



# *THE VOTER*

Jan-Feb  
2022

[www.LWVVC.org](http://www.LWVVC.org)

P.O. Box 9695, Daytona Beach, FL 32120

## **President's Remarks:**

The end of the calendar year is a good time to thankfully think back.

My thanks to the League for its 100+ years of dedication to voting rights. Votes for women is now votes for all legal voters. The mission has grown and is every bit as important as it was in the beginning. The League will pursue voter access and fair elections with the same relentless energy it has always brought to its core mission.



My thanks to the League for its recognition of voter education and engagement as critical to the democratic system of government. Showing up is essential whether by mail or in-person. Understanding candidates and issues is essential.

My thanks to the League for its commitment to the issues that make a society honorable and a community vital. Education, environmental protections, social justice, reproductive rights and healthcare are all contributors to the quality of life we value for ourselves and our children.

My thanks to the League members for all that you bring to the organization. We have common interests but a diversity of experiences. The mix is thought provoking, affirming, challenging, nurturing, purposeful and joyful. My thanks for who you are.

Gratefully,

*Mary Anne Connors, President*

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*Sandra Horikami, Voter Editor*

## January General Meeting Announcement

*Special Guest, Cecile Scoon, President, LWVFL*



On Saturday, January 8, 2022, we will have a very special guest speaker for our general meeting. Cecile Scoon, President of the League of Women Voters of Florida, will join us for an important discussion of legislative issues, priorities and expectations. Cecile is visiting local leagues throughout Florida to share information and to become familiar with local issues and initiatives.

We hope you can join us for this special event at LPGA International. A luncheon will follow with guests from the community who share our commitment to voter education and engagement. We look forward to discussion of state and community issues and opportunities for partnership. Please attend and bring your insights, questions and suggestions.

LPGA International Clubhouse, 1000 Champions Dr., Daytona Beach

Check-in at 10:30 a.m.

Luncheon 12:15 pm (Cost \$28.00, payment at check-in; cancellations will be invoiced)

MUST RSVP by December 30, 2021 to Cathy Egley at [jetski49.bellsouth.net](mailto:jetski49.bellsouth.net)

## Events in January & February

### January Hot Topics

*Tuesday, January 25, 2022; 5:30- 6:30 p.m.*  
Port Orange Library, 1005 City Center Cir, Port Orange, FL

### Civics Education in Volusia County Classrooms

By Robert Milholland

Robert Milholland is a Curriculum Specialist—Secondary Social Studies and Advanced Programs (AP/IB/AICE) for Volusia County Schools. He has served as our bridge to the Volusia County High Schools at our in-person voter registration events at the high schools.

Please let us know if you plan to attend and also if you would like to join us after for dinner at Coastal Grill & Raw Bar....a new dining destination in Port Orange.

RSVP to Carla Christianson- [reclaim4all@gmail.com](mailto:reclaim4all@gmail.com),  
386-299-2878 by 1/21/22

### LWVVC Board Meetings:

January 19, 2022

@TPO offices  
International Spdwy Blvd.

February 16, 2022

@TPO offices  
International Spdwy Blvd.

Members welcome!  
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

### **“Weekend of Black History Month Recognition” February 4-6, 2022**

At the 30th Annual Black Heritage Festival in New Smyrna Beach.

League members are invited to a one-man performance with Larry Murphy as Thurgood Marshall in “THURGOOD,” a George Steven play; February 4, 2022, at the Brannon Center, 105 S, Riverside Drive, New Smyrna Beach; 6-8:30 p.m.; ticket price for league members will not exceed \$30.

Then on Saturday, join us for a tour of the Mary S. Harrell Black Heritage Museum, 314 N. Duss Street, New Smyrna; we have reserved a tour at 11:00 AM. There is no charge. In addition, you may join the museum tour at your leisure during the day; the museum hours are from 10-4. After the tour, members may walk across the street to enjoy food, music and vendors at the festival. A voter’s registration table will be available. Join us for a weekend of cultural experiences.

*Social Justice and Diversity Action Team  
Vickie Presley, chair*

## **POLITICOS ON PARADE WITH PARTNERSHIP A HUGE SUCCESS!**

The Politicos on Parade saga began in 2019 preparing for our traditional biennial elected officials fashion show and luncheon fundraiser at the Halifax River Yacht Club. Politicos team members began soliciting sponsorships and advertising as we also sold tickets and recruited elected officials to participate. Then came COVID! The Politicos team members: Carla Christianson, Jeanne Tanke, Judy Conte, Libby Hilderbrandt, Linda Lenk, Linda Mojer, Monique Fischer, Nancy Epps, Nicki Junkins, Olga Hernandez, Pat Gadbow, Mary Anne Connors, and thankfully, Suze Peace, continued to move forward. When restrictions were lifted, the new normal set in and companies were no longer willing nor felt it was a good practice to loan out clothes for fashion shows. As we pondered and agonized over what to do, Linda Mojer suggested contacting Suze Peace to partner with her for the showing of “Ladies Taking Liberty”, the story of women’s fight to get the vote that Suze commissioned in memory of and to honor her mother and grandmother. When Linda and Libby contacted Suze she enthusiastically said, “Yes!” The rest is history. We raised over \$8000 due to Suze’s generosity, the hard work of the Politicos on Parade team, and the publicity and marketing skills of Linda Mojer! Please thank the team members for their dedication and commitment to raising these funds for Voter Service! We have a mammoth job to do in 2022 and these funds will be put to good use educating voters on the issues and getting people to the polls to vote. Thank you so much to everyone who was part of the team, attended “Ladies Taking Liberty”, purchased an ad, and encouraged others to support this effort. I’m so proud to be a member of the League of Women Voters of Volusia County.

*Politicos on Parade  
Ann Smith, Chairperson*

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### **Membership Action Team Report**

Good News – over 80% of members have renewed their membership. **We appreciate your continued support.**

The date for renewal is January 15<sup>th</sup>. We’re making reminder phone calls to those who haven’t renewed. We don’t want you to miss any Member Only meetings this year.

Individual membership is \$60.00, Family membership is \$90.00. and Student membership is free! If there are no changes in your membership information, you may send in only your dues check, made out to LWVVC and mailed to **LWVVC P.O. Box 9695, Daytona Beach, FL 32120**

You may also renew online with a credit card at [LWVVC.org](http://LWVVC.org)

If you have any questions or want a Membership Form emailed to you, please [contact Judy Gordon](mailto:jbgordon@cfl.rr.com) at [jbgordon@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jbgordon@cfl.rr.com)

It is going to be busy year! We need you!

*Membership Action Team  
Judy Gordon & Monique Fischer, Co-chairs*

## **Your League Speakers Bureau**

Contact Wes Lewis, [wflewis@ymail.com](mailto:wflewis@ymail.com) or Ann Smith, [ahsmith5@bellsouth.net](mailto:ahsmith5@bellsouth.net) to book a speaker for the other organizations of which you are a part. Your fellow League members are ready to talk on the topics listed below. If you have any questions or would like to become a part of the Speakers Bureau, just contact either Ann or Wes.

### **Florida's New Election Law (SB90)**

During the 2021 legislative session, the Florida legislature passed Senate Bill 90 which makes major changes to the state's voting laws. This presentation will explain how SB 90 impacts voting by mail, election administration, and election protection.

### **Your Voice. Your Power. Your Vote!**

An explanation of the hard-fought battle of getting the right to vote for ALL Americans. In 1776, only 10% of Americans had the right to vote. Learn about how voting rights were expanded and the important benefits, as well as rights and responsibilities, for citizens who turn out and vote.

### **Education**

An introduction to public education as structured, funded, and delivered in Florida. The presentation includes an outline of Florida's finance model including state and local funds. It also explains the concepts and challenges of school choice, including charter schools and voucher funds for private and religious schools. Lastly, the presentation also provides the audience with an understanding of how education has adapted for the 21st century.

### **Redistricting**

Redistricting is a process of drawing electoral district boundaries. The process happens every ten years after the decennial census. This presentation will cover redistricting basics, an explanation of gerrymandering, Florida's Fair Districts battle, and the 2022 redistricting process.

### **Civics and Critical Thinking**

An interesting presentation with audience interaction. It covers how federal, state, and local governments work; rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship; critical think and how to evaluate the credibility of information sources; skills for engaging in conversations with people who do not share your view. Emphasizes respect, tolerance, and civility.

### **Affordable Housing**

There is a critical shortage of affordable housing in Florida. Middle-class families, young people, and senior citizens on fixed incomes cannot find affordable places to live. Our state's economic success, family stability, and quality of life are dependent on all residents having adequate housing. This presentation offers a perspective on what constitutes affordable housing, why there is an affordable housing crisis and how it adversely affects Florida businesses, communities, and the workforce. It describes the obstacles and some solutions to the problem.

*LWVVC Speakers Bureau  
Wes Lewis and Ann Smith, Co-Chairs*

# Welcome New Members

Allen Cowan  
Richard Denton



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**Would you like to have your own LWVVC personalized magnetic name badge??**



Sample badge

Order Form

Print your Name as you would like it on the name badge

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First Name

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Last Name

Make out a check for \$14.00 Payable to  
**LWVVC**

You may give this form with your check to Judy Gordon or mail the form and check to Nicki Junkins  
1117 Valley View Lane  
Deland, FL 32720

You will receive an email when your name badge is ready. You may pick your badge up at any  
LWVVC meeting.



## Observer Corps Report

The following are key issues reported by League Observers at local meetings. We need additional Observers for Volusia county city meetings not currently represented. Please contact Susan Bayley, [susancbaylev@gmail.com](mailto:susancbaylev@gmail.com) or Ann Harrell, [aharrell595@aol.com](mailto:aharrell595@aol.com) or Nancy Nusbaum, [nusbanh@gmail.com](mailto:nusbanh@gmail.com) if you can help.

**NOTE, MANY MEETINGS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED ONLINE OR HAVE NOT BEEN OBSERVED DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH PRECAUTIONS**

### Edgewater City

Linda Mojer, Observer

<http://www.cityofedgewater.org/bc/page/agendas-minutes>

### Daytona Beach

Susan Pate, Observer

[www.codb.us/577/Agendas-Minutes](http://www.codb.us/577/Agendas-Minutes)

**November 17** The City approved an agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for Phase 1 of the Safe Routes to School Project. This project will improve neighborhood sidewalks around Campbell Middle and Turie T. Small Elementary Schools. Sidewalks will be widened and made ADA accessible.

A resolution passed to accept the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Grant agreement for the Riverfront Park seawall replacement. This is a multiyear grant and no funding is needed to accept the grant.

A resolution was passed to accept a matching grant for improvements to Colins Park. Improvements consist of a new playground and sidewalks, landscaping and building repairs.

The city commission authorized the purchase of some vacant land on LPGA to be used as a park area and potential cell tower location. Monies are available in the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

The first reading of the land development code to allow Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and develop standards for such units was presented. This gathered a lot of interest both pro and con although more pro than con. Many thought this was a good solution toward affordable housing and also a source of income for the homeowner to maintain and keep their homes. Others felt that the rules would be easily broken, parking would be a problem and there are not enough code enforcement officers to regulate the ADUs. Commissioners accepted the first reading by a 5-2 vote with commissioners May and Strickland dissenting. The second reading was scheduled for the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**December 1** The commission approved the consent agenda public works projects that included:

Construction of a multi-use path along the south side of Beville Road from Andros Isles Blvd to Clyde Morris Blvd.; Completion of the Sweetheart Trail on Beach Street from Orange Avenue to Bellevue Avenue

The commission heard the second reading of the land development code to add ADUs as a permitted accessory use. Again there was much public discussion mostly in favor. Those opposed were mainly concerned about parking on the grass and need for better laws.

The ordinance is for single family only and allows only one ADU per lot. The owner must live on the property and the ADU must be rented for at least 6 months. There are minimum and maximum limits to the square footage of the ADU which is determined by the lot size and parking space must be provided. The motion on second reading passed by a vote of 4-3 with May, Strickland and Trager dissenting.

The first reading of a zoning change of approximately 211 acres of land near the airport from agricultural to mixed use passed 4-3. Those dissenting (Strickland, May and Trager) did so because they were not told which company was Project Tarpon.

A resolution which followed identified Project Tarpon as Amazon which wants to build a 5 story, 2.8 million square foot building for a fulfillment center. The land would be leased by Amazon and the project should be completed by the end of 2023. The complex would bring in one thousand new jobs with minimum wages of \$15.00/hr plus benefits. The jobs would be full time and not full time equivalents. Amazon would receive a \$4 million tax incentive to build in Daytona. Amazon is projected to pay around 1 million dollars in property tax each year which is considerably more than the \$7,100 paid last year by NASCAR. The resolution passed 6-1 with Strickland dissenting. Strickland objected to the \$4 million incentive to be paid out to Amazon.

### **Daytona Beach Shores**

<https://www.dbshores.org/289/Agenda-and-Minutes>

Pat Gadbaw, Observer

### **Holly Hill**

Susan Pate, Observer

**November 9** The commission approved the purchase of Picnic Tables, Park Benches and Barbecue Grills for Sunrise Park. The goal is to create a good park environment. The commission also approved a storm water pipe lining project for Elizabeth Street and Tuscaloosa Avenue. This is much needed to replace old and collapsing pipes. Commission extended the contract with a realtor for another year in hopes of selling property at 627 Ridgewood. There is interest in the city for a business that will enhance the property.

### **New Smyrna Beach**

[www.cityofnsb.com/315/Agendas-and-Minutes](http://www.cityofnsb.com/315/Agendas-and-Minutes)

Nancy Nusbaum, Observer

**Nov 9** The Commission voted to temporarily remove glass from the list of items that it pays a private contractor to recycle in response to a report from the Solid Waste Compliance Officer that there is no market for recycled glass in the quantities the city generates. All the glass containers that are picked up at residents' recycling bins are being separated out and taken to the landfill. Sometimes that separated glass is crushed and used as landfill cover. It was noted that the cities of Deltona, Ormond Beach and Port Orange have removed glass from their recycling programs as well.

The other meeting topic primarily was about the city marina, dock slip charges, leases, etc. Please see the minutes on the city website for details.

### **Ormond Beach City**

[www.ormondbeach.igmp2.com/citizens](http://www.ormondbeach.igmp2.com/citizens)

Susan Bayley, Observer

**September 8** Commissioners approved the 2021 FY budget, without Selby approving it. Commissioners addressed water quality issues. The city learned from the septic-to-water issue with Ormond-by-the-Sea residents that community input is critical. With the state "getting down" on transferring septic to sewer, by 7/22 there will be 76 residences that have to transfer from septic to sewer (costing \$5,000 to \$10,000), with hopes that a state grant can be attained.



City Manager Shanahan asked for direction from commissioners on legislative priorities for 2022. She reported that the city's reserve fund is 15%, but it should instead be between 20% to 30% for a city the size of Ormond Beach (43,000 population).

**October 5** Five of the six items on the consent agenda were pulled: 1) Commissioners pulled a sub-agreement with the county for its block grant because of the high cost of a door. The housing authority should handle this matter; 2) A service agreement with the Ormond Memorial Art Museum was eventually passed, with Kent and Partington voting against it; 3) Commissioners unanimously passed an agreement for a study of the former River Bend Golf Course; 4) All commissioners except Kent passed replacement of the Central Park Gazebo; 5) Commissioners agreed to bid out repair of the sidewalks in Granada downtown

**October 19** Nancy Lohman, chair of the Bethune statue fund, reported on its fundraising efforts so that the statue is now at the News Journal Center for two months, before moving to Statuary Hall in the US Capitol. Commissioners agreed to donate \$20,000 to the fund. However, Kent made a snide remark to Selby who voted for this expenditure but not for a tax increase that all other commissioners had just approved. Selby replied that this donation is coming from reserves. Kent was the sole vote against this donation.

Commissioners approved a bit for provision of hydrofluosilic acid (fluorine) for water treatment, with Kent and Littleton not approving it.

**November 17** A representative of the city's police force reported that there are many vacancies, with neighboring city's offering higher wages. Commissioners pulled an item off its consent agenda, devoting much time to an aspect of its Granada streetscape project; side sidewalk banding must be repaired. By a vote of three to two, they decided to send bids out for this project. Commissioners seemed interested learning more about the UN's Race to Zero project, a global campaign to seek support from businesses and cities/regions for a healthy, resilient zero carbon recovery. They mentioned phasing in native plants on the medians on the city's roads, even including native plants in building codes. Water run-offs are a problem regarding this issue.

**December 7** A rather mundane meeting, but there was much discussion about a request from the Ormond Garage to allow live, outdoor music because it is located near an elementary school. Commissioners decided to allow this music to begin from 2:30 pm, and not at 2:00 pm when school is still in session. Although Avalon Park was not an item on the agenda, it was the topic at a recent OB Life meeting. It is of ongoing citizen concern, with staff handling the brunt of its related issues.

### **Pierson**

**[www.townofpierson.org](http://www.townofpierson.org)**

Susan Bayley, Observer

**September 14** Commissioners decided to use the American Rescue Plan grant of \$948,116 for its water and sewer project. A representative of the Farmworkers Union agreed that any resident of Pierson could use its new community garden. When the town moves to its new town center (a former elementary school) in a few months, it will maintain its tax-exempt status when the current building is sold. An ongoing feature of these council meetings is hearing from residents on a variety of local concerns throughout a meeting, and not only at the end.

**October 12** An extremely long meeting dwelling on fees for the Pierson Saddle Club, waiving fines for water bills when they were not sent to homeowners, an agreement with the county for its economic development grant along with a lease agreement with Verizon and its modification of its equipment

water tower. (Pierson owns this tower.) All items were tabled for the next meeting. Quite a few residents participated in these freewheeling discussions!

**December 14** Commissioners spent a lot of time revisiting its recent ordinance on noise abatement, revising its definition of decibel readings, with a Volusia sheriff reporting that it will be enforced with a new citation form. The new community, a former elementary school from the 1920s, needs a lot of work, such as the need to put up a fence to get its renovations started. They were concerned about having more concrete that can threaten the aquifer. Right now, there is a lot of vandalism, usually high school children doing this after school

**Ponce Inlet Town Council**

<http://www.ponce-inlet.org/315/Town-Council>

Pat Gadbar, Observer

**School Board of Volusia County**

[www.vcsedu.org/school-board/agendas-minutes](http://www.vcsedu.org/school-board/agendas-minutes)

Ann Harrell, Observer

**November 9, 2021** The Volusia County School Board met in regular session with Chairman Linda Cuthbert who called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. With four administrative appointments and public comments on public education, the items on the agenda were brief with little discussion. The meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

**Issues to track in Volusia County Schools in 2022**

State funding and new Volusia County Schools budget

Middle School redesign

Election of three (3) school board members

Redistricting

School safety and security

Magnet high school

Rebuild of Turie T. Small Elementary

Completion of Beachside Elementary

### **2021-2022 LWVVC Board Members:**

*Mary Anne Connors.....President*  
*Nicki Junkins.....Immediate Past President*  
*Susan Bayley.....1<sup>st</sup> Vice President*  
*Cathy Egley.....2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President*  
*Deborah Noah.....Treasurer*  
*Betty Johnson.....Secretary*

*Directors:*  
*Carla Christenson      Pat Drago*  
*Judy Gordon            Olga Hernandez*  
*Wesley Lewis          Saralee Morrissey*  
*Nancy Nusbaum       Vickie Presley*  
*Ann Smith               Nancy Vaughn*

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