ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 11, 2022

5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Woman’s Club of Evanston
1702 Chicago Ave.
Evanston, IL
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

May 11, 2022

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Rules of the Annual Meeting
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting
4. Finances
   a. Treasurer’s Report
   b. Proposed 2022-2023 Budget
5. Local Program
   a. Report of 2021-2022 Local Program
   b. Proposed 2022-2023 Program for consideration
6. Nominating and Elections
   a. Presentation of Proposed Nominations
   b. Nominations from the Floor
   c. Election of Officers and Directors for 2022-2023
7. Announcements
8. Other Business
9. Adjournment
League of Women Voters of Evanston  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
May 12, 2021


Call to Order:  Jennifer O’Neil called the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m. Quorum of twenty regular members was established. She noted the meeting would proceed according to Roberts’ Rules of Order and LWVE bylaws. The official recorder/secretary for this meeting was Linda LaBuda, and the chair appointed Joan Lakebrink and Lois Taft to read and correct the minutes of this Annual Meeting. The minutes’ approval committee was approved unanimously.

Conversion to 501(c)(3) Status:
1. Lois Taft directed members to the information packet. She explained the basic tax differences between our current 501(c)(4) and the new 501(c)(3) as well as the advantages of converting (member tax benefit and reduction of administrative work). In addition, she explained LWVE lobbying/advocacy under the 501(c)(3) status, addressing member concerns.
2. Lois moved that the members approve the Board of Directors’ recommendation that the LWVE proceed with the transition from its current Section 501(c)(4) status to a 501(c)(3) status by submitting the appropriate applications to the IRS. Connie Karduck seconded the motion.
3. The motion passed.

Bylaw Revision:
1. Mary Kelly referred members to their information packets for the complete bylaw revisions proposed. She explained that adjustments to the bylaws were needed for the 501(c)(3) conversion.
2. She reviewed key substantive revisions approved and recommended by the Board of Directors.
   a) Mary noted that Articles 1, 2 and 3 comply with changes in the LWVUS bylaws and were approved by the Board of Directors’ at the March 10, 2021 meeting.
   b) Article 6 clarifies the financial operations needed under 501(c)(3).
   c) Article 7 is a new policy outlining Conflicts or Duality of Interest adopted by the LWVE Board on January 13, 2021.
   d) Article 8 permits the use of “available Internet services” to conduct meetings when needed, as well as alters the definition of “quorum” to a percentage of voting members.
   e) Article 13 addresses amending local bylaws when required by the LWVUS or LWVIL bylaws.* (see below)
3. Karen Telser recommended a change to Article 13 to require approval of the general voting membership before amending LWVE bylaws. She moved “The Board shall notify the general membership within thirty days of such changes to these Bylaws.” Mary Rothschild seconded. The motion passed.
4. Mary Kelly moved to adopt the revised and Board-recommended Bylaws as proposed and amended. Joan Lakebrink seconded. The motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report:**
Lois Taft, Treasurer, reported that revenue and expenses in the Operating Funds were about the same. Revenue was down in the Operating and Ed Funds due to decreased fundraising opportunities. The Operating Fund balance is $37,000. The Ed Fund balance is $21,500. The report was accepted and placed on file.

**Proposed 2021-2022 Budget:**
1. Judy Elsass presented the proposed budget for the upcoming year. She noted it was challenging to budget due to the pandemic year.
2. She reviewed budget items. The Operating budget is a balanced budget with revenue and expenses both at $19,775. The Ed Fund revenue and expenses are $21,195.
3. She observed the budget may need to be amended later in the year due to the impact of the 501(c)(3) conversion.
4. Judy Elsass moved to accept the proposed 2021-2022 budget as presented. Betty Hayford seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Local Program:** Betty Hayford outlined the 2020-2021 actions and efforts to address our goals. The program included:

1. **Affordable Housing:** LWVE will engage in study and action to support and amplify local efforts to identify and remove barriers to housing affordability through changes to municipal ordinances, regulations, and processes.
2. **Climate Action:** LWVE will back state and national League of Women Voters’ climate action priorities and will support the City of Evanston in implementing its Climate Action and Resilience Plan.
3. **Criminal Justice:** LWVE will respond to a request from LWVIL to review the LWVIL proposal to revise Criminal Justice position(s). LWVE will convene one or several discussion sessions on revised positions and supporting materials from LWVIL and will hold consensus meetings in January to report to LWVIL.
4. **Fair Tax Amendment:** LWVE will be an active member of the LWVIL effort, in concert with the Responsible Budget Coalition, to adopt the Fair Tax Amendment at the time of the November 2020 election. This amendment would abolish the current flat tax in favor of a graduated tax which—like the federal graduated rate income tax—would allow higher taxation of higher wage earners and lower taxation of lower wage earners.
5. **Voter Turnout Initiative:** LWVE will develop and implement a plan to increase voter turnout in future elections, with a focus on youth and local elections, in accordance with the findings and recommendations of the Voter Turnout Initiative project conducted in 2019-2020.

**2021-2022 Program Plan:**
Betty then introduced Helen Gagel, who led the local program planning meeting on March 14, 2021. Members heard reviews of study and action on the 2020-2021 program, discussed proposals for the coming year and came to consensus on four program priorities to present to members at the Annual Meeting.

1. **Climate Action:** LWVE will back state and national League of Women Voters’ climate action priorities and will support the City of Evanston in implementing its Climate Action and Resilience Plan. Helen moved for approval. Elizabeth Kinney seconded.
2. **Council/Manager Form of Government:** LWVE will form a working group to review the LWVE Position (2005) supporting Council/Manager form of government in Evanston. Report to League members for discussion and consensus to retain or update. Engage in education and advocacy under the approved position as appropriate. Helen moved for approval. Kristine Lofquist seconded.

3. **Zoning and Housing:** LWVE will form a working group to review and update current positions on zoning and housing, to gain an understanding of revisions in local and county ordinances over the past ten to fifteen years; identify the relationship between zoning and housing policy and how they affect each other; and to consider current equity and affordability issues as they relate to both housing and zoning policy. Continue to engage in education and advocacy under the approved position as appropriate. Helen moved for approval. Birch Burghardt seconded.

4. **Health Equity in Evanston:** LWVE will form a working group to examine health equity, broadly defined, in Evanston; to identify resources providing health services in Evanston; to understand work of public and private organizations serving underserved communities; educate League members on findings; and advocate with Evanston bodies as appropriate. Helen moved for approval. Eleanor Revelle seconded.

The chair called for a vote on the recommended program. The program planning goals were unanimously approved, and the 2021-2022 Program Plan was adopted.

**Nominating and Elections:**

Jennifer thanked the Nominating Committee for its work. Committee members included Sue Calder (chair), Birch Burghardt and Emily Guthrie.

Jennifer called for nominations from the floor. Upon hearing none, the nominations were closed. Sue Brenner moved to vote on the ballot as a slate, and Mary Kelly seconded the motion. The following slate of candidates was approved unanimously.

**Officers:**

- Co-Presidents: Mary Keefe Kelly, Jennifer O'Neil
- Vice President: Mary Rothschild
- Secretary: Lois Taft
- Treasurer: Al Telser

**Elected Directors:**

- Local Program: Lonnie Dunlap
- Membership: Emily Guthrie
- Local Government: Elizabeth Hayford
- Voter Services: Judy Hoffman
- Local Program: Elizabeth Kinney
- Events: Joan Lakebrink
- Membership: Kristine Lofquist
- Special Initiative: Mark Tendam

**Nominating:** Birch Burghardt, Chair

(As stipulated in our bylaws, a third member will be appointed from the Board of Directors.)
**Off Board Appointments:**
Office Coordinator  Judy Elsass  
Web Master  Mary Lewis  
Intercom Editor  Mark Tendam

**Announcements:**
1. Elizabeth Kinney announced Madeline Young as the winner of the LWVE fourth annual scholarship to an ETHS student. Madeline already has an impressive resumé. She captained the ETHS Debate Team, interned with Congresswoman Schakowsky, and has been active in climate advocacy. She will attend American University in the Fall.
2. Elizabeth also announced the next monthly event. It will feature Cameron Davis, a Metropolitan Water Reclamation Board Commissioner. His topic will be “How to Hug Water.” He will explain efforts to protect Lake Michigan and the Chicago River as well as storm water runoff and local water quality issues. The event will be held June 1, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom. Registration is required and available on the LWVE website.
3. Jennifer reminded members that the end of the fiscal year is June 30th and that information about membership renewals will be forthcoming. She added that contributions (in addition to memberships) would be greatly appreciated, since there was no fundraising activity this past year. Members can renew now at the website:  lwve.org.

**Other Business:**
1. Jennifer announced that three delegate spots to the state convention remain open. Volunteers are welcome.
2. Jennifer directed interested members to the three policies that the Board adopted this year. They are: a) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy; b) Conflict of Interest Policy, and c) Candidate Participation Policy.

**Executive Messages:**
1. Jennifer thanked Elizabeth Kinney and the Scholarship Committee (Sue Brenner, Gloria Callaci, Betty Hayford and Susan Schaffrath) for their time and effort.
2. Jennifer thanked outgoing Board Members (Karen Hunt, Linda LaBuda, Kathleen O’Malley and Katie O’Neil). She thanked the office staff and Kate Todd as Coordinator.
3. Mary Kelly thanked Betty Hayford, Mark Tendam and Helen Gagel for their work on the Intercom.
4. Mary recognized Judy Hoffman for her essential work with the general and local elections.
5. She also thanked Katie O’Neil for “going above and beyond” in all the various jobs she assumed.
6. Mary thanked Mary Lewis for her great work as Web Master.
7. Mary introduced newest LWVE member, Jonathan Edwards. He explained that he joined because of the candidate forums and applauded LWVE as a trusted source of voter information and resource.

Jennifer noted it was a year of challenges, and she whole-heartedly thanked all volunteers for their hundreds of hours of work.

**Adjournment:**
Jennifer adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda LaBuda, Secretary
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>Year-to-Date</th>
<th>FY 2022</th>
<th>FY 2023</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/31/2022</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
<td>Proposed Budget</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9 months</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Combined Oper.&amp; Ed. Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Dues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>$10,432</td>
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<td>B. Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members - Operating</td>
<td>2,780</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Awards from LWVUS &amp; LWVIL</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members - Ed. Fund</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted Scholarship Fund - Ed.Fund</td>
<td>1,340</td>
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<td>C. Publications</td>
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<tr>
<td>This is Evanston - Ed. Fund</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progressive Dinner 2022</td>
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<td>Holiday Gift Wrapping</td>
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<td>E. Programs &amp; Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Programs/Events</td>
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<tr>
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<td>850</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Interest</td>
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<td>G. Reimbursement from Ed. Fund</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>H. Transfer from Reserves</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15,720</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To balance budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income - Operating</td>
<td>16,437</td>
<td>19,775</td>
<td>Actual income w/o transfer:</td>
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<td>1,960</td>
<td>$39,185</td>
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<td>TOTAL INCOME - Combined (with transfer)</td>
<td>$16,437</td>
<td>$21,735</td>
<td>$54,905</td>
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<td>EXPENSES</td>
<td>Year-to-Date</td>
<td>FY 2022</td>
<td>FY 2023</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>3/31/2022</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
<td>Proposed Budget</td>
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<td>9 months</td>
<td>Budget</td>
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<td>A. Organizational Expenses</td>
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<td>Office Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>2,196</td>
<td>2,930</td>
<td>3,060</td>
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<td>Copying/Printing</td>
<td>180</td>
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<td>Electronic Support (was Website Maintenance)</td>
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<td>Equipment/Software</td>
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<td>7,500</td>
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<td>501©(3) Conversion Costs</td>
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<td>Sub-total - Operating</td>
<td>3,092</td>
<td>5,030</td>
<td>12,860</td>
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<td>Sub-total - Ed. Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. President &amp; Board (Operating)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. State or National Convention (Operating)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<td>D. Financial Support</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>National PMP ($32.)</td>
<td>4,960</td>
<td>2,735</td>
<td>4,930</td>
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<tr>
<td>State PMP ($32.)</td>
<td>4,960</td>
<td>2,735</td>
<td>4,930</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cook County PMP ($2.)</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>310</td>
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<td>ILO - Lake Michigan &amp; Mississippi Watershed</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
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<td>Sub-total - Operating</td>
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<td>E. Publications</td>
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<td>Intercom Production</td>
<td>1,739</td>
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<td>Sub-total - Operating</td>
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<td>Sub-total - Ed. Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Programs &amp; Meetings (all Operating)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Programs/Events/Stipends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drinks &amp; Dialogues</td>
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<td>Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legislative Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Studies</td>
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<td>Co-sponsoring Events</td>
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<td>Holiday Party</td>
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<td>100th Anniversary Activities</td>
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<td>Sub-total - Operating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major Fundraiser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progressive Dinner</td>
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<td>300</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-total - Operating</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total - Ed. Fund</td>
<td></td>
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### H. Voters Service (all Ed. Fund)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forums</td>
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<tr>
<td>Election Materials</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-total - Ed. Fund</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>350</td>
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### I. Scholarship Fund - Ed. Fund

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1,000</th>
<th>1,000</th>
<th>1,500</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenses - Operating</td>
<td>20,275</td>
<td>$19,775</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses - Ed. Fund</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$9,180</td>
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**TOTAL EXPENSES - Combined**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$20,275</th>
<th>$28,955.00</th>
<th>$54,905</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INCOME & EXPENSES:**

- Need to transfer $15,720 from reserves to balance budget;
- see income

### BALANCE SHEET AS OF 3/31/2022:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Checkbook Balance</td>
<td>$24,834.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money Market</td>
<td>14,581.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD</td>
<td>12,523.42</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Total Funds**

|                  | $51,939.48 |

* Checkbook balance includes the $19,374.90 which was transferred from our Education Fund account with LWVIL after the Operating Fund received its 501(c)(3) designation.
LWV EVANSTON BUDGET NOTES – FY 2023

General Comments: The LWV Evanston is now operating as a 501C(3) charitable organization due to our conversion from a 501C(4) organization under IRS rules. This change went into effect in May 2021 after the FY 2022 budget was approved after the annual meeting. Because of this change, we had to leave in line items in the Proposed Budget corresponding to FY 2022. Therefore, this Proposed Budget looks very different from past ones, and the FY 2023 budget reflects a combined organization.

Revenues
A. Dues: Estimate based on a projected membership of 93 individuals @ $70/member, 16 households @ $35/household, & 50 @ $65/senior rate. We have 10 life members who pay no dues. Total: 154 pro-rated members; total membership: 175.
B. Contributions: Members are encouraged to make contributions in addition to their dues payments at the time of membership renewal. Members can also donate to the Scholarship Fund. Dues & Contributions are tax-deductible.
C. Publications: This is Evanston, projecting sales of 20 @ $5.00. New edition available summer 2023.
D. Fundraising: Holiday Gift Wrapping and Fundraising Benefit celebrating our 100th anniversary.
E. Programs, Events & Meetings: Estimated revenues realized from various monthly programs & events, the Annual Meeting, & the Legislative Luncheon; offset by Expenses F. Assuming mostly in-person meetings and some Zoom meetings.
F. Interest: Annual interest based on current low interest rates.
G. Reimbursement from Ed. Fund: no reimbursement due to combining Operating Fund & Ed. Fund
H. Transfer from Reserves: Proposing transfer of $15,720 to balance budget, due to several one-time projects, namely Website Redesign, 100th Anniversary, & This is Evanston republication. Our bank accounts can handle this deficit in FY 2023 largely because of the influx of our funds from our LWVIL Education Fund account.

Expenses
A. Organizational Expenses: Based on current usage in most line items. Rent will be $255/month for 1 year; Postage & Printing include funds for membership renewal & tax donation mailings; Insurance – no expense (LWVIL covers); Website Maintenance (now called Electronic Support) includes website & domain renewals plus Zoom contract; Website Redesign (a new line item) to pay for complete redesign of our website.
B. President & Board: For out-of-pocket expenses of Executive Committee & Board members.
C. State or National Conventions: Budgeted amount allows for delegates to attend the June 2023 State Convention; location unknown.
D. Financial Support to other levels of the League: Per-Member-Payments: National - $4,930.($32); State - $4,930.($32); Cook County – $310 ($2), based on a billable membership count of 154 as reported in January 2022. Payments of $75. To ILO’s.
E. Publications: For Intercom, combined production and postage costs for five editions; Directory expenses include funds for a limited printing of the Directory; printing of a new edition of This is Evanston.
F. Programs & Meetings: Monthly Programs/Events/Stipends, Drinks & Dialogues, Annual Meeting, Legislative Luncheon, Holiday Party, 100th Anniversary Events, Co-sponsoring Events, and possible local, state or national studies
I. Scholarship Fund: Fund established to honor an ETHS student for outstanding civic engagement study.
2021-2022 Local Program Report

Zoning and Housing
- LWVE formed a working group to review and update current positions on zoning and housing. The group conducted interviews with City staff (community development, housing, zoning, and inspections), developers, fair housing advocates, service providers, small landlords, Northwestern, and ZoneCo, a consultant reviewing Evanston’s zoning code. They compiled results of the interviews and a literature review and made this report available to members and other interested parties. An LWVE information meeting and consensus meetings were held to discuss consensus questions on policy issues. Proposed language for updated positions on housing and zoning was approved by the Board at its regular April meeting.

Health Equity
- LWVE formed a working group to examine health equity in Evanston, to identify resources providing health services, and to understand the work of organizations serving underserved communities. They completed 20 interviews representing 13 community organizations and government representatives. Responses to the question about key health concerns and gaps in services in Evanston were summarized. A Health Equity Report was prepared to summarize the findings and guide future advocacy. The report has been shared with League members and with governmental and community organizations.

Climate Action
- LWVE actively advocated for State and National League of Women Voters climate action priorities and supported the City of Evanston’s implementation of its Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP). The League collaborated with the Citizens Climate Lobby and other organizations and was represented at a variety of climate programs and activities including Environment Board meetings, the League of Women Voters Lake Michigan Region annual meeting. The membership was updated frequently with information and legislative action alerts.

Council / Manager form of Government
- The Board of Directors voted to put the review of the LWVE position supporting the Council / Manager form of government on hold in order to retain the ability to advocate using the current position in light of heightened interest in the topic in the community and the possibility of a discussion among city staff and/or elected officials.

Speaker presentations were held throughout the year to inform members and guests about housing and zoning, health equity, and climate action. The Housing & Zoning Report and the Health Equity Report can be found on the website at www.lwve.org
Approved by the LWVE Board 3/9/20 / For adoption by membership

LWVE – Revised Housing Position
The League supports:
• housing policies that prioritize equity, lower housing costs, and the reduction of segregation, and that focus on resident wellbeing and housing stability

• strong and effective enforcement of Federal, State, County and City Fair Housing Laws, and the City’s Tenant/Landlord Ordinance and Condominium Regulations

• an affordable housing plan to achieve an adequate supply of affordable housing throughout the City; a plan that includes priorities, specific actions, quantifiable goals and timeframes and is updated regularly

• a strong and effective rental property inspection and enforcement program that requires compliance with City ordinances and holds responsible parties accountable

• a proactive education program and increased public understanding of the need for and benefits of affordable housing and why and how zoning and other policies and practices must support and accommodate such housing

• training opportunities to address specific housing-related concerns of target populations

• a regional approach to affordable housing and zoning, and collaboration with area municipalities

• a variety of options to incentivize the financing and development of affordable housing, including using the Affordable Housing Fund to provide gap funding and utilizing non-cash resources

LWVE – Revised Zoning Position
The League supports:
• zoning policies that prioritize equity, lower housing costs, and the reduction of segregation, and that focus on resident wellbeing and housing stability

• reducing zoning restrictions and streamlining approval processes to encourage the use of land and buildings in creative and impactful ways and to create more affordability

• regulations that guard against overcrowding or unsafe conditions, but opposes mandating familial structures as a way to regulate these things

• a strong and effective rental property inspection and enforcement program that requires compliance with City ordinances and holds responsible parties accountable

• a proactive education program and increased public understanding of the need for and benefits of affordable housing and why and how zoning and other policies and practices must support and accommodate such housing

• a regional approach to affordable housing and zoning, and collaboration with area municipalities
The League of Women Voters of Evanston will take appropriate action or collaborate with and support like-minded organizations and coalitions in Evanston and other northern suburban communities, to advocate for issues consistent with League positions. The three main focus areas recommended by the board of directors for adoption are listed below.

**Civil Discourse**
LWVE will form a working group to promote civil discourse at public meetings. The group will identify effective strategies to anticipate potential problems; explore techniques for defusing tension while protecting public debate and safety and ensuring every voice is heard; and develop effective tactics to anticipate and minimize disruptions. We will share our findings with local governmental and community organizations.

**Redistricting in Evanston**
A working group will gather information and learn about the process of redistricting in Evanston to ensure that the League will be prepared to participate and take action as needed on a new city ward map.

**Ranked Choice Voting**
A working group will gather information on Ranked Choice Voting and why cities and states are adopting this electoral method. The group will work in collaboration with state and local leagues to understand how Ranked Choice Voting could be applied to state and local elections in Illinois.
Proposed Slate

Officers and Directors

2022-2023

Officers

Executive Committee:
Mary Keefe Kelly, Vice President
Betty Hayford, Vice President
Lois Taft, Secretary
Kathy Hayes, Treasurer

Elected Directors
Kristine Lofquist
Lonnie Dunlap
Joan Lakebrink
Joan Linsenmeier
Mark Tendam
Jennifer O'Neil
Alisa Kaplan
Willie Shaw
Georgia Vlahos

Nominating

Carol Mullins, Chair
Gloria Callaci

Off Board Appointments
Office Coordinator  Judy Elsass
Web Master         Mary Lewis
Intercom Editor    Mark Tendam
Proposed Officers and Board Members

Lonnie Dunlap. In 2002 I moved to Evanston to begin my position as Executive Director, Career Services at NU. Previously at Washington State University I completed my Ph.D. and my primary professional roles were Director of WSU Career Services, and Affiliate Faculty, teaching in Women’s Studies for ten years. I also served as president of NOW and the YWCA, as precinct chair, and actively supported campaigns. At NU I served on the advisory committee for the Women’s Center and participated in events promoting social justice. After retirement, I became interested in the work of LWVE, attended programs and became a member. I have been so impressed by the League’s activities. I look forward to helping to advance the League’s mission and important work in our community.

Kathelyn M. Hayes. Evanston is the city where I was born and raised. My life is enriched by my amazing daughter and three beautiful grandchildren. After serving the Cook County government system for twenty-four years, I have retired to pursue my passion as a public servant in my community. My commitment to public service has led me to hold various leadership positions and participate actively in community organizations. The work I do with community organizations continues to fulfill my passion. In my spare time, I enjoy going to theaters for movies, concerts, or plays. In addition, I enjoy traveling with family and friends.

Betty Hayford. I joined the League in 2006 after retiring as President of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest. I worked in that consortium of liberal arts colleges for over 25 years, engaging in a wide range of higher education issues – faculty development, curriculum, international education and higher ed policy. I joined the LWVE Board in 2007 and have done stints in many positions – Secretary, Treasurer, V.P for Local Program, and Co-President. In recent years I have focused on Local Government and the Observer Corps, and have spent many hours observing City Council and other meetings. This year we have worked on celebrating the 100th Anniversary of LWVE, and I am on another team revising our handbook This is Evanston. I have also been on the Board of the League of Cook County, studying Cook County government and the criminal justice system there. My husband Chuck and I lived in Asia for several years before moving to Evanston in 1981. We have two children, currently living in Ohio.

Alisa Kaplan. Alisa has been a proud Evanstonian for 14 years. She is the Executive Director of Reform for Illinois, a nonpartisan organization that works for a more democratic, more equitable, and less corrupt Illinois government. She has been fortunate to work with League members on issues from voting rights to campaign finance reform. Born and raised in New York City, Alisa moved to Chicagoland to attend Northwestern, where she earned a JD and a PhD in Political Science. She received her undergraduate degree from Yale. She has taught Constitutional Law, Civil Rights, Presidential Power, and other classes at Northwestern. Alisa has been the Board Co-President of the Evanston-based housing justice organization Open Communities and the Co-President of the Evanston Animal Shelter Association, which she co-founded. She lives with her husband and three rescue mutts in Evanston.
Mary Keefe Kelly. I joined the League in 2016 and have had the wonderful opportunity to work with a number of League members, especially in the Voter Services and Membership arenas. Additionally, I have served on the Board of Directors in various capacities for the past 3 years. My professional background includes 30+ years of holding Executive Director positions in several professional service firms (including both national law and accounting firms) as well as spending several years working full time with the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. My husband John and I were both teachers in our early professional lives – and are of the belief that one never stops “teaching” (or “learning” for that matter).

Joan Lakebrink. I became engaged in LWV work when I lived in Wisconsin. My bachelor’s degree was earned in social sciences and English, my master’s degree in history and my PhD in educational leadership and policy analysis at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I served on the faculty of DePaul University, and have also served as teacher and/or principal of K-12 schools. I enjoy traveling and cultural events in the Chicago area. I have served as Secretary for LWVE and currently chair the Events Committee. Last year I worked with the committee to help the State League form its position on Illinois Criminal Justice System.

Joan Linsenmeier. I moved to Evanston in 1973 to attend Northwestern, earned a PhD in psychology, moved away, and moved back in 1983. When my children were young, I volunteered with the PTA, Cub Scouts, and Girl Scouts. I also co-chaired the PTA Council’s HIV Education Task Force and served on the Advisory Board of the ETHS School-Based Health Center. From the late 1980s through 2021, I was a faculty member at Northwestern and held administrative positions focused on undergraduate education. A colleague invited me to join the LWVE in the 1990s. I helped with two editions of This Is Evanston and with holiday gift wrapping, and in the past year I have been a member of the LWVE Health Equity and 100th Anniversary committees.

Kristine Lofquist. I have been an Evanston resident in the Sixth Ward for the past twenty years, but only recently joined the League. My son is a student at Evanston Township High School. My interests include consumer rights, educational equity, homelessness, and international development. I have interned for Citizen Action Illinois (formerly IPAC), volunteered with Connections for the Homeless and have recently been very active as a volunteer leader for The One Campaign to end extreme global poverty. The majority of my career has been in the employee benefits field as a consultant to corporate, multiemployer and government benefit plans, with an emphasis on legal compliance issues. I have a B.A. in Political Science and Religion from St. Olaf College in Minnesota.

Jennifer Lee O’Neil. Jennifer joined the LWV in the 1980’s in Canton, Massachusetts, chairing membership, then voter services and eventually serving as president of the local League. When her family moved to Evanston in 1995, she immediately joined the LWVE and participated in a variety of activities. Recently, she chaired voter services for several years before serving as president. She is retired from 50 years in the fair and affordable housing industry including property development and management and the administration of subsidy and special programs. Jennifer is originally from Ohio and received a BA degree from Indiana University. She has a son and a daughter in the area and a step daughter in New Jersey.
**Willie Shaw.** Originally from Mississippi, Willie attended National Louis University where she obtained a double Masters in General Education and Special Education. She served as chair of the local school improvement team, authored and presented a variety of workshops & created programs that continue to be implemented today. Willie completed a 35-year tenure with Evanston School District 65 in June of 2012. She is a life member of the Evanston Northshore Branch NAACP and currently chairs the Political Action/Civic Engagement and Social committees, and is a member of the Health Committee. Among her numerous community activities, Willie is a coordinator of study groups for Northwestern’s Osher program as well as past chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee. She is the proud mother of one daughter & three grandchildren.

**Lois Taft**
I joined the League in 2015 after retiring as Professor of Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and moving to Evanston. My nursing career included positions in clinical care, teaching, and administration. I have served on the LWVE Board since 2019 in positions of Secretary and Treasurer. As Treasurer, I prepared the application for our change in status to a 501(c) (3) organization, which was approved. I have been engaged in Local Program issues including a voter turnout initiative with a focus on the youth vote, a revision of the LWVIL position on criminal justice, and an investigation of health equity in Evanston. My husband and I have a farm in Wisconsin and enjoy life in both the city and the country. We have a daughter and three grandchildren in Evanston.

**Mark Tendam.** I served on the Evanston City Council (two terms) and the boards of Better Existence with HIV (BEHIV), McGaw YMCA, Connections for the Homeless and Northlight Theatre. I am an alumnus of Leadership Evanston and Citizens Police Academy. My council work included leadership in transitioning the city’s library to a state-sanctioned fund model with an independent board; amending the affordable housing ordinance to include rental buildings and more incentives for builders; focusing city and private efforts for a downtown performing arts center; and, reorganizing the Evanston Animal Shelter. I am a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a B.S. Degree in Design and practiced graphic design for over 35 years. My husband, Neal Moglin, and I have been together for 32 years —27 years residing in Evanston.

**Georgia Vlahos** is a retired federal administrative law judge, where she adjudicated federal employment disputes. Her federal civil service also includes 20 years as in-house counsel at Naval Service Training Command in North Chicago, Illinois, which houses the Navy’s only boot camp. She is a graduate of Ohio Northern University and Northwestern School of Law. She is also a long-time resident of Evanston and has been a League member since 1994. Her interests include voter services, housing and environmental issues.
WHEREAS, in the late 19th and the early 20th century, women in Evanston were active locally and nationally in efforts to improve the lives of women and secure for women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 1919, the proposed 19th amendment to the United States Constitution giving women the right to vote was passed by Congress and sent to the States for ratification, and Illinois became the first state to ratify the amendment; and

WHEREAS, in 1920 activist women formed a national organization, the League of Women Voters, to prepare women to become active in the political sphere; and

WHEREAS, in 1922 women in Evanston formed the Evanston chapter of the League of Women Voters (LWVE); and

WHEREAS, less than a year after its founding, LWVE joined with other groups to present a three-day citizenship school in Evanston to instruct new women voters on the structure of American government, election laws, and current social and financial topics; and

WHEREAS, since its founding LWVE has worked to promote its mission to encourage informed and active participation in government, to increase understanding of public policy issues, to influence public policy through education and advocacy and to defend democracy; and

WHEREAS, LWVE continues to work as a political and non-partisan organization, continues to advocate and take action on issues, and continues to avoid supporting or opposing any political party or political candidate; and

WHEREAS, LWVE works to fulfill its commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice; and

WHEREAS, every year LWVE identifies issues for study and/or action to impact local, state or national progress, including over recent years affordable housing, health equity, climate action, immigration reform, capital punishment and many others; and

WHEREAS, LWVE maintains its commitment to voter engagement and education through voter registration drives, candidate events and meetings with elected officials.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Daniel Biss, Mayor of the City of Evanston, Illinois, do hereby proclaim March 28, 2022 a day to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters of Evanston and its contributions and commitment over the last century to its ongoing civic action.

Witness under my hand and corporate seal of Evanston, Illinois this 28th day of March 2022.