



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA



May 1, 2021 ANNUAL CONVENTION WORKBOOK



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The League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area [LWVNCA] is an Inter League Organization (ILO). It is comprised of the District of Columbia League and those Leagues in Maryland and Virginia surrounding the nation's capital. We are a nonpartisan, political, membership organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League influences public policy through education and advocacy at all levels of government.

The purpose of LWVNCA shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government, and to act on selected governmental issues of a metropolitan, regional or interjurisdictional nature such as energy, water and transportation.

Proposed Order of Business May 1, 2021

10 am Welcome	Softli / Starks <i>Co-Presidents</i>
Introduction to Zoom Etiquette (<i>Reminder, meeting will be recorded</i>)	
Keynotes: Update on DC Statehood Update on VA and MD Redistricting	Anne Anderson, LWFVDC, Chris DeRosa, LWFV-VA, Beth Hufnagel, LWFVMD
<u>Business Meeting Begins</u>	
Roll Call of Member Leagues and Credentials	Nancy Soreng, <i>Secretary</i>
Adoption of Order of Business	Joyce Starks
Adoption of Convention Rules	Geraldine Whitley, <i>Parliamentarian</i>
Minutes of 2020 Convention	Linda Softli
Previously approved by the LWFVCA Board	In workbook for information only
Appointment of a Reading Committee for the 2021 Convention Minutes	Linda Softli
Treasurer's Report	Bill Thomas, <i>Treasurer</i>
Presentation, Discussion & Approval of Proposed FY 2021-2022 LWFVCA Budget	Kathy Matusiak, <i>Budget Chair</i>
Proposed Amendments to LWFVCA Bylaws Presentation, Discussion & Approval	Sherry Zachry, <i>Bylaws Committee Chair</i>
Program Committee Report Presentation of Recommended and Not-Recommended Program Discussion of Recommended and Not-Recommended Program Adoption of Program for 2021-2023	Sarah Mathews, <i>Program Chair</i>
Nominating Committee Report & Election of Officers and Directors for 2021-2023	Elaine Apter <i>Nominating Committee Chair</i>
Co-President's Report	Joyce Starks and Linda Softli
<u>New Business</u>	
Announcements	Joyce Starks
Direction to the Board	Linda Softli
Adjournment	

Panel Discussion

Redistricting in Maryland & Virginia, Update on Status of DC Statehood Moderated by LWFNCA Co-President Joyce Starks



Beth Hufnagel
LWV Howard County

Beth Hufnagel leads the LWFMD Redistricting Advocacy Team and is the former President of the LWV of Howard County. She also is a member of the 2020-2021 Howard County Racial Equity Task Force.

Beth is retired from Anne Arundel Community College, where she was their professor of Astronomy.



Anne Anderson
LWV District of Columbia

Anne Anderson is Chair of the LWVDC Committee for Full Rights for DC Citizens and also serves on the Board of Trustees.

She has lived in DC since 1964 and been a supporter of DC Statehood since 1971. She is a clinical social worker in private practice with the Washington Therapy Guild.



Chris DeRosa
LWV Arlington

Chris is a longtime resident of Arlington, VA. She is the co-coordinator of the redistricting issues committee of the League of Women Voters of Virginia.

Chris also volunteers with One Virginia 2021 Foundation and serves on its Board.

Report from Co-Presidents Joyce Starks and Linda Softli



We would like to thank all of the Zoom attendees for participating in our Annual Convention. This has been a very challenging year for most of us. We have lost a lot of our League friends during

this pandemic. We thank the families of our lost League members for being supportive and allowing your loved one to be a part of this wonderful organization. Let's not forget about our supporters (husbands, cousins and friends) that we lost during this time as well. Our League members that are here today we are happy that you were able to stay safe and healthy in spite of the pandemic and all the crime.

A special shout out to all League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area (LWVNCA) members for another great year. We had a lot of support, including Elaine Apter for all of her assistance and special donation of arranging for our meetings to be held by Zoom. We want to highlight some of our champions this year for going above and beyond the call of duty. Nancy Soreng, Sherry Zachry, Barbara Lipsky and Sarah Mathews and Kathy Matusiak. These individuals volunteered and worked hard at making sure we accomplished our goals and complied with the by-laws as we worked to get them done.

The work that we do would not have been possible without the various committees continuing to perform their responsibilities using Zoom and taking risk to register voters, educate voters, and steadily trying to make our communities and environment a fair and equitable place to live and work.

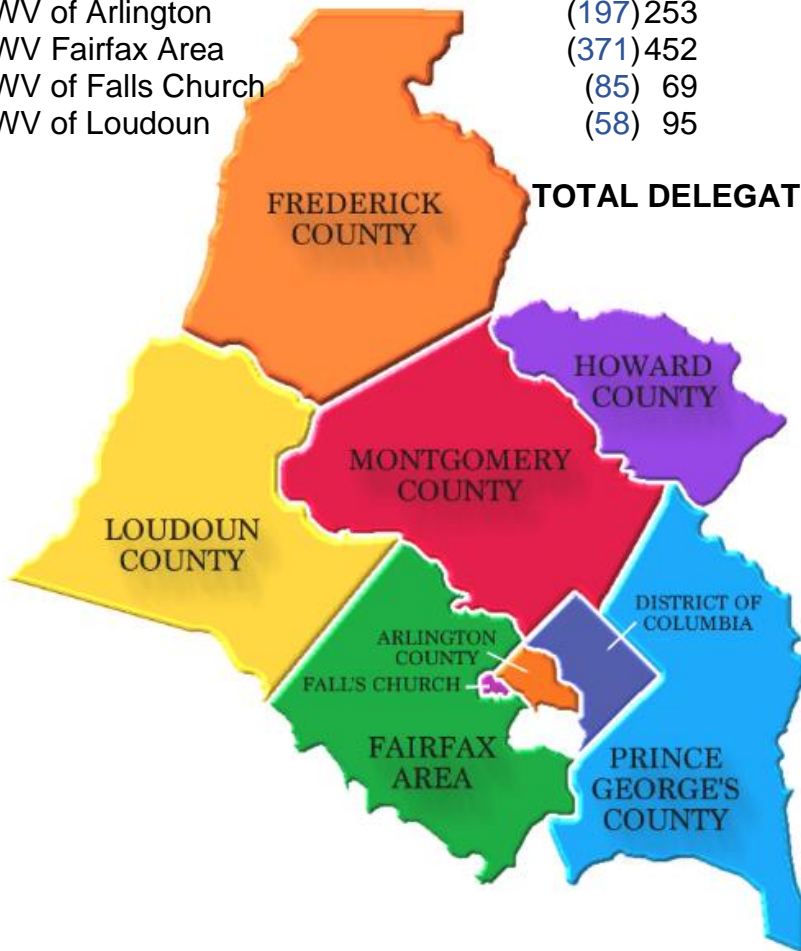
We continue to be proud of Washington, DC for continuing to keep the fight for Statehood, "Give the People what they want".

We submit this report by again thanking each LWVNCA member and board members for making your contribution in supporting making democracy work.

Joyce Starks and Linda Softli

LWVNCA Member Leagues

LWV	Membership	Delegate Allowance
<i>(NOTE: number in blue indicates 2020 membership)</i>		
LWV of the District of Columbia	(153) 250	5
LWV of Maryland		1
LWV of Howard County	(122) 121	4
LWV of Montgomery County	(475) 544	8
LWV of Prince Georges	(45) 50	3
LWV of Frederick County	(112) 100	4
LWV of Virginia		1
LWV of Arlington	(197) 253	5
LWV Fairfax Area	(371) 452	7
LWV of Falls Church	(85) 69	3
LWV of Loudoun	(58) 95	3
TOTAL DELEGATES		44



Proposed Rules of the 2021 LWFVCA Convention

A. The following rules are prescribed by the LWFVCA bylaws:

1. Proceedings will be guided by the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, unless the LWFVCA bylaws prescribe otherwise. (**Article X**)
2. Voting privileges are limited to delegates from member Leagues (local and state) in good standing and LWFVCA Board members. (**Article VII, Section 2**)
3. Nominations for elected positions may be made from the floor, provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained. (**Article VIII, Section 3**)
4. Program adoption: **Article VII, Convention, Section 6.**
Powers. The Convention shall: C. In odd-numbered years consider and adopt a two-year Program; and

Article IX. Program, Section 3.:

Convention Action. The Convention shall adopt a two-year Program using the following procedures:

- a. In odd-numbered years, Member League Boards may make recommendations for Program to the LWFVCA Board by February 15.
- b. The Board shall consider the recommendations and shall formulate a Proposed Program, which shall be submitted to the member Leagues by March 15, together with a list of all non-recommended items suggested by the member Leagues.
- c. A majority vote shall be required for the adoption of the Program proposed by the Board.
- d. Any recommendation for the Program submitted to the Board by February 15, but not proposed by the Board, may be adopted at the Convention provided consideration is ordered by a majority vote and the proposal receives a two-thirds vote for adoption.

B. The following proposed rules are subject to approval by a majority vote of the Convention. Delegates may elect to amend these proposals or introduce others.

1. Floor privileges

- a. All League members shall have the right to speak.
- b. At in person meetings, a member wishing to address the Convention shall stand (as they are able). Zoom meetings: Members will use the Zoom "raise hand feature" to request recognition. The chair will do her best recognize people in order. When recognized by the chair, a member shall state her/his name and member-League affiliation.
- c. Debate will be limited to two minutes per speaker unless otherwise specified.

2. **Motions.** Only delegates and LWVNCA Board members can make motions. All motions of substance shall be entered in the Chat Box. At in person meetings, Motion forms are available at the registration table.

3. **Minutes.** The Secretary will draft the Convention minutes, clear them with a reading committee appointed at the convention and submit the resulting version to the LWVNCA Board for approval.

4. **Directions to the Board.** Directions should be sent to the co-presidents in advance of the meeting. At the meeting, they can be submitted by writing them in the Chat Box.

League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area 2020 Annual Convention Minutes (convened on Zoom)

The meeting was called to order at: 10:08 am.

Introduction to Zoom Etiquette: Elaine Apter, *Meeting Host*, reviewed the following features of Zoom:

Mute, unmute, camera, chat box, voting, raising your hand and how to access these features.

Welcome: Joyce Starks, *Co-President*, reminded everyone that they are being recorded. She thanked all 60 people for participating in the 2020 LWVNCA Annual Convention. She said she regrets that we aren't enjoying the wonderful breakfast that Diane Hibino had arranged for, but said that we will feed off of good health. She started with silent prayer and hoped we would consider praying for a large voter turnout at our upcoming election, a better tomorrow, and for the health and safety of our members, their friends, and families.

Roll Call of Member Leagues and Credentials: Nancy Soreng, *Secretary*. She called the roll of the NCA Leagues and their delegates. Every member League was represented and 33 Delegates in addition to six Board members (not serving as delegates) were present thus more than meeting the quorum of 25 voting members.

Adoption of Order of Business: Starks called for a motion to adopt the Order of Business. It was moved by Anna Kinney, *Loudoun County*, and seconded. The motion passed with 27 yeas and no nays. The motion carried.

Adoption of Convention Rules: Joan Porte, *Arlington County and Parliamentarian*, read the Rules of the Convention as presented in the Convention Workbook. She

moved that the Rules be accepted. The motion was seconded and adopted by a majority of the members present.

Minutes of 2019 Convention: These minutes were previously approved by the LWVNCA Board and were in the workbook for information only.

Appointment of a Reading Committee: Starks appointed Carole Conors, *Howard County*, Geraldine Whitley, *District of Columbia*, Kathy Matusiak, *Arlington*, and Barbara Lipsky, *Falls Church*, to review the convention minutes before presentation to the LWVNCA Board for approval.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Thomas, *Treasurer*, presented the Treasurer's report. He suggested that we ignore the budget line as that budget was approved a year ago and at that time, we did not anticipate the Corona Virus. Our annual cumulative income includes approximately \$950 and an anticipated \$1,400 in dues which brings our total anticipated income for the fiscal year to approximately \$2,300. Our total expenses are \$2,714 which exceeded income by about \$400 but we have plenty in reserves to cover that. We have nearly \$8,000 in the checking account. Thomas stated that in his two years serving as Treasurer, LWVNCA has not needed to dip into reserves. He pointed out, however, that with the cancellation of the LWVUS Convention, we won't be receiving the \$25,000 in anticipated revenue from the Capitol Steps which should have come in this fiscal year. He said that issue would be further discussed in the Budget Committee Report. He called for questions. There were none.

Presentation, Discussion & Approval of Proposed FY 2020-21 LWVNCA Budget: Sherry Zachry, *Fairfax Area and Budget Chair*, presented the proposed budget. She called for questions before she began her presentation. The By-Laws require that a budget be presented to the Board 2 months before the Annual Meeting, which was accomplished close to that requirement. This budget does not take into account any income from the Capitol Steps performance because that would have taken place in the current fiscal year. However, those funds would have been available to fund the 2020-21 budget. The proposed budget does show a proposed expense of \$7,500 which would have been distribution to the Local Leagues because LWVNCA shares Capitol Steps revenue with the member Leagues. That revenue sharing will not take place. The proposed budget shows actual projected income for the 2020-2021 fiscal year of \$5,971 not including any transfers. The proposed budget projects expenses of \$16,600. However, from that expense line \$7,500 should be subtracted which was the share of Capitol Steps income that would have been shared with local Leagues. That means if we spend the full projected amount, we will have to make up a \$5,000 shortfall due to the lack of Capitol Steps income in this fiscal year.

We have been advised that LWVUS may assist in making up some of the short-fall. In addition, the Board has the discretion to adjust the income and expenses as necessary as the financial picture becomes clearer. In the upcoming year, our largest expense is the reception for the incoming LWVUS Board which is \$2,500. That could be a wash if

we charge more, or we could decide not to host the reception. She also pointed out that even if we don't make up the income shortfall, or reduce the expenses, we have plenty of reserves to cover the budget. The bottom line is that we aren't bankrupt, we won't be bankrupt and the incoming Board has the discretion to make adjustments to this budget as necessary.

Thomas pointed out that we have a \$700 deposit with the Beacon Hotel that was made for the 2020 LWVNCA Convention, which we are holding today via Zoom. That deposit will cover part of the expense in the proposed budget for the LWVUS Reception.

Kathy McGuire, *Montgomery County*, pointed out the Capitol Steps usually funds more than one year of income, so this will have an impact for more than just next fiscal year. Thus, we may have to do a fundraiser every year instead of every 4 years.

Zachry moved that the Budget be adopted as presented. The motion was seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried 40 to 0.

By-laws Committee Report: Conors, a member of the By-Laws Committee, reported for Sue Lewis *LWV-VA and By-law Committee Chair*, who was not able to attend the Convention. The committee consisted of Lewis, Luella Mast, *Montgomery County*, Nancy Bliss, *Montgomery County*, and Conors. Conors reported that their committee met by phone and had a good meeting. She encouraged others to join a future By-Laws Committee because it is a joyful thing to do. Despite the fact that they reviewed the entire by-laws, they only found one change they felt was warranted. That change would be to change the specific number of voting delegates (25) to constitute a quorum to a percentage.

Conors reported that the By-Laws Committee recommends that attendance of 10% of the possible voting delegates would constitute a quorum. Mary Beth Coker moved the recommendation of the By-Laws Committee. The motion was seconded. Discussion followed.

Joan Siegel was concerned that 10% was such a small number and asked why it was set so small. Conors replied that the concern was that it might be difficult to make a quorum under the current rules, and that other organizations use a percentage instead of a fixed number. Matusiak pointed out that the workbook states that currently a percentage is required for a quorum. Soreng noted that there was an error in the Convention Workbook. The bracketed section in the 2020 Convention Workbook should have said [*Twenty-five (25)*] not: [*Twenty-five percent (25%)*].

Siegel asked that at today's meeting, what number would be 10% of the qualified voters? For this convention, member Leagues could send a total of 40 delegates. Therefore, 10% or 4 would constitute a quorum. That does not include the 9 Board members who are also considered voting delegates. Gretchen Blankenship and a number of other participants concurred that the number is too small.

Soreng said that our options were to vote down this recommendation by the By-Law Committee or vote to approve it. If the proposal is voted down, a future By-law Committee could make a new recommendation. McGuire provided some history behind the reason why there was interest in a percentage instead of a firm number. Basically, there was concern that if our membership decreases it would be difficult to get a quorum. Geraldine Whitley concurred with Joan Porte that Robert Rules suggests using a number rather than a percentage to determine a quorum.

Soreng posted in the Chat the following as the current wording of the LWVNCA By-Laws: *The current by-laws state: Section 7. Quorum. Twenty-five (25) delegates shall constitute a quorum.*

NOTE: Subsequent to the meeting Soreng reviewed the 2018 Convention Workbook and the minutes from the 2018 Convention that were in the 2019 Convention Workbook and discovered that her copy of the By-Laws that she posted during the meeting was not accurate. It should have said (as Conors reported during the meeting) **Article VII, Section 7.** *Twenty-five (25) MEMBERS WITH the authority to vote as defined in Article VII, Section 3, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of Convention business, provided that there is representation from a majority of the member Leagues, including two (2) Leagues from Maryland, two (2) Leagues from Virginia, and the League of the District of Columbia.*

The motion to amend the by-laws failed with 31 nay votes and 7 yea votes.

Program Committee Report: Diane Hibino, *Montgomery County, Program Chair*, reported that LWVNCA had hosted two events that were both held at the Cleveland Park Library. In August there was a workshop for members called “Creating Strong Leagues: A Leadership-Membership Workshop”. Presentations focused on Fundraising and Diversity as keys to strong Leagues. In March, they held a forum titled “Election 2020: Challenges Ahead” with two panels. Dr Susan Moeller of the Philip Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland, lead an excellent discussion on how to be a good evaluator of news and news sources. The second panel discussed policies, practices and laws that impact the right to vote in the NCA region and nationally.

Nominating Committee Report & Election of Officers: Priscilla Godfrey, *Loudoun County and Committee Chair*, reported that they worked from December until February. Their task was to fill one director position, secure three new candidates for the nominating committee - chairman, two elected nominating committee positions and ask the current Treasurer and Vice President to continue in their roles for another two years (2020-2022). The term for then nominating committee is a one-year obligation from 2020-2021. They were able to keep the LWVNCA Board balanced with representation from Maryland, D.C. and Virginia. Godfrey thanked the Nominating Committee:

Geraldine Whitley, Betty Mayfield, Andrea Gruhl and Deborah Mitchell for a job well done.

Godfrey asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none she moved the following slate as proposed by the nominating committee. The motion carried unanimously.

OFFICERS 2020-2022

Vice-President

Kathy Matusiak, LWV Arlington

Treasurer

Bill Thomas, LWV Fairfax Area

DIRECTORS 2020-2022

Kathy Chiron

LWV Washington DC

ELECTED NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2020-2021

Elaine Apter, Chair LWV of Montgomery County

Geraldine Whitley LWV Voters of Washington DC

Sonia Ballinger LWV Voters of Loudoun County

Co-President's Report – Starks thanked the Annual Convention Committee and thanked all of the members and delegates for their participation and work. She expressed appreciation for all of the participation of members as they have adapted to meeting via Zoom instead of in person during this pandemic. She was impressed by the number of people who joined the meeting today. She was also impressed by all of the work that the member leagues did to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Women's suffrage and the League of Women Voters. Starks thanked the Liaisons for sharing information about the activities, accomplishments and plans of their member Leagues. She said that the members of those Leagues should be pleased that the LWVNCA Board has been informed about their many endeavors. On behalf of Linda and herself, Starks thanked the Program Committee, the President's Luncheon Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Budget Committee and the By-Laws Committee for the great work they have done. She gave a special thank you to Zachry for the great work she did to transfer LWVNCA to a new web platform and for keeping our website up to date. Starks also thanked Deborah Mitchell who serves on the Web-site Committee. She also thanked those who arranged the logistics for the Zoom meeting.

She said the Co-Presidents look forward to an even bigger and better year next year.

New Business

Announcements Starks called for announcements.

2021 LWVNCA Annual Convention

- Zachry volunteered to be on the By-Laws Committee for next year. She also thanked Starks for her nice remarks and reminded people to let her know if they want anything posted on the web-site.
- McGuire announced that Virginia Kase, Chief Executive Officer of LWVUS, is speaking today at the 2020 Law Day at the City Club.
- Anu Sahai, *Fairfax*, shared that they were approached by a corporation called Mitre, to do a project called Squint which is about addressing the false election information that will likely appear on the internet. The theme is “See Something, Say Something.” Mitre would love to collaborate with all the Leagues in the area and all over the US. The project is a platform for people to report suspicious election information on social media.
- Lois Hybl, *LWVMD*, announced that Saturday June 6th LWVMD will hold their State Council. There will be two workshops: Getting out the Vote and How to Combat On-Line Election Mis-Information. The key-note speaker will be Carolyn Jefferson Jenkins, former president of LWVUS who will speak about her book, *The Unknown Story of the League of Women Voters and Women of Color*.
- Porte reported that LWV-VA will have their Council on June 6th. They will have breakout sessions on Ranked Choice Voting, the National Popular Vote and Constitutional Amendments that the ACLU is pushing regarding voting.
- Starks reported that the LWVNCA Board meeting will be June 5th, probably by Zoom. She also asked everyone to encourage all of their contacts to vote and to vote by mail.
- Godfrey expressed concern about how the virus will impact census participation. She asked us all to use our networks to get the word out about important census information is and to take 10 minutes to fill out the forms on-line or in paper.

Direction to the Board Godfrey asked the Board to keep up the good work.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 am

LWVNCA BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT FOR PROPOSED LWVNCA FY2021-2022 BUDGET

The LWVNCA FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget shows total expected funding and expenditures of \$9,650 as compared to \$3,550 in FY2020-2021. The LWVNCA will hold per-member-payment (PMP) steady at \$1.10 per primary member and \$0.55 for additional household members. The Budget Committee projects \$1,788 in PMP income. This is an increase of \$307 from this year's PMP, reflecting significant growth in membership from February 2020 to February 2021, which is notable in a pandemic year.

In planning for FY2021-22, the Budget Committee assumed that we would be able to resume live events by this Fall. Therefore, we have included funds to support the Presidents' Luncheon in the Fall, the LWVUS Board Reception in the Winter, and the Annual Convention in May 2022. All those events require a registration fee or other payment, and total event revenue of \$4,280 is included in income. Total expenses for the three events are estimated at \$5,800, so we will be drawing on our reserves for approximately \$1,500. We also assumed that the LWVUS would hold an in-person Convention in June of 2022 and included \$1,200 to send a representative (typically the President or Co-Presidents) to that meeting.

In 2019, LWVNCA decided to eliminate workshop fees so we could use the free version of Eventbrite for registration. Workshop expenses are paid by the LWVNCA from general revenues. We suggest that donations be collected at the workshops to defray costs.

It should be noted that the Proposed Budget also reflects some carryover income and expenses from FY2020-2021. For instance, we still have a credit with the Beacon Hotel for \$775 as a deposit toward the 2020 Annual Convention, which was made virtual. We also will carry over \$400 from this year's budget for the Madeleine Naumann Award, which will now be presented in 2022. We draw some \$3,372 from reserves to balance revenues and expenditures, approximately the amount we saved this year by cancelling some events and making others virtual.

The LWVNCA Board expresses its thanks to the FY2021-2022 Budget Committee: Kathy Matusiak, chair, and members Sherry Zachry and Kathy Chiron. William Thomas, Treasurer, was the Ex Officio member.

LWVNCA Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

I.	INCOME	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Budget		2021-22 Proposed	Notes
A.	Per Member Payments (PMP)	1,634	1,481		1,788	PMP for 2021-22 reflects 1527 primary members @\$1.10 and 197 household mem. @\$0.55
B.	President's Luncheon	480	0	*	1,788	16 board members contributing \$30 each
C.	Annual Convention	0	0	*	2,000	50 attendees @\$40 each
D.	LWVUS Reception	0	0	*	1,800	Every other year - 2022 45 attendees @\$40
E.	Fundraiser	0	5,067	*	0	Contribution from LWVUS
F.	Workshop Income	237	0		0	
G.	Interest	0	10		10	
H.	Contributions	0	200		200	
I.	Other Income	0	0		0	
J.	Total Income	2,351	6,758		6,278	
K.	Transfer in (+) Out (-) from checking	624	-3,208		3,372	+indicates a reduction in checkbook balance, while - indicates an increase
L.	Total income and transfers	2,975	3,550		9,650	
II.	EXPENSES					
A.	Operating Costs					
1	Office Supplies	0	350		250	Includes archiving and Nauman Award costs
2	Website	442	450		450	LWVC MyLO platform and related expense
3	Zoom Expense				150	
	Subtotal- Operating	442	800		850	
B.	Board/Administration					
1	President's Allowance	0	100		100	Expenses of President
2	Board Expenses	0	100		100	Other Board cost, n.e.c.
3	Member Directory	71	100		100	Printing cost
4	Presidents' Luncheon	712	550		550	
5	Workshop Expense	443	800		900	Assumes 2 workshops
6	LWVUS Board Recept.	0	0	*	2,500	
	Subtotal- Board/Admin.	1,225	1,650		4,250	

2021 LWVNCA Annual Convention

	EXPENSES (cont'd)	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Budget		2021-22 Proposed	Notes
C.	Convention/Council					
1	Local and State Meetings	0	500	?	500	Registration and incidental expenses of Pres. or other LWVNCA representative
2	LWVUS Council/Convention	0	200	?	1,200	
3	LWVNA Annual Convention	775	0	*	2,750	
	Subtotal Conventions/Council	775	700		4,450	
D.	Other Expenses					
1	Madeline Naumann Award	0	400	*	0	Every other FY-next in FY21-award only. Expenses of award come in II.A. Operating Cost
2	Fundraiser Expense and Revenue Sharing	0	0	*	0	Local League Revenue Sharing form Fundraiser
3	100th Anniversary Events	0	0	*	0	Allowance for participation in commemorative local events
4	Miscellaneous Expense	272	0		100	
	Subtotal – Other Exp.	272	400		100	
E.	Total – Expenses	2,215	3,550		9,650	
<p>* NOTE: Budget income/expense for 2020-21 adjusted for COVID-related cancellations or virtualizations. ? NOTE: Refers to events in May and June that may or may not be cancelled or held online.</p>						



LWFNCA RECOMMENDED PROGRAM FOR 2021-2023

Member Leagues were solicited both in January and again in February for their opinions on Program planning topics of interest for LWFNCA Program 2021-23. Based on their feedback, the LWFNCA Board of Directors makes the following recommendations for adopted LWFNCA Program 2021-2023.

I. NEW REGIONAL STUDIES:

None

II. RETAIN ALL CURRENT POSITIONS

All current positions are published on LWFNCA website, www.lwfnca.org and were re-adopted in May 2019. The Board recognizes that many are dated. See III.

III. REVIEW / UPDATE LWFNCA POSITIONS:

LWFNCA Board proposes forming a committee that will review all of the positions to see which need to be updated in order to facilitate member League advocacy. They will report their results prior to next year's [2022] convention. (Note: Editorial wording can be accomplished by the board, but any changes to wording would need to go through the restudy process culminating in consensus or concurrence and board approval as outlined in the bylaws, Article IX Program).

Notes on positions most often mentioned as needing review are:

1. Comprehensive Health Planning- see chart below
2. Controlled Substances position should be retained but not updated because laws on controlled substances have been passed by VA, MD and DC and regional policy action is not relevant.
3. Other updates as committee sees fit.

Comprehensive Health Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update & include emergency health preparedness, i.e. COVID and sharing of supplies/resources such as a central processing center for the Washington Metropolitan Area to locate a hospital bed for trauma, pandemic, etc.• Item 1c should be modified to emphasize health education and information services will be crucial so that minority populations that may be reluctant to accept vaccination due to past medical abuses.
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IV. RECOMMENDED FOR CONCERTED LWVNCA ACTION

Transportation	Continue to promote equal access and full funding for Metro, especially in light of the current budget situation,
DC Statehood	Continued Support for DC Statehood

V. NOT-RECOMMENDED ITEMS

The following topics were suggested by member Leagues, but are **not recommended** for regional study, update or action. They could be considered by the LWVNCA board as a Workshop topic, if appropriate for **regional** education.

- D.C. Financing
- REGIONAL Voting Rights Issues
- Civic Education in High Schools
- Police coordination across overlapping jurisdictions



Report of 2021 LWVNCA Bylaws Committee

The 2021 Bylaws Committee proposes the following changes to the LWVNCA Bylaws which were last amended May 2018:

- accommodate elected Co-Presidents instead of one president;
- allow all meetings to be conducted “electronically” and/or “virtually”;
- rephrase Article IX. Program to add clarity;
- reduce deadlines—expressed in days—for items due before convention.
- We did not change the number for quorum at convention

Following is a truncated version of the affected text. The longer version is a PDF file on the LWVNC Website that you can access by clicking [here](#).

*Respectfully submitted, 2021 Bylaws Committee:
Carole Conors, Joan Siegel, Linda Softli, & Sherry Zachry [chair]*

KEY: CAPITAL LETTERS = proposed changes; ~~strike through~~ = Deletions
Underlines and **bolding** are specific to the format.

Article IV, Officers

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The officers of LWVNCA shall be a President, OR CO-PRESIDENTS, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. . .

Section 2. The President OR CO-PRESIDENTS. The President OR CO-PRESIDENTS shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors (hereinafter, the Board) unless the President (OR CO-PRESIDENT) designates someone else to preside. . . *Add “CO-PRESIDENTS” throughout section.*

Section 3. The Vice President. The Vice President shall, in the event of the absence of the President, OR BOTH CO-PRESIDENTS. . . shall perform such other duties as the President OR CO-PRESIDENTS, and THAT THE Board may designate.

Section 4. The Secretary. . . . The Secretary shall provide the President OR CO-PRESIDENTS. . . The Secretary shall sign, with the President OR CO-PRESIDENTS. . .

Section 5. The Treasurer. . . . custodian of these moneys AND shall deposit them. . . .
~~[and]~~ ALSO THE TREASURER shall disburse THE FUNDS ~~[them]~~ in line with the budget adopted by the delegates. . . property shall be signed BY THE TREASURER AND ONE of the following officers: President, CO-PRESIDENT, OR Vice President ~~[and Treasurer]~~

Article V, Board of Directors

Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection, and Term of Office. The Board shall consist of the ELECTED officers of the ~~[League]~~ LWVNCA . . . Two directors [OF THE FOUR DIRECTORS] shall be elected at each annual Convention for a two-year term. . . . The board shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding four . . . The terms of office of the appointed directors shall expire at the conclusion of the next fiscal year, I.E. ONE YEAR TERMS FOR APPOINTED DIRECTORS.

Section 3. Vacancies.

A. In the event of resignation, disability, or death of the President, OR ONE OF THE CO-PRESIDENTS, THE REMAINING CO-PRESIDENT SHALL BE NAMED "PRESIDENT" AUTOMATICALLY UNTIL THE NEXT CONVENTION. IN THE EVENT OF THE RESIGNATION, DISABILITY OR DEATH OF THE REMAINING CO-PRESIDENT WHO HAS BEEN ELEVATED TO PRESIDENT, the Vice President shall become President. . .

Section 4. Powers and Duties. The Board shall:

A. Have full charge. . . subject to the instructions of the Convention AND THESE BYLAWS;

Section 5. Regular Meetings.

. . . The president AND VICE PRESIDENT, OR CO-PRESIDENTS, shall determine if a board meeting needs to SHALL be conducted by electronic means, I.E. NOT PHYSICALLY IN PERSON. such as telephone conference call, video conferencing or email. ~~[due to unusual circumstances such as inclement weather conditions or the need for a meeting]~~ Minutes of ALL IN-PERSON AND ELECTRONIC MEETINGS shall be recorded by the secretary or a designee.

Section 6. Special BOARD Meetings. The President OR CO-PRESIDENTS may call special OR EMERGENCY meetings of the Board. . . may be conducted by electronic means. ~~[such as telephone conference call, video conferencing or e-mail. The use of electronic meetings shall be reserved for those issues needing a decision before an in-person meeting is scheduled].~~ MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETINGS SHALL BE RECORDED.

Article VI, Financial Administration

Section 2. Budget. The Board shall submit to the Convention for adoption a budget. . . A copy of the proposed budget shall be sent to each member-League President at least THIRTY (30) DAYS ~~two months~~ before Convention. . . shall contribute to LWVNCA each year A PER MEMBER PAYMENT (PMP) IN AN AMOUNT determined by each convention.

Article VII, Convention

Section 1. Place, Date, and Call. An LWVNCA convention shall be held annually . . . the date of the Convention at least ~~three months~~ NINETY (90) DAYS in advance. A CONVENTION, OR SPECIAL MEETING, MAY BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY BY ELECTRONIC METHODS.

Section 2. Composition. . . . consist of LWVNCA board members. . . and Member-at-Large (MAL) Units ~~(MAL)~~ as follows. . .

Section 3. Delegate Qualifications and Voting. . . . Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted BUT A DELEGATE MAY VOTE VIRTUALLY IF CONVENTION IS HELD ELECTRONICALLY.

Section 4. Representation of Local Member Leagues. . . . thereafter one additional delegate shall be authorized for each additional 100 voting members as OF THE ~~[determined]~~ CURRENT YEAR ~~[as of the]~~ reporting date ~~[required]~~ SET by LWVUS.

Section 6. Powers. The Convention shall:

A. Elect officers and directors . . . and a Nominating Committee THAT SHALL SERVE FOR ONE YEAR;

C. In odd-numbered years consider and adopt a two-year Program, AS OUTLINED IN ARTICLE IX, and in even-numbered years consider Program CHANGES AND development;

Section 7. Quorum - *no change* [Twenty-five (25) members . . .]

Article VIII, Nominations and Elections

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

. . . shall be sent to member Leagues ~~two months~~ THIRTY (30) DAYS before the date of the Convention.

Article IX, Program. *[replace current Sections 1 & 2 with following:]*

Section 1. Principles. THE LWVUS PRINCIPLES ARE CONCEPTS OF GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED BY THE LEAGUE AND ARE THE AUTHORIZATION FOR ADOPTION OF NATIONAL, REGIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL PROGRAM.

Section 2. Program. The LWVNCA Program shall consist of

- A. ACTION TO IMPLEMENT THE PRINCIPLES, AND
- B. THOSE METROPOLITAN, REGIONAL, AND INTER-JURISDICTIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ISSUES CHOSEN EVERY TWO YEARS BY THE CONVENTION FOR CONCERTED STUDY OR CONCURRENCE AND ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 3. Convention Action PROCEDURE FOR LWVNCA PROGRAM ADOPTION IN ODD-NUMBERED YEARS. The Convention shall CONSIDER and adopt a two-year Program using the following procedures:

A. In odd-numbered years, Member League Boards may make recommendations to the LWVNCA Board by ~~February 15~~ AT LEAST SIXTY (60) DAYS BEFORE CONVENTION.

B. The Board shall . . . formulate a Proposed Program, I.E. RECOMMENDED PROGRAM, which shall be submitted to the member Leagues NO LATER THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS BEFORE CONVENTION by ~~March 15~~, together with a list of all ~~non~~-NOT-recommended items suggested by the member Leagues.

C. A majority vote shall be required for the adoption of the TWO-YEAR Program proposed by the Board.

D. Any recommendation . . . submitted to the Board AT LEAST SIXTY (60) DAYS BEFORE CONVENTION by ~~February 15~~, but not proposed by the Board . . . may be adopted at the Convention provided consideration is ordered by a majority vote and the proposal receives a **two-thirds vote** for adoption AT CONVENTION.

E. ALL LWVNCA POSITIONS SHALL BE READOPTED AS PART OF THE TWO-YEAR PROGRAM.

Section 4. Changes in Program IN EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS.

A. In the event of altered conditions, changes in THE ADOPTED Program may be made during the Convention that is held in even-numbered years or at special meetings OF THE MEMBERSHIP. Provisions for special meetings shall be in accord with Article VII, [CONVENTION] and notification of any proposed Program changes

shall be sent to all member Leagues at least ~~SIXTY (60)~~ THIRTY (30) days prior to the meeting or special meeting.

B. CONSIDER PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT IN EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS.

Section 7. LWVNCA Action. Responsibility for Program . . . and action rests with the LWVNCA Board. ANY action. . .

Article XI, Amendments

A. Proposals for change . . . to the LWVNCA BOARD ~~by February 15~~ AT LEAST SIXTY (60) DAYS BEFORE CONVENTION.

B. All such proposed amendments together with the recommendations of the LWVNCA Board shall be sent to member-League presidents at least ~~two months~~ THIRTY (30) DAYS before Convention. . . .



LWVNCA Nominating Committee Report for 2021 Convention

The 2021 LWVNCA Nominating Committee submits the following candidates for election at the May 1, 2021 Annual Convention as the LWVNCA Officers & Directors for 2021-23 and as the Nominating Committee for 2021-22.

OFFICERS

Joyce Starks– Co-President – LWV Prince George's County (LWVPGC)
Linda Softli – Co-President – LWV District of Columbia (LWVDC)
Sonia Ballinger – Secretary – LWV Loudoun County (LWVLC)

DIRECTORS

Carole Conors – Director – LWV Howard County (LWVHC)
Andrea Gruhl – Director – LWV Howard County *
Edna Miller – Director – LWV Montgomery County (LWVMC)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE for 2021-22

Kathy McGuire – Chair, LWVMC
Geraldine Whitley- LWVDC
Sherry Zachry – LWV Fairfax Area (LWVFA)

Respectfully submitted,

LWVNCA 2021 Nominating Committee

Elaine Apter, Chair

Members:

Sonia Ballinger

Sarah Matthews

Debora Wake

Geraldine Whitley

*Nominee withdrew after Nominating Committee Report was submitted.

Proposed LWVNCA Officers & Board of Directors 2021-2023

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents:

Linda Softli (2021-23)
202-667-8210 (h) 202-437-4858 (c)
lindaesoftli@gmail.com
1930 Columbia Road, NW # 302
Washington, DC 20009

Joyce Starks (2021-23)
301-943-5238
joycestarks@aol.com
5603 Emack Ave
Lanham, MD 20706

Vice-President

Kathy Matusiak (2020-2022)
703-979-7665
kmatusiak@comcast.net
29 South Abingdon Street
Arlington, VA 22201

Secretary

Sonia Ballinger (2021-2023)
703-869-1787
Sonia.lwvlc@gmail.com
5 Pheasant Run Court
Sterling, VA 20164

Treasurer

Bill Thomas (2020-2022)
571-291-3206 (h) 703-606-2397 (c)
Billthomas4@gmail.com
19365 Cypress Ridge Terrace
Unit 301
Leesburg, VA 20176-8432

*withdrawn

DIRECTORS

Kathy Chiron (2020-2022)
202-375-8677 (c)
kathy.chiron@gmail.com
2853 Ontario Road NW #119
Washington DC 20009

Andrea Gruhl (2021-23) *
301-695-5261
sarahfkm@yahoo.com
5005 Bob White Court
Frederick, MD 21703

Edna Miller (2021-23)
301-461-2843
edna13miller@gmail.com
19317 Club House Road, Unit 104
Montgomery Village, MD 20886

Carole Conors (2021-23)
443-794-4678 (h) 443-794-4678 (c)
caroleconors@verizon.net
4245 Bright Bay Way
Ellicott City, MD 21042

OFF BOARD Nominating Committee (2021-22)

Kathy McGuire, Chair
301-213-6381 (c)
kathyandcats@gmail.com
4611 Roxbury Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

Geraldine Whitley
202-882-6480
jacksonwhitley@aol.com
339 Randolph Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011

Sherry Zachry
703-730-8118 (h) 703-371-6374 (c)
szachry@verizon.net
5757 White Flint Court
Manassas, VA 20112-3059

A Liaison to LWVNCA from each member League is appointed by their respective League and they become members of this board. The LWVNCA board will appoint 2 more members to the Nominating Committee.

Profiles of 2021-2023 Nominees

OFFICERS

Linda Softli LWV District of Columbia, Co- President



Linda has been a member of the LWVDC for 40 years and a member of the LWVNCA for four years, serving first as a Director, and then as Co-President for the last two years. At LWVDC, she has served on numerous Committees which include Health, Education, Development and Housing Committees as well as Chair of Voter Services which includes the Naturalization Ceremonies, Voter Registration, Private Elections, Returning Citizens and the Centennial Committee. She is currently serving her second year as Second Vice President and previously served as Third Vice President of the DC League. Linda spent three years working in the LWVDC Office assisting Sheila Willard the

deceased Office Manager of many years.

Joyce Starks, LWV Prince George's County, MD, Co-President



Joyce would like to serve as one of the Co-Presidents for the League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area (NCA). She feels qualified to serve in this role having served as Co-President of the LWVNCA for two years, and as President and Co-President for the League of Women Voters of Prince Georges County for several years. She currently serves as the Treasurer for LWVPGC. Also, she has served on the NCA board for several years representing the League of Women Voters of Prince Georges County. While on the NCA board, Joyce served on the nominating committee as well as chairing it. She brings passion and vision to get the work of the League done. She strongly believes in this organization and is willing to invest the time to

ensure that NCA continues to thrive in a very productive manner. The past Presidents of NCA were very successful and Joyce plans to utilize their skills to continue the success of LWVNCA.

Her professional work experience at the National Institutes of Health allowed Joyce the opportunity to work in several positions as supervisor: to include financial analyst, management analyst, and administrative officer. Her undergraduate degree and attending graduate school also prepared Joyce for a leadership role.

Sonia Ballinger, LWV Loudoun County, Secretary



I joined the League in 2017 and have been active ever since joining. As a young girl, I always admired what the League stood for and the women that led the organization. Since COVID-19, a lot has changed, especially the call to make masks - I pulled out my sewing machine and made 900 masks that were delivered to the Navajo Nation during March thru June. I then assisted with Sew4Humanity operations in Prince William and Fauquier Counties, which delivered 40,000 masks primarily to 26 Title 1 schools as well as other facilities. I co-lead Lasagna Love in Loudoun County. Lasagna Love began in May 2020 during the pandemic making Lasagna for those in need. I have recently started volunteering with the Home Delivered Meals Program in Loudoun County. I led cookies for caregivers in the Northern Virginia area. We deliver cookies to our front-line workers. I believe in volunteerism: "The more we give, the more we will receive." Doing something good for someone else boosts my happiness.

DIRECTORS

Carole Conors, LWV Howard County, MD



Carole Conors has enjoyed League of Women Voters membership over many decades and has had several meaningful work and leadership opportunities during the years, among them as Head of Delegation, United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Conference of Parties 15, Copenhagen, the role of founding local Leagues in Maryland, chairing the LWVUS Lobby Corps for ten years and serving on it for 26 to date, advocating and testifying at the local level as local League president for our League, member studied and adopted positions as opportunities arose, acquainting young people with the workings of their government and enabling them to participate therein.

The League's opportunity to provide intimate and specific knowledge of and understanding of legislation at all levels has been Carole's great treasure in League membership and continues to be as she looks forward to pressing ahead with the League's goals. LWVNCA, to Carole, is a splendid and enjoyable means of broadening inspiration as she learns from League peers. Carole hopes to contribute to LWVNCA with whatever service she can provide.

Edna Miller, LWV Montgomery County, MD



Ms. Miller was born in Stamford Connecticut and graduated from the School of Visual Arts in NYC. She lived in Queens. Her talents led to being employed in General Telephone and Electronics Corporation-Stamford in the Art Department where she was Corporate Illustrator and Document Control Coordinator. Her other occupations include Norwalk based Realtor and Buyer's Broker with ad Connecticut License. The real estate crash let to a career in retail where she sold children's shoes in Darien, CT and then Bethesda, MD. She became an assistant store manager of adult should sales and then retired.

Edna has served on many Boards of Directors and Committees which taught her time management, budget preparation and analysis. In Stamford she was active in the League of Women Voters and the Jaycee Women of Stamford. In Norwalk she was appointed as a Historic Commissioner on the Norwalk Historical Commission which oversaw 11 city-owned historic properties. She is currently a member of the LWV Montgomery County Transportation & Agriculture Committees. Edna was elected to her Condo Association serving on BOD for five years and volunteered on Montgomery Village Foundation Committees: Transportation, Historic Book and Communications Committees."

Her passion is to encourage and raise environmental awareness along with economical and efficient transit development in the Mid-Atlantic region.

OFF BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Kathy McGuire, LWV Montgomery County Chair



I joined the League in Montgomery County in 2002 and am currently serving as their Co-President (2019). In the county League I have been on numerous committees and headed up fundraising events. I was very honored to receive the League's Lavinia Engle Award in the Fall of 2018.

From 2015 to 2019, I served as the President of the LWV National Capital Area. Before serving as LWVNCA president I was the Liaison Representative from the Montgomery County League, an LWVNCA Director and served on the Program Committee. I value the work LWVNCA does to bring the local Leagues together to advocate for common positions and to support the work of each league.

In my professional life before the League, I worked in Montgomery County Public Schools as a teacher, elementary counselor, Guidance Specialist, Guidance Supervisor and ended my 30 -year career as the Director for Pupil Services (now Student

Services). After retiring I went back to my love of teaching/counseling and accepted a position as a Mental Health Counselor working with young people, who had dropped out of school, at the Montgomery County Conservation Corps.

In my free time I do enjoy time with my cats, my garden, fly fishing and working on my Virginia log cabin. As the pandemic eases, I hope to be able to do some traveling. I look forward to working with other Metro area League members on the Nominating Committee to complete the 2022 roster for LWVNCA.

Geraldine J. Whitley LWV District of Columbia, Member



Mrs. Geraldine J. Whitley has been a League member since 1980 and has been an active member and volunteer since 2003. Since that time Mrs. Whitley has served in roles as: 2nd Vice President, on the Board of Directors, and the environment committee. She is currently serving as a member of the LWVNCA Nominating Committee. Mrs. Whitley believes that the best way to advocate for change is through education and strong will power. She has a B.S. in Education and a master's degree in Christian studies from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona. She retired from the federal government in n 2003

where she worked as an International Trade Specialist.

Mrs. Whitley's hobbies, including hand quilting, knitting, stamp collecting, and traveling (nationally and internationally). She also volunteers with various food programs in Washington, D.C., a member of the Sierra Club, is active in her church where she teaches Bible study and volunteers as a lay speaker. However, her most cherished volunteer activity outside of being a League member is volunteering at the Anacostia Museum as a docent. Mrs. Whitley feels that LWV develops skills in leadership and management positions.

Sherry Zachry, LWV Fairfax Area



Sherry Zachry is a member of the LWV of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) and has been a League member since 1980 when she joined the Atlanta-Fulton LWV. She was president of the LWVFA from 2005-2009 and has served on the boards of LWV-VA, LWVFA and LWVNCA.

Currently Sherry is off-board webmaster for LWVNCA. Sherry and her husband Charlie reside in Manassas VA and have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Reports from Member Leagues State Leagues



District of Columbia (LWVDC) Kathy Chiron, President

Like all of you, we had a tough year. We extend a huge thank you to our membership for every text, email, social media post, letter and postcard sent, Vote411 candidate reminder, and Vote411 poster put up. Every response to one of those “call your representative or senator” with a plea that we need someone to call had an impact.

Our Full Rights Committee’s blog was posted on the LWVUS PPFM page. We produced three videos, updated our FAQ sheet and Toolkit for educating folks about Statehood. We hosted several educational webinars on Statehood and have several more scheduled. We cohosted the HR51 hearing and markup virtual events and expect to do so for the vote the week of April 19. Our Statehood postcard campaign is getting a 25% return rate adding 1,000+ names to our Petition. Statehood signs are well positioned around the region.

We gave testimony at DC Council Hearings regarding the primary and general elections.

We spoke up at innumerable webinars, Zoom meetings hosted by the League and other organizations around the country. Every time one of us put something in the chat or spoke up about our lack of full rights, or about the work of the League, or a reminder to use Vote411, we had an impact.

Prior to the election, we were interviewed on TV, in The Washington Post and a couple of YouTube productions. We were a founding member of Every Woman Vote2020, a coalition of 20 organizations not necessarily ever having done any get out the vote work in the past. Vote411 was the tool used for voter information and by election day 96% of their memberships (+/-10,000) were registered to vote. We reached students throughout the District and beyond with our Vote411 poster contest. We served as panelists on several webinars/programs during the election cycle to help educate and prepare voters.

We helped implement the historic Restore the Vote legislation by hosting an email Voter Services hotline for DC residents in the Federal Bureau of Prisons and in our DC Jail providing help for registration and candidate info using Vote411

Going forward we will continue working toward Statehood, advocate for Ranked Choice Voting and expansion of Automatic Voter Registration. We have a strategy in place for encouraging schools to include civics and voter registration in their curriculum so we can really hit the ground running for June '22. Our PPFM work continues and once the census data is released, we'll be ready to encourage input from all areas of the District of Columbia to create an open and transparent process.



LWV of Maryland (LWVMD)

Lois Hybl and Richard Willson, Co-Presidents

The first meeting of the 2019-21 term provided an all-day focus on board training.

Our leadership teams have focused on:

- Adopting Gmail as a platform for communications;
- Automating meeting reminders;
- Using consent agenda items;
- Dealing with voting items at the top of the agenda;
- Co-President meetings with staff on a weekly basis;
- Bi-weekly Co-President meetings for planning;
- Inviting our LWVUS liaison board member to join the meeting on a quarterly basis and
- Meeting with Local League Presidents on a bi-monthly basis.

Council in 2020 and workshops held in the fall of 2020 and winter of 2021 recorded record attendance. Meeting virtually on Sunday evenings, a dedicated team of volunteers is hard at work focusing on what our DEI goals should entail.

Action - The Board, in setting priorities for the Maryland General Assembly Session of 2021, decided to focus energies and resources by asking members to act as Advocates, not just as Reporters. We carefully focused our priorities on timely issues where we could either play a Leadership role, or a critical role as Allies with our coalition partners. We provided written and/or oral testimony on more than 80 bills and joined with our coalition partners in more than 20 Sign-On Letters. We are proud that our team members were often sought by elective officials to provide supportive testimony.

Voters Service – Statistics on users of Vote411 indicated a 50.6% increase statewide to 222,324 users in 2020. For the November Election our website featured regular PDF Voters' Guides for all counties and another set that was accessible to voters who rely on screen readers to access online materials. Working closely with the Board of Election and our partners, we kept members informed about options for voting in the 2020 election through our website, webinars, social media and a team of volunteers who answered phones.

Program – LWVMD reached consensus to support Vote by Mail and will shortly determine whether we have consensus on supporting the Initiative Process for Maryland. Our Fall and Winter Workshops featured programs on these studies and proposals for police reform.

DEI - Interest in LWVMD's Diversity Equity and Inclusion efforts took off at the end of February, 2021 when over 30 members responded to the opportunity to work out what having such a lens might look like. DEI work has divided into education, membership and advocacy.



LWV of Virginia (LWV-VA) Deb Wake, President

Many years of advocacy culminated in recent legislative advancements in our Commonwealth --especially in laws to improve voting access. We created a bipartisan, citizen-led Redistricting Commission and ended prison gerrymandering! We fought for voting laws that moved

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Virginia from the 49th most difficult state in which to vote to the 12th easiest state in which to vote! Many of the temporary measures that made voting safe during a pandemic have now been codified in our laws. We even have our own Virginia Voting Rights Act (protects against laws whose implementation would result in voter suppression and discrimination).

The LWV-VA board, local League presidents and members from across the state have come together to share ideas and to communicate. We worked to become a more unified League. We endeavored to raise the League's visibility and to strengthen relationships with lawmakers and with our partner organizations.

We became adept at using virtual platforms during a pandemic. We met with legislators and partner organizations to share legislative priorities and strategies. We testified before legislative committees in support or opposition to bills. Our weekly virtual Women's Legislative RoundTables drew crowds of attendees.

We also brought several lawsuits when a speedy remedy was needed. Our suit to waive the witness requirement allowed voters to be able to cast their votes safely in a number of elections. When online voter registration was not available on the last day to register before the November election, we sued to get an extension that enabled 24,000 voters to register.

We are very proud of the number of voters we have been able to help--especially during a pandemic. We have made a difference. What a start to our second 100 years!

Local Member Leagues

League of Women Voters of Frederick County, MD Kerri Burson and Carole Jaar Sepe, Co-Presidents

2020 was a challenging year for all of us and so far, 2021 continues to be challenging. Nonetheless LWVFC continued to work on our goals and shifted to virtual engagement with the community and membership.

- **Membership** –98 members currently. Engagement was generally virtual, activities requiring physical engagement have been suspended.
 - Monthly **Coffee Chat** - temporarily suspended.
 - **Student Initiative - Hood College Club** - temporarily suspended.
 - [Sign-up Genius form to recruit members for committees.](#)
 - Discussion with At Large members from Washington, Garrett, Allegheny, and Carroll Counties regarding interest to form a **“Western Maryland” league**. An initial meeting was held on February 3, 2021 via Zoom and discussion continue.
 - **Monthly Board Meetings** continued via zoom the third Monday of the month at 6:00PM.
 - **Our 61st Annual Membership Meeting** will be held on April 24, 2021 at 9:00 AM.
- **Communications/Publicity**
 - **Newsletter** –Mailchimp [December 2020 and March 2021](#), quarterly issue.
 - **Facebook** – updated at least once a week with local, or state information. Important meetings or events are posted regularly on our Facebook page. [League of Women Voters, Frederick, MD | Facebook.](#)

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- **Letters to the Editor** –Frederick Newspost were submitted on the [2020 Presidential Election Process](#) and on the [100th Anniversary of the League](#).
- **Voter Services** –LWVFC will participate in the Frederick City elections for Board of Alderman and Mayoral race. Primary Election Day: September 14, 2021 and General Election Day: November 2, 2021.
 - League members met on March 26, 2021 to discuss working with the United Way of Frederick County to jointly host Zoom candidate forums for City elections.
 - LWVFC organized 16 events for candidate forums and voter education presentations in 2020. Virtual Forums were livestreamed via Facebook. [The MD 8th District Forum on October 8, 2020](#), [The Frederick County Board of Education \(BOE\) Forum October 13, 2020](#)
 - LWVFC hosted the annual [Legislative Forum on Saturday, December 5, 2020](#) with local and state legislators, and County Executive.
 - Videos of forums and other live events are accessible. The BOE Forum had over 3,300 views. <https://www.facebook.com/FrederickCountyLWV/videos>
 - Power point presentation was completed for and presented to the [Delta Sorority in December 2020](#).
 - LWVFC has a new contract with the County Board of Elections for election day evaluation of voter sites and processes and representation at BOE meetings,
 - Worked on Vote.411 and collaborated with the Frederick News-Post of on a printed Voters Guide. Spanish version was made available to Centro Hispano.
- **OTHER ACTIVITIES**
 - Co-President Carole Sepe and Co-Vice President Mary Beth Coker participated in a video with [Representative Raskin on Local Hero on August 20, 2020](#).
 - Four members attended LWVMD Winter Workshop on January 30, 2021.
 - Secured storage unit for keeping our supplies and records and will be working with the local library to provide archival services for historical documents.

LWV of Howard County, MD Cynthia Williams, President

100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment: In spite of Covid we managed to have a celebration of the 100th Anniversary on August 18, 2020 in front of the George Howard Building in Ellicott City.

Unit Meetings: We've been very fortunate to have Krista Threefoot as our program director. She conducted several wonderful meetings over the last year (via Zoom, of course). Krista and I have already worked out the program of Unit meetings for the 2021-2022 year.

Membership: We have seen an increase in our membership over the last year, but not as large as we'd like. It's something we will continue to work on in the upcoming year.

Community Outreach: It's our goal to increase our presence in the county community. To that end, we have added three new Board Director positions: Community Liaison, Student Liaison, and Diversity Director.

Social Media: Probably due to our streaming of our meetings, we have increased our Facebook presence considerably. At one point, we had over 9,000 hits, and we have increased our

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number of likes beyond that of earlier years. We are also working on updating our webpage to be easier to navigate and with some new features.

Election 2020: The Voter Guide was put together again this year. Although we were not able to distribute them as widely as in the past (due to Covid), we were able to leave some in the local libraries and gave some to local elder living buildings. In addition, we advertised the Guide and Vote411.org in the local paper.

Fundraising: We requested some help from our members in order to be able to buy advertising for the Voter Guide, and they came through for us. Krista designed some Covid themed Vote shirts which sold very well. We also received a very generous bequeath from a long-standing member.

LWV of Montgomery County, MD Diane Hibino and Kathy McGuire Co-Presidents

In preparation for our 100th Anniversary year, we began in the fall with the Discussion Group (7 groups that meet monthly to discuss Fact Sheets or Resource Guides) topic: "1920-2020: What's been accomplished? What's next?" Our Fall Luncheon featured Jane Oates, "The Power of Women to Create a More Perfect Democracy". We studied Civic Education, Campaign Finance, Maryland Legislative Priorities, Waste Management in the county. We sent Valentine's on the League's 100th birthday thanking elected county officials for their service.

Our Voter Services/Making Democracy Work committee spent many hours on voter registrations, candidate forums, Voters' Guide in English and in Spanish (for the first time ever).

We worked on re-districting reform, including handing Valentine's to our delegation in Annapolis reminding them of our position for reform and sent 17 members for meetings on Legislative Day. We testified before the County Council on housing and protecting the Agricultural Reserve.

To share with the public at libraries, we hosted Trending Topics on: the Census, Electoral College, Northern Triangle of Central America and Pedestrian Safety.

Finally, to highlight the League in an April fundraiser, we planned for: "100th Anniversary Gala: Honoring the magnificent individuals who have been helping to shape better communities by empowering voters and defending democracy for 100 years". We selected Lavinia Awardees (Engle was a suffragist and executive secretary for the LWV of Maryland). All plans are on hold at this writing. However, we look forward to continuing the mission of the League to educate voters and impact public policy.

LWV Prince George's County, MD Joyce Duckett President

In response to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the League of Women Voters of Prince George's County (LWVPGC), held fewer—but more strategic and effective "Making Democracy Work" initiatives. LWVPGC partnered with local non-profit and faith-based organizations, the County Board of Elections, GREEK organizations and businesses to organize voter registration drives in "low voter participation" communities, provide and distribute voter registration and General Election literature at food distribution and other community events as well as to host virtual municipal candidate forums.

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In addition, LWVPGC provided voter registration and General Election literature at Prince George's County Maryland Census 2020 Complete Count events and provided Census 2020 Complete Count information and updates via LWVPGC social media platforms.
League highlights:

- LWVPGC provided voter registration and General Election information at the September 9-12, 2020, Impact One Church (Capitol Heights, MD) drive-thru free COVID-19 Testing and food distribution event. During the three-day period, this information was available to the approximately 450 vehicles that drove through.
- September 16-30, 2020, volunteers were assigned senior housing properties to drop off applications for mail-in ballots, pick up completed applications and deliver completed applications to the Prince George's County Board of Elections. LWVPGC dropped off approximately 500 Application for Mail-In Ballots.
- On [National Voter Registration Day](#) (September 22, 2020), LWVPGC held voter registration events at Dodge Plaza, Dodge Park, MD (4 voters registered, 2 completed Application for Mail-in Ballots, 8 pkts of info & swag, multiple masks distributed) and Catholic Charities, Clinton, MD.
- LWVPGC Forum Team members Joyce Starks, Gloria Johnson, Esq. and Barbara Taha organized and coordinated LWVPGC's hosting of the City of New Carrollton's Virtual Candidates Forum held April 15, 2021. Click [forum](#) to view.

LWV of Arlington, VA Joan Porte, President

We are happy to report that we responded, adapted, and overcame the limitations of the pandemic.

We sent more than 35,000 postcards to normally disenfranchised voters here and in states where voter suppression is rampant. We also distributed more than one hundred yard signs and 3000 door hangers in low turnout Arlington and Alexandria City precincts. We held webinars for civic associations throughout the area as well as groups working with the disabled community.

We papered Arlington and Alexandria City with multilingual voter posters and sandwich boards. In addition, we held a few outside voter registration events when the weather got warmer. We held two "Dialogues on Race and Equity" in February in conjunction with the Arlington County sanctioned program. Thanks to Kristin Shattuck, who is a facilitator and has trained with Challenging Racism to conduct these programs.

We sent letters to the Arlington County Board promoting the use of ranked choice voting in future elections. Arlington was chosen as test county, however, all fees for software changes, etc. must be borne by the County. The League is dedicated to seeing that this comes to fruition. More postcards – this time they are for DC Statehood! We wrote more than 1200 postcards for the League of Women Voters of DC and their DC Statehood campaign and distributed 40 yard signs. These cards went friends in other states with instructions that they return them to LWV DC so they can show broad support for Statehood.

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We have begun a Civics Education Program for adults which will begin this summer. The Affordable Housing Committee supplied comments to the County Board on the Missing Middle Program, the Arlington Affordable Housing Masterplan, and the Affordable Housing Investment Fund.

LWV of the Fairfax Area, VA Nancy Roodberg and Anu Sahai Co-Presidents

During this difficult year of COVID, the LWVFA has adapted many of our programs, innovating, so as to continue to fulfill our mission of educating and registering voters and advocating for critical issues.

We held virtual events and roundtables, including a student-led Q&A session with Senator Tim Kaine. We also held candidate forums for 2 of our 3 congressional districts. Our Advocacy team organized a panel discussion on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, featuring Mr. Jeffery McKay, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Mr. Scott Brabrand, Superintendent of FCPS, and Ms. Karla Bruce who is the Chief Equity Officer for Fairfax County. These panelists spoke about the county's One Fairfax initiative which works to achieve racial, social and economic equity.

Our HSVR team has done a tremendous job crafting a valuable and wide-reaching series of video presentations for use by educators and the public. Topics encompass the how's and why's of voting, as well as examine the history behind efforts to win the right to vote. Unable to enter school buildings, our team developed live virtual classroom presentations. During these sessions, we discuss voting and its importance as well as explain the mechanics of both paper and online voter registration. Students can ask questions and we work with each teacher to tailor to their needs and time constraints. To date, we have engaged with over 900 students.

Our student interns continue to be a vital source of volunteering and inspiration. They contribute to many of our efforts, including peer education and outreach.

The LWVFA worked with local food banks, providing voting information to hard to reach communities. When unable to provide printed materials, we make them available in digital format.

Advocacy issues, such as redistricting and CEDAW do not take a rest during a pandemic so our programs to inform and persuade did not rest either.

Unit meetings were adapted so members could gather via Zoom or other online means. This will be the case for our annual meeting as well.

As vaccines continue to roll out in our area, ensuring the future safety of our members and our community, the LWVFA looks forward to resuming our in person efforts. We have learned much from the forced pivots mandated by COVID and we will continue to explore and utilize the online and digital tools and services we discovered this past year.

LWV of Falls Church, VA Wendy Frieman and Allison Brown Co-Presidents

In August and September, LWV sponsored several postcard parties to encourage people in under-represented parts of Virginia to register to vote in time to vote in the state elections.

We co-hosted an event with American Association of University Women where Lisa Baker from VA Ratify ERA led a discussion on the importance of the ERA and its potential impact on American women.

We staffed information booths at the Falls Church City Fall Festival and the Thomas Jefferson Elementary Parents' Information night to provide information about voter registration, the voting process in VA, and LWV-FC's role in voter education and civic discussion. We also did a fall voter registration drive at George Mason HS.

Our George Mason High School League Club Prior organized a well-attended forum where FCC residents got to hear from City Council and School Board candidates about their positions on various important local issues.

Our Voter Services Committee put together a fantastic Voters' Guide to help FCC residents learn about candidates for City Council, School Board, Commonwealth's Attorney, and General Assembly. In the City of Falls Church, 45% of active voters cast ballots (Source: City of Falls Church Voter Registration and Elections Office).

LWV-FC joined with the other Northern Virginia Leagues to present a forum on redistricting on November 17. We hosted a talk by Dorothy Patton, author of "From Suffragists to Senators: A Century of Laws by Women Since 1920." Ms. Patton's talk highlighted women's legislative accomplishments since we gained the right to vote: ending child labor, expanding access to higher education, creating AMBER Alerts, and much more.

We had a fabulous 100th birthday party for the League of Women Voters organization on February 2, 2020 at The Falls Church Episcopal church. City Council joined us, members of the LWV student club at George Mason High school attended, along with live suffragettes from the Victorian Society of Falls Church. We honored our life members, each of whom has at least 50 active years of membership in LWVFC: Betty Allan, Betty Blystone, Doris Doran, and Ann McCleary.

On March 4th, LWV-FC sponsored a talk by Elaine Weiss, author of "The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote," at George Mason High School. The LWV student group at the high school spearheaded this, and all 9th, 11th, and 12th graders participated in the assembly.

A FCC Women's History Walk that was initially planned for May 3 has been postponed until later in the fall. Thanks to generous donations from LWVFC members, our league has donated funds to sponsor weather-resistant signage for this and future walk programs.

Wendy Frieman is representing LWV-FC on the Affordable Housing study, and Allison Brown is representing LWV-FC on the study group to update LWV-VA's election positions.

LWV of Loudoun County, VA Anna Kinney, President

LWFVNCA Past Presidents

*These women led the LWFVNCA organization in their time.
We are thankful to them for their talent and dedication.*

1963-1966	Madeline Dorothy Naumann, -- LWV of the Washington Metropolitan Area (LWVAR)
1966-1968	Cynthia Hannum -- (LWVPG); Founded the Lobby Corp in 1970
1968-1970	Beverly Beidler -- (LWVA)
1970-1973	Irene Hill -- (LWVMC)
1973-1975	Patricia Jensen -- (LWVFA: also Former President of LWV of Virginia & LWV of Iowa and served on the LWVUS board 1982-86)
1975-1976	Kay Morrison -- (LWVMC)
1976-1978	Sarah Jane Phillips -- (LWVFA)
1978-1980	Pat Watt -- (LWVFA)
1980-1983	Kathy Ziffer -- (LWVMC)
1983-1985	Ellyn Swanson -- (LWVDC)
1985-1987	Natalie Testa -- (LWVMC)
1987-1989	Ruth Dixon -- (LWVDC)
1989-1991	Pat Brady -- (LWVFA also served on the LWVUS Board 1992-98)
1991-1993	Ethelyn Bishop -- (LWVPG)
1993-1995	Beth Cogswell -- (LWVAR)
1995-1997	Katy Cannady -- (LWVA)
1997-2001	Naomi Glass -- (LWVDC)
2001-2005	Barbara Sherrill -- (LWVAR)
2005-2009	Melpi Jeffries -- (LWVMC)
2009-2013	Elinor Hart -- (LWVDC)
2013-2015	Virginia Long -- (LWVFC)
2015-2019	Kathy McGuire -- (LWVMC)
2019-	Linda Softli (LWVDC) & Joyce Starks (LWVPGC) Co-Presidents