



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY

BULLETIN

May 2021

President's Letter

Letter from the President

Dear LWVSC Friends,

This past few months has been a joyous time for many of us as we see more and more people stepping up to be vaccinated. For me, it's almost like discovering a whole new world. Our board will hold its first in-person meeting in over a year this month. We're also hoping to have an outdoor get-together for all members sometime in May – watch for more details. We need a time to see each other, catch up, and make some new League friends!

At the same time, we cannot risk moving ahead too fast. For that reason, I'm sorry to let you know that our usual Annual June Meeting at the Turf Restaurant has been cancelled again this year. While many of us are fully vaccinated, there are still restrictions on the number of people restaurants are able to serve. However, we will still hold our Annual Meeting virtually on Zoom on **Tuesday, June 8 at 7:00 pm**. We'll have some time to visit, and then vote on the 2021-2022 Proposed Budget, Proposed Leaders Slate, and Proposed Local Program. We will also need to vote on changes to the first three Articles of our By-Laws; all Leagues were asked to make the same changes to their By-Laws to be in compliance with LWVUS. You will find each of these documents in this issue of the Bulletin. Please read them over carefully, and if you have any questions or concerns before our June meeting, please let me know. I'll be sending you the Zoom link for the Annual Meeting as the date gets closer.

Wishing you a happy and healthy Spring...

In League,
Ann Hatke

Proposed Local Program 2021-2022

Justice and the Law

Support improvements to the local criminal justice system by:

- * Monitoring and strengthening the Probation and Parole procedures, with an emphasis on rehabilitation and supportive services with programs such as the Ex-Offender Re-Entry Program in Schenectady County.
- * Facilitating the implementation of alternative courts (problem solving courts) in Schenectady County and promoting collaborations to support them.
- * Monitoring the juvenile justice system including Family Court and promoting community-based rehabilitation.
- * Supporting restorative justice programs such as the Community Accountability Board.
- * Improve accessibility to police complaint procedure
- * Improve Mental Health Crisis Intervention
- * Support the efforts of the Schenectady Police Reform and Re-invention Collaborative
- * Support the monitoring of the Schenectady County Jail, including complaint resolution, public health measures, transparency, and greater oversight of day-to-day conditions

Local Government

- * Monitor activities of county governmental units, including town boards, the Schenectady City Council and the Schenectady County Legislature, monitor activities of other quasi-governmental units, public authorities and agencies such as Metroplex, IDAs and Planning Boards, monitor activities of elected public Boards of Education.
- * Support standards of high professional qualifications and political nonpartisanship in manager form of government.
- * Evaluate opportunities for inter-municipal cooperation and examine options for the consolidation of governmental services in Schenectady County.

Children at Risk

- * Collaborate with other organizations to identify the needs of children, including physical and mental health, in Schenectady County, facilitate programs on their behalf and educate the community about their needs and challenges.
- * Study early childhood education and care-giving needs in Schenectady County from a policy and financing perspective.
- * Support greater coordination between child service agencies

Local Education

- * Monitor local initiatives related to schools and promote and advocate adequate and equitable funding for all school districts so the students can reach their potential.
- * Ensure school districts are adequately prepared and staffed for virtual education
- * Evaluate disparities exposed by the need for virtual education
- * Bolster public schools' ability to respond to needs of students

Environmental Issues

Support the protection of environmental resources, land, water and air in Schenectady County:

- * Advocate for the protection of water resources in the County.
- * Promote understanding of global climate change and support efforts to mitigate its effects.
- * Support energy conservation and development of renewable energy alternatives.
- * Support solid waste management programs that increase reuse and recycling in the County and City.

Health Services

- * Educate and advocate for national/state/local health care reform that provides quality physical and mental health care for all citizens.
- * Encourage and support countywide comprehensive health care planning and access, equity, and safety in health care.

Stuffed Email Boxes?

Recently a survey was conducted to see how many members actually open their emails from us. Sadly, it was only 44%. That tells us that a majority of you are missing out on interesting events and information. We really do try to send out only essential stuff about League events and notifications that are important as part of the goals of the NYS and US League organizations.

Please take a moment to open our emails—you might be glad you did!

Mission Statement: The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization. We encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government. We work to increase the understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and advocacy.

“Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy”

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

BY LAWS
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY

Adopted May 23, 1979. Amended May, 1985, 1986, 1987; June, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2018, and 2021

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Schenectady County, herein after referred to in these bylaws as LWVSC. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and the League of Women Voters of New York State (LWVNYS).

ARTICLE II – PURPOSES AND POLICIES

Section 1. PURPOSES. The purposes of the LWV of Schenectady County are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. POLICIES. The policies of the LWVSC are

1. **Political Policy.** The League shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

2. **Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Policy.** The League is fully committed to ensure compliance in principle and in practice – with LWVSC’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. ELIGIBILITY. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the LWVSC shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP.

A) **Voting Members.** Persons of at least 16 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of the local League, the LWVNYS, and the LWVUS; (1) those who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League; (2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be State members-at-large; (3) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from payment of dues; (4) those who are students are defined as individuals enrolled either as full or part time with an accredited institution.

B) **Associate members.** All others who join the League shall be associate members.

We have printed only the first page of the By-Laws because changes were only made to the first three articles of the By-Laws.

The rest of the By-Laws remain the same.

LWV Schenectady Financial Report 2020-21 Fiscal Year	2020-2021 Budget	March 2021	Year to Date	Budgeted Amount Remaining
INCOME				
A. Dues	6,975.00	0.00	7,313.38	(338.38)
B. Contributions				
1. Membership	500.00	0.00	2,130.00	(1,630.00)
2. Non Member	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3. Earmarked Funds				
a. Take Me To Vote	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
b. Escrow Ed. Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
c. Fundraising	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
d. Who's Who	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C. Other Contributions				
1. Interest	12.00	0.00	2.57	9.43
2. Election Monitoring	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
3. Election Reporting	1,000.00	0.00	270.00	730.00
4. Meeting Revenue	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
5. Co-sponsorship/collaboration	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
D. From Reserves				
1. LWVNY Ed Foundation				
a. Youth Programs/Inside Albany	650.00	0.00	0.00	650.00
b. Other Grants	100.00	588.00	1,789.00	(1,689.00)
c. Citizenship Mentoring	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
2. Our Reserves	961.00	0.00	0.00	961.00
E. Miscellaneous Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Income:	14,998.00	588.00	11,504.95
				3,493.05
EXPENSES				
A. Operating Costs				
1. General Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2. P.O. Box Permit	118.00	0.00	146.00	(28.00)
3. Bank Charges	35.00	0.00	0.00	35.00
4. Copy Expense	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
5. Bulletin Expense	35.00	0.00	0.00	35.00
6. Web Page	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00
7. Meeting Expense	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
	<i>sub total:</i>	<i>4,638.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>546.00</i>
				<i>4,092.00</i>
B. Board & Admin Committees				
1. President	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
2. Board Tools & Expenses	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
3. Fundraising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4. Membership Committee				
a. Copying/Supplies	34.00	0.00	0.00	34.00
b. Postage	16.00	0.00	0.00	16.00
	<i>sub total:</i>	<i>150.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>
				<i>150.00</i>

LWV Schenectady Financial Report 2020-21 Fiscal Year		2020-2021 Budget	March 2021	Year to Date	Budgeted Amount Remaining
C. Delegates					
1.	State Convention	1,480.00	0.00	0.00	1,480.00
2.	National Convention	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<i>sub total:</i>	<i>1,480.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>1,480.00</i>
D. Financial Support of the League					
1.	National PMP	3,904.00	1,952.00	3,904.00	0.00
2.	State PMP	2,806.00	0.00	2,104.50	701.50
	<i>sub total</i>	<i>6,710.00</i>	<i>1,952.00</i>	<i>6,008.50</i>	<i>701.50</i>
E. Educational Activities					
1.	Health Care	20.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
2.	Observer/Action/Lobbying	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
3.	Judicial	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Youth Programs/Inside Albany	650.00	0.00	0.00	650.00
5.	Voter Services				
a.	Voter Resources	500.00	100.00	616.60	(116.60)
b.	Take Me To Vote	350.00	0.00	0.00	350.00
c.	Candidate Forums	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
d.	Who's Who	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Other Studies/Consensus	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
7.	Citizenship Mentoring	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
8.	Community Outreach	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
9.	SCED	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<i>sub total:</i>	<i>1,895.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>616.60</i>	<i>1,278.40</i>
F. Position Support					
1.	Affiliation				
a.	Martin Luther King	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
b.	Human Rights Commission	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Co-sponsorship/collaboration	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
	<i>sub total:</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
G. Miscellaneous					
1.	Escrow Ed. Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Other Expenses	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
	<i>sub total:</i>	<i>25.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>25.00</i>
	Total Expenses:	14,998.00	2,052.00	7,171.10	7,826.90

Check Book Balance:	\$8,280.02
Savings Account Balance:	\$15,873.38
Ed. Fund Balance LWV	\$168.49
Ed. Fund Balance Citizenship Mentoring	\$20.25
Total Available Assets:	\$24,342.14

Proposed Leaders of LWV of Schenectady County 2021/2022

President	Ann Hatke	2021
Vice President	Judith Rabig	2021
Treasurer	Judy Middelkoop	2021
Secretary	Heide Westergard	2021
Inside Albany	Maxine Brisport	2022
Letters to the Editor/ Press Releases	Anita Sanchez	2022
	Anita Sanchez	2022
Voter Services	Stephen Schechter	
Forums		
Niskayuna	Heide Westergard/ Ellen Daviero	2023
Scotia/Glenville	Connie Young	2023
Rotterdam	Maxine Brisport /Sandra McGarraugh	2023
Schenectady	Cheryl Nechamen/Julia Holcomb	2023
Poll Reporting	Dick Shave	2021
	Vicki Hoshko	2022
Voter Registration	Connie Young/Mary Jane Shave	2022
Get Out the Vote	Pauline Kinsella	2022
Bulletin	Helen MacDonald	2022
Nominating Committee	Sally Knutson	2022
	Johanna Petersen/Mary Pritchard	2022
	Connie Young	2022
	Carmel Patrick**	2022
Membership	Connie Young/Johanna Petersen	2022
	Betsy Chase	2022
Community Outreach		
Fliers	Gwynneth DeLong	2022
Community Events	Stephen Schechter	2023
Membership Mtgs	Connie Young / Cheryl Nechamen	2022
Mail Chimp	Judy Middelkoop	2022
Facebook	Anita Sanchez	2023
Website	Judy Middelkoop	2022
	Barbara Vivier	2022
Observer Corps	Membership/Mariellen Boomhower	

At Large Board Members	Cathy Lewis	2021
	Linda Doody/Carmel Patrick**	2023
	Mariellen Boomhower	2023
MHA Elections	Cheryl Nechamen	2023
Citizen’s Police Review	Julia Holcomb	2023
Board Rep		
CPRB Alternate	Victoria Cooper	2023

**LWVSC member Carmel Patrick is currently resigned until after the 2021 City Council election for City Council. She will be reappointed after the election.

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

MEMBERSHIP FOR JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022

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

New or Renewing Members Please Confirm This Contact Information

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

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

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

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

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

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

Judicial _____ **Health** _____ **Observer Corps** _____ **Fund Raising** _____

Citizenship Mentoring Group _____ **Environment** _____ **Education** _____

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

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

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

Other areas of interest _____