



April 2022

Save the Date

*for the
2022 LWVSC Annual Meeting Dinner
Wednesday, June 15
5:30 pm
at the
Turf Tavern ~ Scotia
Details will follow soon*

Letter from the President – April 2022

Dear LWVSC Friends,

Spring is upon us, and we are now heading into one of our busiest seasons for our League. Voter registration dates and sites are being set up, the Citizenship Mentoring Group held its first in-person class in two years, and plans are being made for our June Annual Meeting. I'm especially looking forward to this June meeting as it will be the first time we've been able to schedule an in-person dinner for our members in two years. We plan to celebrate with live music and a delicious menu. Look for Save the Date details in this Bulletin...

As you know, all members are invited to attend our April Board Meeting on Wednesday, April 13 at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Swanker Board Room, 2nd floor of the Karen B. Johnson Library. At this meeting, we will review, discuss, and reach consensus on two important LWNYS

concurrences: a proposed position on Election Administration Structure, and a proposed position on Voting for Incarcerated Individuals. If approved by members, these proposals will be used to set positions on improving the structure of election administration in New York and to support the right to vote for those who are currently incarcerated. Both position papers were emailed to all members on April 1. These two proposals are timely and represent lengthy studies by State League committees. You will receive more information about this meeting as the date approaches. I encourage all members to consider attending; we will also be offering the meeting on Zoom for those who are not able to attend the meeting in person.

We will have another position proposal coming up for review in May (date is TBA). This proposal is a joint effort of the Leagues of Women Voters of Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady Counties. The position acknowledges the interrelation of the management of natural resources and the reduction of waste. I wish to thank the committee representatives from all four local Leagues for their efforts preparing this proposal. I especially want to thank our League's representative, Nancy Tudor, for her participation in this important project. There will be an announcement about the review of this position soon.

Looking forward to seeing you on April 13 for the LWVSC concurrence meeting.
In League,
Ann

Tackling New York's Climate Emergency

April 7, 7:00 pm on Zoom

New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act of 2019 commits to 100% zero-emission electricity by 2040, and a reduction of at least 85% below 1990-level GHG emissions by 2050. Join experts from Environmental Advocates of New York as they discuss the roadmap for accomplishing this ambitious goal. Q and A to follow. This event is free and open to members of the public!

Register by [clicking here](#).

LWVNYS Environmental Specialist, Beth Radow, will moderate the panel discussion. Panelists are from Environmental Advocates.

The poster features a background image of wind turbines in a field. The text is overlaid on a dark green background with white and yellow accents. At the top left is the LWV logo (League of Women Voters of New York) and the Environmental Advocates of NY logo. The main title is 'Tackling New York's Climate Emergency'. Below it, the text reads: 'Learn about the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act - and the Next Steps to Take'. The date and time are 'April 7th 7:00 PM'. A registration link is provided: 'Register Via Zoom bit.ly/3qgHCWx'. Three panelists are listed: Peter Iwanowicz (EANY Executive Director, member of the Climate Action Council), Kate Kurera (Deputy Director), and Conor Bambrick (Director of Climate Policy). A fourth name, Tiannis Coffie (Campaigns Associate), is also listed at the bottom.

Proposed Leaders of LWV of Schenectady County 2022/2023

President	Ann Hatke	2023
Vice President	Maxine Brisport	2023
Treasurer	Judy Middelkoop	2023
Secretary	Heide Westergard	2023
Inside Albany	Maxine Brisport	2023
	Linda Doody	2024
Letters to the Editor/ Press Releases	Anita Sanchez	2023
	Anita Sanchez	2023
Voter Services	Open	
Forums	Sandra McGarraugh	2024
Niskayuna	Heide Westergard/ Ellen Daviero	2023
Scotia/Glenville	Connie Young	2023
Rotterdam	Maxine Brisport /Sandra McGarraugh	2023
Schenectady	Janet Hutchison/Julia Holcomb	2023
Poll Reporting	Dick Shave	2023
	Vicki Hoshko	2023
Voter Registration	Connie Young/Mary Jane Shave	2024
	Pauline Kinsella	2024
Get Out the Vote	Pauline Kinsella	2024
Bulletin	Helen MacDonald	2023
	Nicole Salamone	2024
Advocacy/Lobbying	Open	
Nominating Committee	Sally Knutson	2023
	Johanna Petersen/Mary Pritchard	2023
	Connie Young	2023
	Carmel Patrick	2023
	Linda Doody	2024
Membership	Connie Young/Johanna Petersen	2023
	Betsy Chase	2023
	Carmel Patrick/Linda Doody	2024
Community Outreach		
Fliers	Gwynneth DeLong	2023
Communiity Events	Open	

Membership Mtngs	Connie Young / Cheryl Nechamen	2024
Mail Chimp	Judy Middelkoop	2023
Facebook	Anita Sanchez	2023
Website	Judy Middelkoop/Barbara Vivier	2023
Observer Corps	Linda Doody/Membership	2024
At Large Board Members	Cathy Lewis	2023
	Linda Doody/Carmel Patrick	2024
MHA Elections	Cheryl Nechamen	2023
	Sandra McGarraugh	2024
	Vicki Hoshko	2024
Citizen’s Police Review	Julia Holcomb	2023
Board Rep		
CPRB Alternate	Victoria Cooper	2024

**LOCAL LEAGUE RESPONSE FORM TO
ELECTION ADMINISTRATION STRUCTURE**

LEAGUE NAME _____
DECISION MAKING PROCESS AND NUMBER OF MEMBERS PARTICIPATING

Please complete this response form and forward it to the state League by May 1, 2022. Local League members who participate in a Local League process may not submit an individual response to the update.

We are asking you to make three separate decisions on three Position Statements. You may concur with one, two, or all three.

- Do you concur with the Position Statement on State Election Administration?
- Do you concur with the Position Statement on Local Election Administration?
- Do you concur with the Position Statement on Local and State Boards?

The League of Women Voters of New York State believes that a more accountable, transparent, and professional state election administration would improve voter access and confidence in our elections. We believe that achieving these goals will require changes to the state constitution.

I. State Election Administration

- The League believes that New York State should create the position of chief election official in charge of election administration. This position could be combined with that of the Secretary of State or be a new statewide elected position with a fixed term. Any candidate for this office should not have been an elected official or a party official for

some time prior to their election and could not run for any other elected office or party position during the term of office or for some time after the term ends. Ideally, the position should be nonpartisan.

- The chief election official should establish uniform statewide rules on voter registration, election administration and ballot access under state election law, and serve as an oversight authority to safeguard compliance of local election officials with these rules. The office should administer the statewide voter registration database, assist local election officials by providing training, and oversee the process of testing and certifying voting equipment.

- The chief election official should ensure accountability and transparency in state and local election operations by holding scheduled open meetings, maintaining accuracy and timeliness in election results reporting, and directing local election officials to hold public meetings and maintain correct and up-to-date public information on local election office websites and social media

1. Do you have member agreement on the State Election Administration Position Statement?

Yes
 No

Comments: _____

Local Election Administration

- The League believes that local elections should be administered by a local election official appointed by the local elected governing body with a fixed term of office and removable for cause by either the appointing body or the chief state election official. This local election official should not have been a state or local elected official or party official for some time prior to their appointment. Appointment of the local election official should be done through a public merit-based process and the position should have standardized annual training requirements.

- There should be staffing and salary standards for employees of the local election office which include the local election official as a full-time employee. Adequate state funding should be provided to counties to hire and train professional staff. All vacancies should be publicly advertised and hiring should be merit based. All election administration staff should have standardized annual training requirements.

2. Do you have member agreement on the Local Election Administration Position Statement?

Yes
 No

Comments: _____

III. Local and State Boards

- The League of Women Voters believes that a bipartisan or multi-party state Board could provide certification of state election results and possibly other functions. Appointments to the Board could be made by the Governor alone or in combination with the legislative leaders, and/or the legislature, in a transparent and public process. The chief state election official could remove members of the Board for cause.

- The League believes that a bipartisan or multi-party local Board could be established to provide certification of local election results and possibly other functions such as qualifying voters. Appointments to the Board could be made by the local election official in a transparent and public process, subject to approval of local elected governing body. The local election official could remove members of the Board for cause. Members could also be removed by the state chief election official for cause.

3. Do you have member agreement on the Local and State Boards Position Statement?

_____ Yes
_____ No

Comments: _____

Mail, Fax or Email completed form by May 1, 2022.
to: LWVNYS, 62 Grand St, Albany, NY 12207
Fax: 518-465-0812 Email: Laura@lwvny.org
Questions: Call the League at 518-465-4162

Our League goals are to educate citizens about government and public policy, encourage citizen participation in elections, and influence public policy relating to issues we've studied. Membership makes working on our goals possible.

MEMBERSHIP FOR JUNE 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2023

Return to: LWV of Schenectady County, P.O. Box 9135, Schenectady, NY 12309

New or Renewing Members Please Confirm This Contact Information

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

_____ \$60 Individual _____ \$85 Household _____ \$20 Full time HS student

Additional support for the League, dues plus \$10 contribution (\$70 or \$95 – circle one)

Confidential arrangements for special payment or partial assistance can be made. Contact Connie Young at 393-7061 with questions about dues or payments. Dues and contributions are not tax deductible.

___ I am sending my membership dues payment, but please consider me an **INACTIVE** member.

ACTIVE MEMBERS: The League depends upon the work of its members, even if for just a short task. Please check any areas that interest you. We appreciate your help.

Judicial _____ Health _____ Observer Corps _____ Fund Raising _____

Citizenship Mentoring Group _____ Environment _____ Education _____

Voter Services: Register Voters _____ Candidate Forums _____ Voter Information _____

Computer Skills: Graphics/Layout _____ Data Bases _____ Website Work _____

Facebook _____ Electronic Publicity _____ Other Technical Skill(Describe) _____

Other areas of interest _____

President	Ann Hatke
Vice-President	Open
Secretary	Heide Westergaard
Bulletin Editor	Helen MacDonald