of the dumping plan pending a study of the local economic effects if the plan were to be implemented.

The **VOTES ACT** is now Massachusetts law!!! Happy early and mail-in voting with drop-box voting this fall!!!

—Judy Ziss

Chair
Legislative Committee

Civics Committee Report

The Civics Subcommittee has graduated to full committee status! It is actively becoming a resource for the Falmouth schools as they implement the Massachusetts civics education law passed a few years ago. We have developed a valuable working relationship with Michael Feeney, Social Studies Chair, who has told us he appreciates our input.



While chairing the legislative committee, Judith Ziss helped form the civics committee.

In addition to meeting with Mr. Feeney, Civics Committee members have attended student presentations of their civics projects. We have also forwarded materials to Mr. Feeney that we receive from the LWVMA Education Collaboration Network. This spring, Committee members attended student civics programs in Boston and in Barnstable.

The Needham, Massachusetts, League has produced an excellent Student Advocacy Guide and invites other Leagues to revise the guide to fit their own communities. We will be making the revisions, and have the Guide available for Falmouth students. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 18. We plan to keep the momentum going!

The Civics Committee is especially pleased to welcome Zorianna Petrosyan as a new student member of the Falmouth League. Zorianna's own years-long "civics project," which has led to introduction of a bill in the Massachusetts legislature, caught our eye, and we invited her to join the League. Zorianna is trying to change school hours, especially for high school students, so they better coincide with teenage sleep cycles. A law similar to the one promoted by Zorianna recently went into effect in California. Please check out Zorianna's profile on page 10.

—Judy Ziss

Member
Civics Committee

Observer Corps

Introducing the Observer Corps Reports



Observer Corps presentations on June 16th were very well attended. The reports on Affordable housing by Lynne Rosza, the Board of Health by Stephanie Miele, and the Zoning Board of Appeals by Richard Johnson appear on the following pages. The reports along with those presented in February 2022 are also on our website.

We will be presenting a “Boot Camp” in late summer or early fall for all members old and new who are interested in how the Observer Corps works and the possibilities available for those who are interested in participating as a member. Please contact me if you wish to get on our list of participants. We are still in the planning stages and would welcome any questions, ideas and comments. Please check out the Observer Corps section of our website and contact me directly.

—**Denise Morreale**
Observers Corps Chair

Transportation Study

The LWVF Local Study Committee reviewed our position on Transportation in 2022, considering the position from 1995, a more recent statement on DEI in transportation from 2021, the Clean Streets Study prepared for Falmouth by the Cape Cod Commission, the Falmouth Transportation Committee’s reports and a presentation by T4MA (Transportation for Massachusetts). The study was summarized in June 2022 in a YouTube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yLm7Wu1NG5w>).

Based on this, the Committee proposes the LWVF adopt a new position on transportation:

LWVF supports the implementation of the Clean Streets Report prepared for Falmouth by the Cape Cod Commission in 2022, minimizing carbon emissions related to transportation, reducing Steamship Authority traffic on Woods Hole Road and in Woods

Hole, and facilitating equal transportation options for all residents and visitors.

We support proposals that:

- Promote safe movement
- Make electric vehicle use easy
- Improve access to essential services
- Promote the use of public transportation and bicycle transportation
- Alleviate congestion in Woods Hole

—**Richard Johnson**
Transportation Local Study Chair

Guidance from LWVUS and LWVMA

[Source: LWVMA]

Local Leagues are encouraged to apply the positions from both the documents mentioned below to local or regional issues. It is the responsibility of the local League board to determine whether member understanding and agreement exist, and whether the action makes sense in terms of timing, need, and effectiveness. Before taking action on regional issues, a local League must consult with other Leagues that might be affected.

LWVUS

Impact on Issues includes the official LWVUS statements of position for each program area, briefly traces significant past actions and achievements, and indicates links among positions. The LWVUS public policy positions reflect the program adopted by the most recent convention of the League of Women Voters of the United States. *Impact on Issues* is updated following each biennial convention.

LWVMA

The positions that LWVMA supports are summarized in the document *Where We Stand*.

Where We Stand is the collection of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts positions, with a brief history and summary of action taken under each position. The dates after each position refer to the years in which the positions were adopted. More details about the League process may be found in the background section of each program item.

Access both *Impact on Issues, 2020–2022* and *Where We Stand* at <https://lwmma.org/advocacy/league-positions/>.

Observer Corps Report: Affordable Housing

The Mission Statement of the Affordable Housing Committee is as follows:

The Falmouth Affordable Housing Committee assists the Board of Selectmen in its efforts to provide a full range of housing choices for households of all incomes, ages, and abilities. The Committee works to identify our workforce housing needs, to reduce the out-migration of our younger residents, and to minimize the displacement of our elderly on fixed incomes.

The Affordable Housing Committee serves in an advisory capacity to support the Select Board. Its current members are Chair Kerry Walton, Clerk Jordan Frye, Pamela Harting-Barrat, Jessica O'Brien, Edward Curley, and Stephen Craft. (As of July 1, Mr. Curley stepped down as Chair and Kerry Walton assumed the role.) There are also a number of interested housing agency directors as well as devoted citizens who attend the monthly meetings.

I began observing the AHC in December 2021. I readily admit that I am a complete novice, and I expect that it will take me about two years to understand the acronyms that are the basic housing vocabulary, and a further two years to understand how the process works. So please bear this in mind!



Lynne Rosza reports on the multiple issues facing the Affordable Housing Committee.

The Committee members are dedicated to their pursuit of reasonable housing in Falmouth. They are respectful of one another and of the visiting public in their discussions. I believe there are about 15 properties that are currently being watched, considered, and monitored by the Committee.

The two obstacles to the success of affordable housing are, of course, the cost of building or rehabilitating [existing housing] and the lack of inventory. The Committee is being urged by Mr. Curley to “think outside the box” for new and different revenue streams to finance future endeavors.

As for lack of inventory, I understand the following:

- Due to the pandemic, many people with big city incomes relocated here as they chose to work remotely, squeezing out local residents.
- Because of the current seller's market, landlords are selling their houses instead of renting them, as in the past.
- People who used to rent their houses or rooms to locals now prefer to rent through Airbnb to make more money.
- Developers are buying up the little houses and flipping them to sell at much higher prices.
- Consequently, even the well-paid professionals who work in Falmouth are priced out of the local housing market. Then there are those living on a fixed income, those living with only seasonal income, and those with no consistent earning capability.
- Finally, there seems to be very broad stereotyping of the people who need affordable housing, which makes finding new solutions very difficult. The Committee understands that educating the citizens of Falmouth is a very important piece of their agenda.

—Lynne Rosza

League Observer
Affordable Housing

Observer Corps Report: Falmouth Board of Health

The Board of Health resumed meeting in person in June, 2021 after many months of meeting on Zoom during the pandemic.

There were several issues before the Board warranting extended discussions. One of these was the need for stronger stable regulations. This was prompted by multi-year, on- and off-again compliance issues with Smithfield Farm on Sandwich Road in East Falmouth. The Board felt that without strong regulations to back it, issues with stables like Smithfield Farms will persist. The current regulation calls only for a five-dollar per-day fine for noncompliance with the health code and lacks details on requirements to get a stable permit and a site management plan. The jurisdiction of the Health Department is the stables, including the barn and paddock. The welfare of the animals is in the hands of the MSPCA. The Board is working with the chair of the Agricultural Commission on clarifying the regulations.

In November, the Board discussed the possibility of instituting poultry regulations after receiving several complaints from people about the noise and odor of chickens being raised by their neighbors. The Board ultimately decided that a discussion with the agricultural commission and proper education of people keeping chickens might be better use of the Board's time. Health agent Scott McGann suggested that nuisance complaints can now be filed with the Health Department if a neighbor chooses to pursue a complaint. The agricultural commission also informed the Board that the commission can provide mediation between neighbors in instances where nuisance or other regulations do not fit.

The Board upheld a cease and desist order for the operation of a semi-public swimming pool on Redlands Road. It seems that during the permitting process there was some miscommunication about the size of the pool. During the process there was no mention of a commercial use on the property, and when it came to light that classes were being held, the owner was directed to close the operation.

The AutoCamp at 836 Palmer Ave. has been before the Board to explain several months of operating out of compliance of the conditions of the original approval to install an alternative septic system and to determine whether their permit should be suspended or revoked. One of the most egregious errors they made was not to inform the Board when the system failed. Residents of Saconeset Hills were present at some of the meetings. They ultimately expressed their approval of the depth to which the Board of Health probed the AutoCamp for answers and solutions to the problem of environmental issues and unpleasant odors. It is possible that there was a problem with the installation of the system. The AutoCamp was fined \$10,000.



Chickens, swimming pools, and really bad odors—all in a day's work for Stephanie Miele's coverage of the Falmouth Board of Health.

There have also been several private residences that have been determined to be out of compliance with their I/A systems in not meeting standards of operation and maintenance. Therefore, they are subject to the fine of \$100.00 per day until they can prove to the Board that they are in compliance through submitting test results showing proper percentages of nitrogen.

The Board has been working with the Solid Waste

Continued on Page 7

Observer Corps Report: Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is appointed by the Select Board to rule on appeals from the Planning Board or Building Commissioner, variances from the Zoning Code, and special permits. There are five full members and two associate members, each appointed for a five-year term; there is a full-time Zoning Administrator. The Board typically meets on the first and third Thursday of the month; meetings are public and agendas must be published 48 hours or more in advance on the Town website. There have been 29 meetings since my last report in June, 2021, two conducted via ZOOM with all others in person, including a special meeting with a guest speaker about 40B projects and one Executive Session not open to the public.

Currently TJ Hurrie serves as Chair, and James Morse as full voting member, with Scott Peterson and Gerald Potamis as Associate Members. Vice-Chair and Clerk positions are vacant at this time. Ed Van Keuren was a full voting member but did not attend any meetings during the period of this report due to health issues; his absences were reviewed and excused in late July and he passed away while still a member last month. Scott Zylinski had been vice-chair but resigned in May when he was elected to the Select Board. Robert Dugan had been Clerk but his term expired this month. The Board is down to two full members and two associate members as of this moment, the bare minimum for a quorum. Decisions require a supermajority (four votes); associates are designated to vote on applications whenever fewer than the five full members are present. The Select Board interviewed candidates for one open position on June 6 and a new full member should be present for the next meeting. Open positions must be publicly advertised for 30 days before interviews are scheduled so there is a gap of 5-6 weeks in filling a vacancy. The Board should be back at full membership by the end of the summer.

The majority of cases heard are special permits related to pre-existing non-conforming lots, and lots and buildings existing prior to the adoption (1979) or modification of the Zoning Bylaws (periodic). These

were for modifications to structures, additions, raze and re-construct, etc., in cases where the lot size, lot coverage by structures, or setbacks do not comply with current bylaws. A great many homes in Falmouth were built before the Zoning Code raised the minimum lot size to 40,000 square feet, and modification to any of those homes require a special permit. In these cases, the Board's goal is to make sure the requested changes do not make the structure less compliant and do not adversely affect the neighbors. Abutters' expressed concerns or support are taken under consideration before a decision is reached. The Board often requests changes to the design to meet these goals, and applications are typically approved with conditions.

Variances are required to do something not permitted by the Zoning Code; these variances are rare and may be approved if a hardship can be demonstrated, such as placing an accessory structure in the front yard when the back yard is constrained due to wetland issues.

Applications under the Affordable Housing bylaw, known as 40B, consume much of the ZBA's time. In these, a streamlined permit process gives ZBA the permitting authority rather than individual permits through Planning Board, Conservation Commission, etc. Comments are sought from all Town departments, but ZBA has the task of negotiating the best possible project with the developer, granting waivers from various Zoning regulations needed to produce affordable housing. These waivers typically include units per acre, setbacks, lot coverage by structures, combined septic systems and



In addition to being the LWVF Observer for the Zoning Board, Richard Johnson chairs the Natural Resources Committee.

***Observer Corps Report:
Falmouth Board of Health, cont.***

Advisory Committee on issues concerning the collection and disposal of solid waste, recyclable materials, and compost. An article brought forward at town meeting on April 5 allowed the Board of Health to make rules and regulations regarding these issues. The Board would have to host a public hearing before changing any regulations. According to the warrant, the article will allow the town to implement new composting and recycling programs and enforce existing rules.

The Falmouth Smoke Shop was cited for a second violation for selling flavored products after the Health Department received two complaints regarding menthol. They were fined and given a seven-day suspension. The Board strongly suggested that if there is a question as to whether or not a product is flavored, to remove it from the shelf until the question is clarified.

Health agent Scott McGann updates the Board at each meeting on the status of COVID-19 as it continues to change.

The Board is always professional, patient, and courteous to members of the community who appear before it. It works in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. The members of the Board work well together and discussions are always thorough.

—Stephanie Miele

League Observer
Board of Health

***Observer Corps Report:
Zoning Board of Appeals, cont.***

others. Applications often involve robust abutter input, and outside peer engineering review. During the last year, 40B applications have included projects at Rebecca Ann Lane, Lewis Neck Road, Brick Kiln Road, Eco Land Development, and Main Street/Scranton Ave. Each involved multiple continuances for modification or additional information. The ZBA typically negotiates the best project they can, then imposes conditions for further improvements to approve the project. In most cases, 25% of units built must be affordable and indistinguishable from the market rate units. This favors larger units with garages and makes the “affordable” units rather expensive. The Lewis Neck Road and Main Street/Scranton Avenue projects were proposed by the Falmouth Housing Corporation and are 100% affordable smaller units, very much in line with Falmouth’s Housing Production Plan. Unlike other cases, votes on 40B projects require a simple majority (3 of 5 votes).

The Zoning Code was re-codified in October 2021 and that effort is continuing. The purpose was to correct inconsistencies and clarify meanings. There are areas of ambiguity: wood decks and stairs have always been considered structures, while stone walls, steps, and pavements have not (except in historic districts). Now stone or masonry steps needed to enter a building are being interpreted as structures, impacting setbacks to lot lines and maximum lot coverage by structure on small lots. There is confusion about where to measure structures: foundation, corner boards, or roof overhangs may apply, but window wells seem to be ignored. The Zoning Code is highly complex and difficult to make fully consistent; re-codification is likely to continue for some time.

—Richard Johnson

League Observer
Zoning Board of Appeals

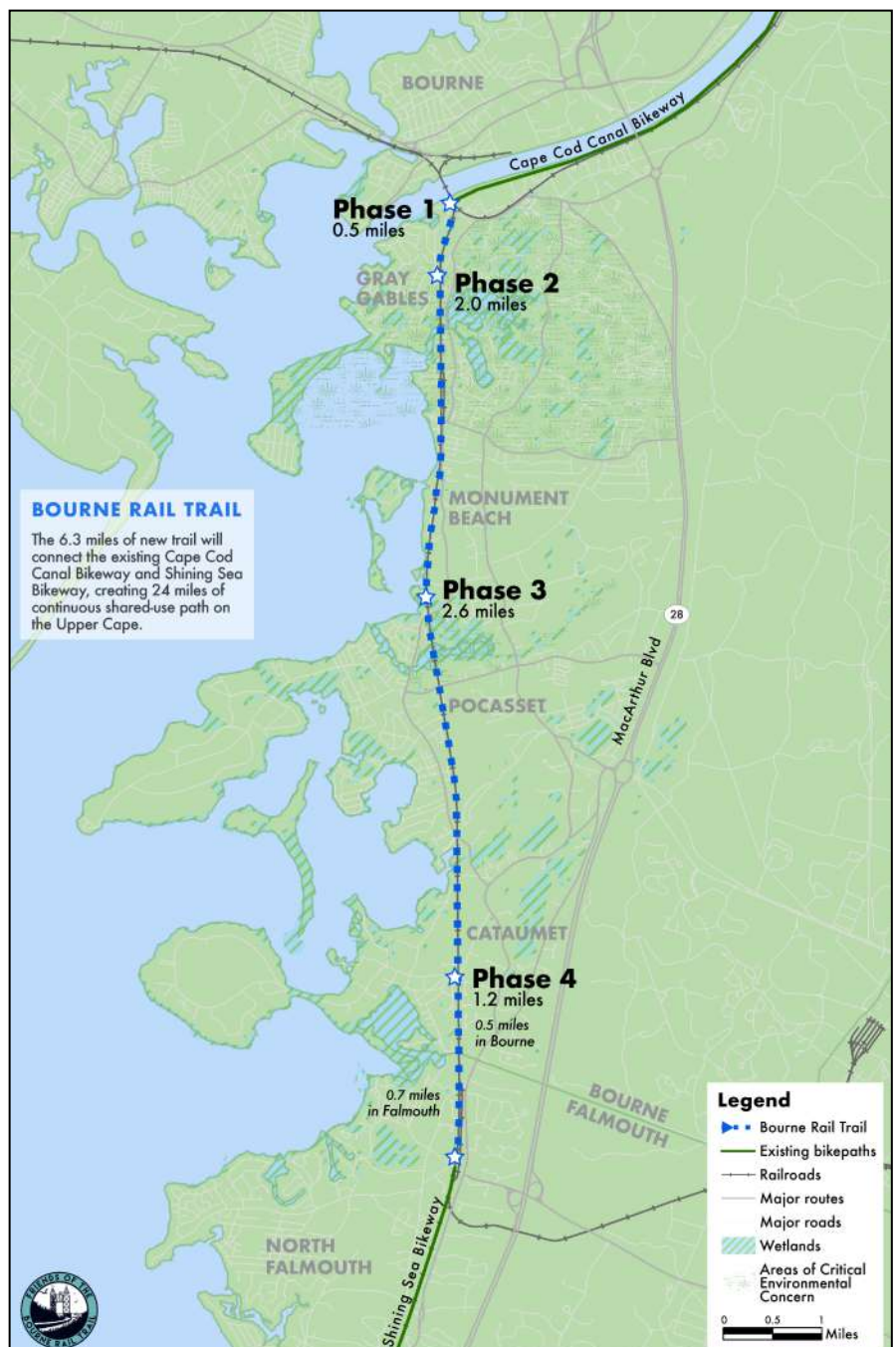
A Victory Lap for Transportation and the Environment

There is good news this summer for bikers, for hikers, and for all of us who care about the Cape Cod environment that we love. The Bourne Rail Trail Group was just awarded a \$499,000 State Grant for design and construction of a bike path that will connect the Shining Sea Bike Path in Falmouth with the Cape Cod Canal Bike Path. Our Transportation Study Committee member John Carroll is a part of that group.

The 6.5 Bourne segment will complete a 24-mile path for the Upper Cape. Eventually, linked bike paths will extend all the way from Woods Hole to Provincetown. On the map to the right you can see the proposed route of the Bourne segment of the trail. The trail will make travel much safer for the bike riders and walkers who have been using Shore Road.

The rail trail will lie eighteen feet west of the railroad track and there will be a chain link fence separating the two arteries.

Funding for the project will come from local, state, and federal sources, as well as from donations from enthusiastic supporters of the project.



Top right: The railroad track by Monument Beach, one of many scenic views that the trail will pass.

Photo and map used courtesy of the Friends of the Bourne Rail Trail. For more information about the trail, to make a donation, or to join their bike team, the BRT Blazers, see their website: <https://www.bournerrailtrail.org/>.

Annual Meeting: The Torch Has Been Passed...



At the Annual Meeting, the League expressed its gratitude with flowers to Joan Boyer, left, the outgoing First Vice President and Steering Committee Chair, for all her hard work in guiding the League of Women Voters. Her role will be assumed now by Janet Lauer, right.



Maro Titus, left, will assume the responsibility of coordinating the annual meeting in the spring, including finding and booking a venue, arranging the agenda, contacting guest speakers, and selecting a menu. She will be taking the reins from the very capable hands of Maggie Sweasy, right.

Annual Meeting Survey

Thank you to those who attended our Annual Meeting in May. We enjoyed our time at the Coonamessett Inn, gathering safely and in-person, with great speakers, a full agenda, delicious food and more!

I am honored to take over the planning for our 2023 Annual Meeting and want to make sure we meet the needs and wishes of as many of our members as possible. That said, if you could take a moment and provide your thoughts in response to the questions below, that would be great.

- What did you like MOST about this year's Annual Meeting?
- Is there something you'd like to change or do differently next year? If so, please specify.
- Would you prefer to meet in the morning or afternoon?

Please email me at marotitus@msn.com. Also, I am looking for 1-2 people to serve on the Committee. If you are interested, just let me know. Thank you!

—**Maro Titus**

Editors' Note

You may notice that reports and articles in this issue contain images of the LWVF members who are responsible for our various activities. To learn more about the members of the Board of Directors, see the LWVF webpage at: <https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/falmouth/about-lwv-falmouth/board-directors-2022-2023>.

...to a new generation: Meet Zorianna Petrosyan

Tell us a little about your family and/or your community?

My family moved to Falmouth in February 2013 from New Hampshire, and we have been living here ever since! I finished third grade at North Falmouth Elementary School and went all the way through the Falmouth Public Schools.

(I graduated from Falmouth High School earlier this year in June). I live with my mom, my stepdad, my sister Rima, and my half-brother Christian; we also have a lot of pets, including a dog, hamster, several turtles, a bearded dragon, a toad, and a few fish. At home, I love cooking with my sister and watching TV shows with my brother. In the summer, we all like to visit the beach as a family on Sundays and have picnics there.



What is your connection to Falmouth/Cape Cod?

I've always lived in small towns in the Northeast, and like any other, Falmouth can really have that cozy New England feel—especially during the winter. Small towns are also great in general because of the access to nature, as well as the close sense of community. I've had a wonderful experience spending my teenage years in Falmouth, learning who I am and growing into the interests I have, whether artistic or related to politics and activism. The older I am, the more I am able to explore town and see all that there is to offer. Every time I think about going off to college soon, I realize how much I am going to miss going to school here and being a member of this community.

What are some of your favorite things about Falmouth and Cape Cod?

I love a lot of the neighborhoods here—the houses and all of the trees and foliage are so beautiful. Main Street is a place that not only we residents are very fond of, but that tourists also heavily gravitate to as well. Our public library downtown is a spectacular one, and as a foodie, I love many of the restaurants on Main Street like Devour Eatery (where I

now work). I would say the best part about the Cape is the fact that there is so much to see and do, and little gems of greatness are hidden everywhere if you know where to look.

Where are you going to school and what will you study? What drew you to that subject and school?

I will be attending the University of Vermont (UVM) in the fall, as a music major with a concentration in tech and business. I also hope to double major in political science. I was drawn to UVM because a few of my family members have gone there (my mom attended UVM's medical school). My relatives told me that UVM is wonderful not only in terms of the education they offer there, but because of how amazing the broader community is and how tight-knit, accepting, and positive the people are. I've seen firsthand how exciting and vibrant life in Burlington is. I am overjoyed that I will be a music major as I have been a musician and dancer for most of my life. My dream is to become a recording artist, so I want to learn the production and music industry side of things. As for political science, I believe that one of the most effective ways to make change is through legislation, and because of my fervent passion for helping people and supporting human rights (especially for women, BIPOC, and LGBTQ+ people), I think that studying political science would be extremely beneficial and worthwhile. I recently wrote a bill (filed on May 27) titled "An Act relative to school start times for middle and high school students" that would mandate that no middle or high school in Massachusetts start earlier than 8:30 a.m. I did this as part of my work interning for state representative Dylan Fernandes this year.

What are your interests in the LWV?

As a student myself who did school start times-centered service projects and founded an organization that helps more young people get involved in youth activism called the Create Your Own Change Organization (CYOCO), I am very excited about the civics arm of the legislative committee of the LWV and see it as an excellent tie-in to my standalone work and what I do as Co-CEO of CYOCO. I also remember researching what bills the LWV supported when I was at my internship with Rep. Fernandes, and since I am a new member who has also filed a bill, I hope to be

From Our League Spokesperson

I spoke on behalf of our League at the Pro-Choice rally on the Village Green on June 25th. My remarks tracked the National League's multi-point response to the Supreme Court's June 24 opinion striking down *Roe v. Wade*. The U.S. League had filed an amicus brief in support of the Montgomery abortion clinic.

Interestingly, the crowd responded most vociferously to hearing of the League's support of passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). Had that amendment been successfully pursued by the League and other organizations over the last decade, it might have blunted Justice Samuel Alito's opinion for the majority in *Dobbs*.

—**Sylvia Szulkin**
League Spokesperson



After years as a trial attorney and member of numerous Falmouth boards and committees, Sylvia Szulkin is highly qualified to represent the views of the League.

...A New Generation, cont.

part of the legislative committee and contribute my efforts to the work the LWV will do advocating for important bills that we collectively believe should be passed. Finally, as a new voter, I think that either joining or just keeping up with the voter service committee is essential; after all, why not learn more about voting and the most efficient ways to do it from the League of Women Voters?

Are there any recent books, movies, podcasts, or artists you are currently passionate about?

I love many different genres of music, and specifically want to recommend an artist known as Enya, a phenomenal New Age instrumentalist and vocalist. My favorite movie is *Back to the Future* (an absolute classic). My favorite TV sitcom of all time is *How I Met Your Mother*, and my favorite dramas are *Once Upon A Time*, *Grey's Anatomy*, or *How to Get Away with Murder*. I have a very long reading list; I just finished *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion, a really heartwarming and fun story!

What first got you involved in community engagement/activism?

I knew from a young age that I always wanted to be an activist in some capacity because helping others matters a lot to me, but I never knew where to begin as a kid. But as a freshman in high school who had to wake up around 5:30/6:00 a.m. to catch the bus (because my school started at 7:22 a.m.), I was inspired to find a solution to our egregiously early start time. A friend I met through a leadership seminar suggested that I start a club to research how my school district could implement a later start time. I started that club and called it the FHS School Start Times Team; it was the Falmouth chapter of an organization called Start School Later. This was my first service project and a very important step in my life that led to writing the school start times bill and founding CYOCO. I have appreciated every step of my journey and am extremely thankful for all the opportunities I have been able to take advantage of along the way.

Membership Updates

First, please join me in welcoming our new members: Felicia Bordick, Jennifer Vander Pyl, Larry Vance Moore, Susan Anker, Bobye Anderson, and Zorianna Petrosyan, who is a student member and has been paired with Maro Titus as her league mentor. We are excited to have you as a part of our local League! We are hoping to have more in-person events in the near future, including a social event to welcome new members and get a chance to catch up with each other.

**Membership Renewals:
Just a friendly reminder
that annual membership
renewals for 2022-2023
are due by July 31st,**

which is quickly approaching; to date, only about 1/3 of our league has submitted dues. If you haven't yet renewed, and you are not a lifetime member, or if you just joined in 2022, PLEASE renew ASAP! Membership is key to keeping our League thriving and continuing. Getting your dues in quickly and on time will allow our membership committee to focus time and efforts on recruitment and membership engagement versus retaining current membership. So please help us out and renew quickly! If you know others who haven't yet renewed, please consider giving a friendly nudge!

For additional renewal information see below:

Please fill out the renewal form online, as it eases the burden on the Membership Committee to have the information electronically, and you can pay online or send in a check. However if you need a form to mail in, you can email mistyniemeyer13@gmail.com for a form you can include with your check. Membership dues must be paid by July 31, 2022—please!

Go to our website at www.lwvf.org and click on the JOIN RENEW button.



Individual memberships are still \$50 each, and \$25 for an additional household member. However, please keep in mind that we pay \$32 to the LWVUS and \$23 to LWVMA for a total of \$55 for each member, which is more than we charge per member. Please note online memberships include PayPal fees. We rely on donations to keep dues low, so donations are encouraged if you are able. We also want to ensure that the league is accessible to all, so there is a \$25 affordable option; student memberships are free and scholarship memberships are also available. Please do not let annual dues prevent you from renewing your membership. All are welcome.

Please reach out to me with any questions and please renew, renew, renew! Thank you for your continued membership with our amazing local league! We couldn't do this without YOU!

Please contact me at mistyniemeyer13@gmail.com or 912-996-3985 with any questions.

—Misty Niemeyer
Membership Chair

Treasurer's Report

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FALMOUTH			
Treasurer's Report#9 2021-22			
4/26/2022-6/28/2022			
	Budget	Total this	This Reporting
INCOME	FY2021-22	Budget year	Period
Ads	\$250	\$50	
Annual Meeting	\$500	\$1,547	\$830
Contributions - Friends	\$175	\$175	\$100
Contributions - Members	\$1,500	\$1,431	
Dues	\$7,711	\$5,510	\$50
Funds Raisers	\$250	\$58	\$58
Grants	\$0		
Transfer from savings	\$0		
INCOME TOTAL	\$10,386	\$8,770	\$1,038
		Total this	
EXPENSES	Budget	Budget year	This Reporting
	FY2021-22		Period
Action/Program	\$150	\$239	
Administration	\$350		
Web Site Fee	\$440	\$442	\$43
Annual Meeting & Report	\$500	\$1,250	\$130
Bank Fees	\$150	\$142	
Bulletin Postage	\$125	\$103	\$23
Bulletin Printing	\$250	\$213	\$50
Convention - National	\$0		
Convention -State	\$0		
Membership & Directory	\$800		
Participation / Donation	\$75	\$275	\$175
Per Member Pay Mass. (PMP)	\$3,508	\$3,025	
Per Member Pay US (PMP)	\$5,160	\$4,448	
Voter Service	\$1,500	\$218	\$232
Special Projects	\$0		
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$13,008	\$10,355	\$653
	07/01/21		06/28/22
checking acct	\$6,519	-\$1,584	\$4,935
LWV Educ Fund	\$1,113	\$100	\$1,598
	\$7,632		\$6,533

—Meghan Hanawalt
Treasurer

Expressions of Empowerment

What is so empowering that it can take you from a slumped-over posture to a "get up and boogie" mode? Music! Lyrics can be a thing of beauty, more motivating than other powerful forces. So, this month, our expression of empowerment brings to the forefront some lyrics that will have you reaching for your iTunes app (or existing playlist) to sing along. I'm advised copyright protections prohibit me from extracting lyrics and simply citing the songwriter. Therefore, here's a playlist for you to enjoy...pay attention to the words!

"Beautiful Life" - Ace of Base

"Making Our Dreams Come True" - Cyndi Grecco

"You're Only Human" - Billy Joel

"The Measure of a Man" - Elton John

"New Attitude" - Patti LaBelle

"This One's for the Girls" - Martina McBride

"I'm Alright" - Jo Dee Messina

"I Didn't Know My Own Strength" - Lorrie Morgan

"I Am Woman" - Helen Reddy

"No Surrender" - Bruce Springsteen

"I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing" - The New Seekers

"A Place In The Sun" - Stevie Wonder

Wishing you a summer full of gorgeous noise—seagulls, the crack of a baseball bat hitting into a home run, sizzling burgers on the grill and anything that gets you moving and smiling.

—Maro Titus

Contact Information for Your Legislators

Senator Susan Moran

617-722-1330

Susan.Moran@masenate.gov

Representative David Vieira

617-722-2230 and press 5

David.Vieira@mahouse.gov

Representative Dylan Fernandes

617-722-2013 and press 3

Dylan.Fernandes@mahouse.gov

Congressman Bill Keating

508-771-6868

Info.keating@mail.house.gov

Make your voice heard today!



Richard A. Armstrong, D.P.M.
Ethel R. Baylor, D.P.M.

"Your Foot Health Care Team"

Falmouth Podiatry

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Natural Brush Clearing and Poison Ivy Control

Meghan Hanawalt, Goatherd info@getmygoatscapecod.com
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LWVF Board of Directors 2021-2022

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LWVF Friends 2022

Barbara Douglass
Christina Jacobi
Maria Moniz
Robert and Barbara Schneider
Freddy Valois

There will be no Bulletin in August. Submissions for the September issue of the LWVF Bulletin are due on September 1, 2022. Please send copy, photos, and other material to both of these addresses:

maryfran55@earthlink.net
eileenmattingly@yahoo.com

Member Event Calendar

August 23 Board meeting, 7 p.m., Gus
Canty Community Center

September 15 League meeting

September 27 Board meeting, 7 p.m., Gus
Canty Community Center

Join the League of Women Voters: Democracy in Action!

You do not have to be a resident of Falmouth to join. Membership dues are \$50 for an individual membership and \$25 for an additional household member.

If you wish to join the League, send your check made out to the address below. Include your name, mailing address, and phone number.

If you prefer, go to our website at www.lwvf.org. Click on "Join" to join or renew and pay online.



Contact us:

League of Women Voters of Falmouth
P.O. Box 450
Falmouth, MA 02541

Email: FalmouthLWV@gmail.com

Website: www.lwvf.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LWVofFalmouthMA/>