



Annual Meeting

2021



June 10, 2021



ANNUAL MEETING: June 10, 2021

Held Virtually, 7:00pm

Agenda and Contents

Welcome: Paula Bowman

Report from Susan Rowe – May Treasurer’s Report
Report from Carrie Moon Dupree- Voter Service
Report from Val Nelson – Observer Corps
Report from Maureen Hughes – Membership
Report from Angela Ryan- Redistricting
Comments from LWVMI Convention attendees

Vote to Adopt the Budget (p. 3-4)
Vote to Adopt the 2021-22 Program Report (p. 5)
Vote to Adopt the Recommended Bylaw Changes (p. 5)
Vote to Elect New Officers (p.6)

Belleville Lake Festival – Donna Gilkey-Lavin
Final Remarks – Paula Bowman
Directions to the Board

Additional Workbook Pages For Your Review:

2020 Annual Meeting Minutes (p.7)
Voter Service Report (p. 9)
Membership Report (p. 10)
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ANNUAL MEETING RULES: 2021

For the second year in a row, our Annual Meeting is being held virtually. Many in-person rules do not apply, but we still try to follow Roberts Rules of Order during our meeting.

According to Robert's Rules, a virtual meeting must be authorized in an organization's bylaws, unless a state law allows for a remote meeting. Michigan's Non-Profit Corporation Act, MCL 450.2405 says that remote participation is valid. Regardless, our League is proposing a bylaw change at this annual meeting to make it clear that remote meetings are acceptable.

The procedure for our 2021 Annual Meeting will be as follows:

1. Membership votes will be limited to:
 - a. The election of members to the Board of Directors
 - b. The 2020-2021 budget
 - c. Bylaw amendments
 - d. Program for 2021-2022
2. A May, 2021 *Voter* was sent to all members which included information on the items on which they will vote. Members received the *Voter* either by email or surface mail. As a substitute for "nominations from the floor", members were notified in the *Voter* that additional nominations for open Board of Directors positions were welcome, but must be directed to Nominating Committee Chair, Angela Ryan, by June 1, 2021.
3. A paper ballot with the items on which the membership will vote was sent to those members who will not be able to join the virtual meeting. Voting during the virtual meeting will be done using the polling feature. Results from those who turned in a paper ballot will be added to the polling total.
4. As of June 1, 2021, there are 113 members of our League. Though Article VII, Section 3 of our bylaws states that 10% of the members constitute a quorum, we strive for full participation from members.

Our Mission: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.*

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate. We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

The League is proud to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public.

LWV Northwest Wayne County Proposed Budget - WORKSHEET

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

		EXISTING BUDGET	ACTUAL TO DATE	PROPOSED BUDGET
<u>EXPENSE ITEMS</u>		7-1-20 to 6-30-21	7-1-20 TO 3-20-21	7-1-21 to 6-30-22
1. Board & Administration				
A. Officers	Expenses/office supplies	\$50.00	\$51.27	\$50.00
B. Committees, Meeting Supplies	Paper products for hosting	\$25.00		\$25.00
C. Meetings	Room Rentals	\$250.00		\$250.00
	Annual Report	\$100.00		\$100.00
2. LWV Conventions	State	\$2,000.00		\$0.00
	National (<i>Denver</i>)	\$0.00		\$3,000.00
	State Meetings/Workshops	\$25.00		\$25.00
3. Voter	Print & Paper	\$75.00	\$48.36	\$75.00
	Postage & Labels	\$25.00		\$25.00
4. PMP (110 members as of 1/31/21)	State (110 @ \$23)	\$2,001.00	\$1,782.50	\$2,530.00
	National (110 @ \$31)	\$2,697.67	\$2,480.00	\$3,410.00
5. Educational	Program, Action, Video Recording*	\$1,500.00	\$774.65	\$1,500.00
	Voter Service (Includes Postage & Labels)	\$100.00	\$67.30	\$100.00
	Voter Guides	\$1,000.00	\$1,513.00	\$750.00
	They Represent You	\$600.00		\$500.00
	LWVNWW Web Page/Domain Name**	\$450.00	\$490.00	\$450.00
	Ways to Get Involved		\$50.00	\$50.00
6. Operations	Liability Insurance (Board & Events) (LWVMI)	\$200.00	\$78.30	\$150.00
	Postal Box	\$100.00	\$92.00	\$120.00
	Telephone	\$120.00	\$83.25	\$120.00
	Constant Contact account	\$0.00	\$148.00	\$175.00
7. Fund Raising		\$500.00		\$400.00
8. Miscellaneous	ZOOM accounts (YouTube support not needed)	\$607.00	\$250.00	\$500.00
	Dues to LWV Lake Michigan Region	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
9. Rainy Day Fund		\$0.00		\$0.00
10. Scholarship		\$0.00		\$0.00
Totals		\$12,425.67	\$7,958.63	\$14,355.00

LWV Northwest Wayne County Proposed Budget - WORKSHEET				
July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022				
		EXISTING BUDGET	ACTUAL TO DATE	PROPOSED BUDGET
<u>INCOME</u>		7-1-20 to 6-30-21	7/1/20 to 3/20/21	7-1-21 to 6-30-22
1. Dues	110 members @ \$60 (count as of 1/31/2021)	\$5,220.00	\$3,193.51	\$6,600.00
2. Contributions	Member - cash	\$1,100.00	\$2,095.00	\$1,000.00
	Member in kind	\$100.00	\$27.55	\$100.00
3. Fund Raising				
Auction		\$2,000.00	\$1,075.00	\$2,500.00
Misc/Co-op elections	Election assistance at Co-Op's	\$700.00	\$1,350.00	\$500.00
LWVMI - Grant	Making Democracy Work (MDW)& Redistricting Town Halls	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$500.00
4. Dividends - checking account		\$5.00	\$3.88	\$5.00
5. Ed Fund Reimbursement		\$3,100.00		\$3,050.00
6. CD dividends (renewal 11/11/21)		\$200.00	\$55.49	\$100.00
7. Transfer from Reserves		\$0.00		
Total		\$12,425.00	\$8,400.43	\$14,355.00
* \$150 per Video Candidate forum				
** website platform, renewal of domain names				
Budget Committee: Paula Bowman, Angela Ryan, Carin Meyer, Susan Rowe - Treasurer, Nancy White - Budget Chair				

PROPOSED PROGRAM: 2020-2021

League program is the education and advocacy platform that we adopt to move our mission forward.

No new studies or updates were suggested by members or recommended by the board. The board recommends the following program items/issues for emphasis for the 2021-2022 fiscal year:

- Voting Rights
- Redistricting.

LEAGUE POSITIONS:

- Our local League positions can be found on LWVNorthwestwayne.org
- State positions can be found on LWVMI.org
- National positions can be found on LWV.org

RECOMMENDED BYLAW CHANGES (3)

There are three proposed bylaw changes, all of which have to do with making virtual meetings official. Yellow highlights reflect proposed additions.

- A. Article IV, Section 5: Meetings. There shall be at least four regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. Votes taken at email or virtual board meetings will have the same validity as an in-person board meeting provided a quorum participates in the voting.
- B. Article VII, Add Section 4: Sec. 4. In the event a public emergency or natural disaster makes the holding of an in-person meeting unlawful or impossible, any meeting, including an annual meeting may be conducted by means of remote communication that allows participants to see and hear each other on the same platform. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at the meeting. A record of the voting results at a remote annual meeting shall be kept with the minutes of the meeting. Absentee votes from those members without access to a remote annual meeting shall be permitted.
- C. Article VIII, Section 3: Sec. 3. Elections. The election shall be by ballot; when there is but one nominee for each office, the president may entertain a motion giving unanimous approval to the Nominating Committee slate. A majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted, except in the case of a remote annual meeting (see Article VII, Section 4).

NOMINEES FOR OFFICES: 2021-2022

President	Carrie Moon-Dupree (2 year term)
Vice President, Voter Services:	Val Nelson (1 year term)
Vice President, Development:	Angela Ryan (2 year term)
Treasurer:	Susan Rowe (2 year term)
Voter Editor:	Eva Koelzer (2 year term)
Director:	Donna Gilkey-Lavin (2 year term)
Director:	Lena Packer (2 year term)

Thank you to our 2021-22 Nominating Committee:

Angela Ryan (Chair)
Lena Packer
Linda Curry

Continuing the 2nd year of their 2-year terms:

Board Members continuing with the 2nd year of their term are:

Secretary: Deanna Master
Director: Kathy Mchahwar
Director: Carin Meyer
Director: Mary Visos

In addition to the elected directors, the Bylaws allow the Board to appoint up to 6 directors. The Nominating Committee recommends to the Board that they reappoint the following as directors: Maureen Hughes, Manny Lavin, and Jackie Peters; and that they appoint the following as new directors: Lois Baughman, Gwen Hooks, and Toni Jones. The Board of Directors will vote on these appointments at their first meeting.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTHWEST WAYNE COUNTY

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING: JUNE 23, 2020

The virtual meeting was opened by League President Paula Bowman at 7:12 p.m. There were 24 attendees on the zoom platform. Paula welcomed everyone and introductions were made all around.

VOTING RESULTS

The Annual Meeting booklet was sent to all members for review ahead of the meeting. An on-line ballot was sent to all League members via SurveyMonkey on June 8, 2020 with a response deadline of June 15, 2020. A paper ballot with a copy of the May Voter was mailed to 6 members without email around May 15, 2020. Return date for the paper ballot was June 15, 2020. Responses received: 31 via SurveyMonkey, 3 paper ballots.

Unanimous votes were received for the following issues:

- League program was approved and consists of the Making Democracy Work Agendat: Voting Rights, Campaign Finance Reform and Redistricting Reform.
- Board of Directors Election
 - Carrie Moon Dupree for VP Voter Service – 100% support
 - Deanna Master for Secretary – 100% support
 - Kathy Mchahwar for Director-100% support
 - Carin Meyer for Director-100% support
- Budget – Approved with 100% support

Paula thanked the Nominating Committee: Angela Ryan, Kathy Mchahwar, Sue Wabeke and Joan Gebhardt. Kathy Mchahwar was thanked for her faithful service as Secretary.

VOTER SERVICE

This summer Carrie Moon-Dupree and Paula Bowman organized 7 Zoom forums prior to the Primary. Carrie and Susan Rowe have completed 3. The others are set for June and early July. The forums are being recorded and posted to our website.

VOTE 411 is now live for the 2020 primary election. Thanks to Megan Chenoweth for handling the on-line voter guide for both NW Wayne and the state. For the 2020 primary, we are covering 111 candidates in 43 races, plus five local proposals. 69 of 111 candidates have responded to date.

We are grateful to Carin Meyer and Judy Westra for their help working on the VOTE411 guide for the primary, and to Jackie Peters, Roberta Young, Laura Jannika, Jewel Butler, Maureen Hughes, Louise Weller, Marjorie Lynne, Angela Ryan, Deanna Master, Toni Jones, Pat Tavidian, Ann Abdoo and Linda Curry for their help calling candidates who had not responded to VOTE411 invitations.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Susan Rowe presented the highlights of the Treasurer's Report.

Total assets \$31,711.08

Checking account balance \$9,179.49

Ed fund \$12,140.70

Members were reminded to renew their dues.

LWVUS CONVENTION

Thanks to the virtual LWVUS convention, our League is saving money. Convention registration fees were only \$50.00 for each for our two delegates: Paula and Carrie. They have attended many webinars and Zoom meetings that started June 16 and go thru June 27, 2020.

Lobby Day: Thursday, June 25, 2020 All LWV members, not just convention attendees, are urged to call their Senators concerning Voting Rights Advancement Act. LWVMI President Christina Schlitt will send out a script as an example for your phone call.

AUCTION

Angela stated that October 3, 2020 is the tentative date booked with Greenmead for our annual auction. The official start time is 11:30 a.m., but set-up will start earlier. Please send your ideas to Angela. Refreshment, set-up, clean-up, publicity and logistic committees will ask for volunteers closer to the day. If an auction is not possible, monetary donations are always welcome.

VOLUNTEER LIST

The following members signed-up on the Volunteer List:

Nominating Committee: Angela Ryan, Judy Patrick and Jackie Peters

Budget Committee: Linda Curry and Donna Gilkey-Lavin

Minutes Reading Committee: Susan Rowe, Roberta Young and Deanna Master

DIRECTIONS TO THE BOARD

There were 12 entries. Few key ones:

- Encourage members to remember that the ERA remains unfinished business for the Constitution
- Continue to be creative in how you address League business during a pandemic
- Be more intentional about social justice issues
- Several thank-you's for adapting to our pandemic normality

100 YEAR PRESENTATION

Angela Ryan and Laura Callow presented a short program celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Submitted by Kathy Mchahwar

VOTER SERVICE REPORT: 2020-2021

Carrie Moon-Dupree, VP Voter Service

This past voting season was a very active one for the Voter Service team. We had numerous elections in our geographical area and much interest from the public in the issues and races. We were fortunate enough to be able to do many candidate forums. Due to Covid restrictions, all forums were done via Zoom. Each forum was recorded and posted on our website as well as on our YouTube channel. The follow forums were held:

School Boards: Wayne/Westland, Plymouth/Canton, Northville , Livonia ,Van Buren
Canton Trustees
Canton Township Supervisor
11th District -US House of Representatives
21st Michigan US House of Representative
11th Congressional District.

Thank you to Susan Rowe, Paula Bowman, Val Nelson, Donna Gilkey-Lavin, Manny Lavin, Jackie Peters and Judy Patrick for your assistance in making these forums successfully happen.

VOTE41: Under the guidance of Megan Chenoweth, information was gathered for all the local races, candidates and ballot proposals. We had 7 ballot proposals and over 60 different races in the 13 communities that we serve. Questionnaires were sent to all candidates, whether or not they were in a contested race, to hear their views. Thank you to Carin Meyer and Judy Westra who helped Megan with this local work. Megan was also in charge of all the federal and state races for LWVMI.

Print versions of our state and local voter guide (thank you to Toni Jones and Paula Bowman) were readied for the election season on a chilly October 2nd in Jackie and Gil Peters spacious garage. A dozen mask-wearing League members worked the “assembly line” to complete 2,200 print voter guides for 10 local libraries and 6 senior centers in our 13 communities. Deanne Masters and her husband donated 2000 wrapped face masks. We stamped a label on the outside of each one with the League’s name, website and VOTE411’s website. Never could we have anticipated that we would be including masks in our voting guides, but it was very timely this year. A team of drivers loaded up their cars with boxes and hit the road to distribute the guides.

Thank you to Jackie & Gil Peters, Paula & Gordon Bowman, Pat Bindas, Linda & Randy Priest, Ann McCarthy & her son Jacob, Judy and Ting Westra, Louis Baughman, Deanne Masters for all their hard work to make sure that these important guides reached the voting public. Educating voters on the issues and candidates is some of the most important work we do.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: 2020-2021

Maureen Hughes, Membership Director

As of June 1, 2021, our local League is comprised of 113 members, an increase of 16 members from this same time last year. (Another comparison: in 2013, we had 37 members) The breakdown of our residences:

Livonia	33	Wayne	3
Belleville	18	Westland	5
Plymouth	22	Redford	2
Northville	13	Out of Area	3
Canton	14		

Of the 113 members, 90 are primary members, 17 are second-in-a-household members, and 2 are student members. Four are lifetime members, having been members 50 years or more.

Each new member is sent a welcome letter and League information.

This year, we lost Esther Friedrichs, who, at 99, was one of the founding members of the LWV of Livonia, which became the LWV of Northwest Wayne County in 2001. Up until recently, she was an active member in the League and she will be missed.

COMMUNICATION REPORT: 2020-2021

Social Media/Facebook, Instagram and Youtube

Lynda Franklin has been handling our local Facebook page for a number of years. She has used excellent judgement in posting articles that reflect our values and maintain our non-partisan position. Election and event information, call-to-action notifications are posted in addition to information on issues such as public transit, voting rights, census and women's suffrage.

Lynda has been a conscientious provider of information on behalf of the League. Our forums, educational events, meetings, VOTE411 and voter guides are all promoted multiple times, educating the public on opportunities and information. We are grateful to Lynda for her trustworthy and efficient work.

This year, Lynda started an Instagram account for our League which reaches a different audience by posting similar items as the Facebook postings. We also started a Youtube account this year. After recording the candidate forums by zoom, we upload them to Youtube, eliminating the need for a password or the short life-span of a zoom recording.

Email and Constant Contact

We continue to use email as a prime source of communication. Frequently messages are sent out by the President and other board members; we are grateful to have this inexpensive means of reaching our members with topical news. Because of the increase in on-line communication, the Board voted to start a "Constant Contact" account, which is a more professional and attractive way of sending emails. We are using this vehicle to publish the Voter and other email notifications to members. Many thanks to Ann Abdoo for editing, publishing and distributing four issues of the Voter this past year.

Zoom

This year, we have relied on zoom more than ever. All of our membership meetings have been held by Zoom, and the participation is nearly the same as our pre-pandemic in-person meetings. We have added several accounts for our board members so that they may can conduct their own meetings concerning their portfolios.

Website

Our website is frequently updated with new calendar items, news articles, voter service information and videos, Voter issues and front page news.

FUNDRAISING REPORT

Angela Ryan, VP Development

Although COVID prevented us from holding our annual auction, we found ways to raise money this year. We received two grants that were pass-throughs from LWVUS to LWVMI. One was a Making Democracy Work grant. That focused on engaging with local clerks and educating the public on voting rights. League members participated in numerous projects related to this grant. One project was to stuff one of 8 versions of a local voter guide into the state guide along with a VOTE411-labeled face mask (masks donated by Deanna Master and her husband, Neil). Members who helped were Jackie and Gil Peters, Linda and Randy Priest, Ann McCarthy, Carrie Moon-Dupree, Judy and Ting Westra, Lois Baughman, Pat Bindas, Deanna Master, and Paula and Gordon Bowman. Ann McCarthy's son and Deanna Master's husband also helped with this project.

In another project under this grant, Judy Westra and Carin Meyer helped Megan Chenoweth load candidate information into the VOTE411 website. Members who called candidates and reminded them of the VOTE411 opportunity were Jackie Peters, Roberta Young, Laura Jannika, Jewel Butler, Marjorie Lynn, Maureen Hughes, Kathy Mchahwar, Louise Weller, Paula Bowman, Deanna Master, Toni Jones, Pat Tavidian, Ann Abdoo and Linda Curry.

Seven League members helped process absentee ballots in Canton Township for mailing. Those members were Ann Abdoo, Susan Rowe, Roberta Young, and Barbara Zysk-Berman, Val Nelson, Maureen Hughes, Mary Visos. Barbara Zysk-Berman also worked two full days at Van Buren Township.

LWVMI is a member of MichiganVoting.org, which is a nonpartisan organization of voting rights advocates whose mission is "to ensure our voting system works for all, and that Michigan voters have free and fair access to their ballots." The ACLU is also a member of this organization. They sponsored a post card campaign for people to write and send postcards to Michigan citizens encouraging them to vote. League members who worked on this project were Linda Curry, Maureen Hughes, Lori Gilbo, Ann Abdoo, Jackie Peters, and Roberta Young.

These and other efforts to get voting information to the public were led by Paula Bowman and netted the League \$400.

The second grant came to us for hosting a Redistricting Town Hall on May 26. Our speaker was Angela Ryan with an opening presentation by Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commissioner Rebecca Szetela. This grant also brought us \$400.

In coordination with the Detroit League, we conducted elections at 6 Inkster HUD housing communities. We were recruited for this project by the Inkster Housing Commission. This project was handled by Paula Bowman and Deanna Master. The League received \$1,000 for our part in this project.

We administered two elections for the Colonial Square Cooperative Community, one in October and one in May. Some members worked before the election to issue proxy ballots and some worked the day of the election. The League members who assisted in October were

Paula Bowman, Marjorie Lynn, Maureen Hughes, Carin Meyer, Susan Rowe, Gwen Hooks, Deanna Master, Angela Ryan, Liz Poterala, Judy Westra, and Ting Westra. Those who volunteered for the May election were Ann Abdoo, Paula Bowman, Gayle Groshko, Lena Packer, Jackie Peters, Kathy Mchahwar, and Marjorie Lynn. We earned \$800 from these two elections.

All totaled, we earned \$2,600 this year through these community activities. Thanks to all of you who participated in one or more of these events.

OBSERVER CORPS REPORT

Val Nelson, Observer Corps Director

Members of our Observer Corps attended meetings (virtually or otherwise) in order to understand the issues being discussed and make it known to elected officials that the League is interested in the work that they are doing. The League has always promoted informed voting and the Observer Corps provides a structured way for individuals to exercise their right to know what their government is doing. Our members are observing decisions that determine how our schools will be run, how our land will be used, how environmental threats will be addressed at the local level, and how public funds will be used to help those in need.

The meetings in our area being observed include Van Buren and Livonia school boards, Van Buren Recreation Committee, Van Buren, Livonia, Canton, and Plymouth Township Planning Commissions, Plymouth and Northville Township Board of Trustees. Eleven active observers have attended (or viewed) over 30 meetings of public entities (committees, councils, boards, etc), since we started our Observer Corps in January. Thank you to the following members who are observing our government in action: Jackie Peters, Linda Curry, Lena Packer, Paula Bowman, Kathy Faitel, Barbara Miller, Marjorie Lynn, Manny Lavin, Donna Gilkey-Lavin, Lois and David Baughman and Maureen Hughes.

REDISTRICTING REPORT

Angela Ryan, VP Development

This year will be the first time that State House and Senate and U. S. Congressional districts will be drawn by the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC). In the past, the districts were drawn by the State Legislature with no input from the public. The process has changed as the result of a ballot proposal that was passed overwhelmingly by voters in 2018.

Throughout the State, the League has been proactive in working with the MICRC on this new process. Members of our League have participated in a variety of ways. Angela Ryan has had the lead on a number of them. She has been giving online redistricting presentations at local League Town Halls and to other groups. She is also a member of a State League group that is observing all of the MICRC meetings and Public Hearings.

She is coordinating the efforts of teams from the NW Wayne County League and the Dearborn/Dearborn Heights League to identify Communities of Interest (COI) and work with representatives of the COIs to prepare written testimony and to testify before the MICRC. The COI representatives will explain to the Commission who their group is and why they should be kept together within one district's boundaries. NW Wayne team members are: Manny Lavin, Kathy Mchahwar, Sandy Main-Niemisto, Deanna Master, and Carrie Moon-Dupree.

A team of NW Wayne County League members will serve as hosts/users at the June 8 MICRC Public Hearing in Novi. They are: Maureen Hughes, Deanna Master, Liz Poterala, Susan Rowe, Angela Ryan, and Louise Weller. Although Novi is in Oakland County, we were asked to assist since members of the Oakland Area League will work at the Pontiac Public Hearing.

A group of NW Wayne County League members will travel to the June 15 MICRC Public Hearing in Detroit. It will be a rare opportunity to see one of these events in person and a far cry from when district maps were drawn in secret by the State Legislature.

PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITY: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Paula Bowman, President

Since our Annual Meeting Booklet doubles as an Annual Meeting Report, I am providing some of my key League activities for the record. I offer a special thank you to all of our board members who are unfailing participants in all League work. Their friendship and assistance is valued by me and is an asset to our League as a whole.

2020 Election – Pre-election activity

- Participated in multiple pre-election Know Your Voting Rights calls with Progress Michigan/ACLU, and other voting rights advocacy groups. Delivered their KYVR booklets (some in Arabic) to several libraries.
- Led the Making Democracy Work II Grant with emphasis on voter information and LWV visibility. Clerks were contacted and offered assistance to send out absentee ballots, VOTE411 yard signs were ordered and distributed and reports were completed.
- With Carrie Moon-Dupree, participated in LWVMI Voter Service calls headed by LWVMI VP Voter Service, Betsy Cushman
- Helped complete and distribute 8 print versions of our local voter guide (2,200 total), which, when blended with the LWVMI voter guide, were delivered to public libraries and senior centers.
- I notified many news outlets, libraries and local clerks about the availability of our online voter guide, VOTE411 (thank you Megan Chenoweth),
- I moderated 6 local candidate forums.

Meetings

Our wonderful board of directors met every other month by zoom for the past year. Including our June 10th annual meeting, we have had 7 membership meetings, including a virtual holiday party organized by Carrie Moon-Dupree. Michigan Campaign Finance Network Director Simon Schuster spoke about “dark money” at our September, 2020 meeting, and our November, 2020 meeting featured Nancy Kaffer from the Detroit Free Press. We hosted two of our Wayne County Commissioners at our May 4, 2021 meeting. Zoom meeting attendance lagged a bit at first, but we now have more than 30 people at our membership meetings.

We also held a New Member Meeting on November 30 to discuss the League’s principals, structure, goals and some of our local activities. All members who had joined within the past year were invited.

Projects

Inkster Tenant Council: With the help of Deanna Master and members of the Detroit LWV, we completed the election of the Inkster Housing Resident Council. This was an 18-month project interrupted by the pandemic and despite many hours of work on our part, voter turnout by the Inkster residents was disappointingly low. I produced the report and presented it at an Inkster Housing Commission meeting in October. Our League earned \$1,000 for our service.

Colonial Square Coop Elections: Colonial Square delayed their 2020 election until October because of the pandemic. I led the team that worked the “Covid election” which included an outdoor election after several days of registering proxies, as well as the 2021 election held in May. Our team at the 2020 election included: Carin Meyer, Deanna Master, Liz Poterala, Judy Westra, Ting Westra, Angela Ryan, Marjorie Lynn, Maureen Hughes, Gwen Hooks, Susan Rowe. Members of the 2021 election team were: Marjorie Lynn, Gayle Groshko, Kathy Mchahwar, Jackie Peters, Lena Packer and Ann Abdoo.

Board of Canvassers Observers: I led the Wayne County team of Observers in watching the Wayne County election team working on their presentation to the Board of Canvassers for certification. We all learned a lot about the role of the county and state Board of Canvassers! Our team included Marjorie Lynn, Judy Westra, Laura Jannika, Gayle Groshko, Maureen Hughes, Louise Weller, Lois Baughman, David Baughman, Carin Meyer, Deanna Master, Kathleen Hall, Liz Poterala and Elizabeth Downs. Many of us were so engrossed in this process that we also watched the 8-hour on-line meeting of the State Board of Canvassers in January.

They Represent You: Two versions of our *They Represent You* brochures were completed in March, 2021. Many thanks to our research team of Joan Gebhardt, Judy Patrick Jackie Peters and Liz Poterala, and to Tony Jones for her ‘construction’ work on the brochure. Deliveries to local libraries were made by Louise Warner, Lena Packer, Gayle Groshko, Manny Lavin, Toni Jones and Deanna Master.

Lame Duck Study: I chaired the study of Lame Duck Legislative Sessions on the state level, and when the materials were ready for local League participation, I also worked with our NW Wayne County team to respond to the consensus questions. Thank you to Lois Baughman, James Moon-Dupree, Carin Meyer, Marjorie Lynn and Lena Packer for participating in the study committee.

Communications

I continue to update our local website with news and calendar events. Our publications, voter guides and videos of candidate forums were uploaded. I also handled press releases to local print journals and online platforms concerning our events and the availability of voter resources on our website or at libraries.

LWVMI Work

Though my Board of Directors work at the state level as VP of Program is separate, having a connection to the LWVMI board is an asset to any local League. Besides handling state program planning, I also chaired the LWVMI Lame Duck study committee, participated in the Budget and Nominating Committees, manage the state website, and chaired the 2021 Convention. I also serve as a ‘coach’ in the Membership and Leadership Development program for the Detroit and Macomb Leagues.

Other

- Worked as a poll worker in Detroit for the primary and general elections in 2020
- Participated in monthly calls between all local League presidents in Michigan.
- Attended many webinars sponsored by the LWV or by our advocacy partners with topics including but not limited to voting rights, the census, ERA, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and clerk engagement.
- The League (cell) phone remains at my home. I respond to inquiries (minimal).
- I produced the Annual Meeting Booklet for 2021.
- I monitor the LWV's email and forward information to the pertinent board members.