

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF NORTHWEST WAYNE COUNTY

Established in Livonia in 1960
www.LWVnorthwestwayne.org

Voter

May 2020

Serving: Belleville, Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Sumpter Twp, Van Buren Twp.,
Wayne and Westland

It's a Brave New World!

Annual Meeting - Pandemic Version



None of us ever envisioned conducting an Annual Meeting by email or postal mail because of a pandemic, but that is exactly the situation in which we find ourselves. We were expecting our May 31st Annual Meeting to be festive and exciting because we were celebrating the League's 100th birthday, the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, and our own 60th birthday as a local League. We hope to reschedule our celebrations, but we will postpone making plans until some normalcy has been restored.

Despite our inability to meet in person, all of you have the opportunity to participate remotely in the key decisions we make at our Annual Meeting: electing new officers, passing a budget, and approving a program.

In mid-April, LWV Michigan's Board of Directors authorized local Leagues to hold their Annual Meeting votes virtually, on-line or by postal mail, even if our bylaws made no mention of an emergency that prevented an in-person meeting. We are grateful for this "dispensation" so that we can complete our annual business. Included in this Voter are descriptions of the 3 items you will be asked to vote on:

1. Nominations to the Board of Directors. Nominating Chair Angela Ryan will accept nominations through June 1, 2020. Please contact her if you want to self-nominate or nominate another member (with his/her consent).
2. The proposed budget completed by the Budget Committee and recommended by the Board.
3. The proposed program.

For those who receive the Voter by email, you will receive an emailed ballot on June 8th that will allow you to vote on-line. You will also be given the opportunity to make any directions to the Board: comments or suggestions that usually are given at the Annual Meeting. Please vote by June 15th. An Annual Meeting Booklet will be emailed to you.

For those who receive the Voter by postal mail, your ballot is in this newsletter. After you have voted, please mail your ballot to: Paula Bowman, 9000 N Lilley, Plymouth, MI, 48170. You can also call her with your vote: 734-277-2243. Please vote as soon as possible. Voting will be closed on June 26, 2020. An Annual Meeting Booklet is also included.

Voting results will be disclosed at an on-line Zoom Meeting at the end of June. You will receive an invitation - watch your email for the link. Thank you for participating in this highly unusual Annual Meeting. We look forward to when we can meet again and sing Happy Birthday to us! *Paula Bowman*

LWV NWW Board of Directors
2018--2021

PRESIDENT
Paula Bowman
paulabowman9000@gmail.com

VP VOTER SERVICE
Carrie Moon-Dupree

VP DEVELOPMENT
Angela Ryan

SECRETARY
Kathy Mchahwar

TREASURER
Susan Rowe

VOTER EDITOR
Ann Abdo

DIRECTORS
Donna Gilkey-Lavin
Lori Gilbo
Maureen Hughes
Manny Lavin
Deanna Master
Carin Meyer
Val Nelson
Lena Packer
Judy Patrick
Jackie Peters
Mary Visos

LWV of NW Wayne County
PO Box 51502
Livonia, MI 48151
(734) 421-4420
EM: lwvmail@yahoo.com
Web:
www.LWVNorthwestwayne.org

Membership is open to anyone
age 16 & older.

Dues: Student \$5; Individual
\$60, Household \$85.

The League of Women Voters is
a non-partisan, political organi-
zation that encourages informed
and active participation in
government, works to increase
understanding of major public
policy issues, and influence
public policy through education
and advocacy.

*Board of Directors
Slate of Candidates
for
2020 -2022*

This year's Nominating Committee is Kathy Mchahwar, Joan Gebhardt, Sue Wabeke, and Angela Ryan. The Committee offers the following slate of candidates for the NW Wayne County League's Board of Directors:

VP Voter Service: Carrie Moon-Dupree (Incumbent)
Secretary: Deanna Master
Director: Kathy Mchahwar
Director: Carin Meyer (Incumbent)
Director: Mary Visos (Incumbent)

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

President: Paula Bowman
VP Development: Angela Ryan
Treasurer: Susan Rowe
Voter Editor: Ann Abdo
Director: Donna Gilkey-Lavin
Director: Lena Packer

Appointed Directors:
Maureen Hughes
Manny Lavin
Val Nelson
Judy Patrick
Jackie Peters

If we were having an in-person Annual Meeting, we'd consider nominations from the floor. For this year, if there are any other candidates to consider, please notify Angela Ryan by June 1, 2020.

We'd like to express our thanks to Virginia Belinski, Lori Gilbo, and Laurie Kelly for their past service on the Board. They were all great assets and they will be missed.

League Program

By Paula Bowman

The League program is the education and advocacy platform that we adopt to move our mission forward. The Board of Directors recommends that we adopt the following program for the 2020-2021 fiscal year:

Participate in the LWVMI Lane Duck Study. In late 2020 or early 2021, League members will vote on consensus questions provided by the LWVMI Lane Duck Committee. Our responses, along with those of other members in the state, will help form a LWVMI position on Lane Duck Legislative Sessions.

Support Making Democracy Work platform which includes voting rights, campaign finance reform and redistricting reform (which has largely been accomplished in Michigan but we may be called upon to monitor the Redistricting Commission)

Welcome New Members

Toni Jones, Plymouth; Antoine Jordan, Belleville

Budget

Fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

A special thank you goes to the budget committee: Linda Curry, Nancy White, Angela Ryan, Susan Rowe, Donna Gilkey-Lavin, Carin Meyer and Paula Bowman. They developed the budget for the next fiscal year and it was approved by the Board of Directors. See attached.

Bus Tour

By Angela Ryan

At last October's League Auction, we offered a Detroit Bus Tour which was to take place on May 16. Those who paid for the trip were notified last month that the tour was canceled, and they were asked if they wanted the trip to be rescheduled or if they wanted their money refunded. Many people were supportive of rescheduling the tour some time in 2021. However, 10 people asked for a refund. The Board considered our options and decided to cancel this tour. After the virus is contained, we will look into planning another bus tour. Thank you for your support of these tours over the last few years. Refund checks will be going out soon. If you have any questions about the refunds, please contact Treasurer Susan Rowe at srowe922@gmail.com or 734-595-8564.

Membership

by Paula Bowman



At previous Annual Meetings, we collected dues for the following year. This year, we must rely on you to mail in your dues or pay online. **See membership renewal form on the next page, or pay online at www.lwvnorthwestwayne.org.** By paying your dues promptly, you save League time and the cost of mailing you a renewal form.

Membership dues are the same as last year: \$60 for an individual, \$25 for an additional member in the same household and \$5 for a student. Payment of your dues gives you membership in our local League, the LWV of Michigan and the LWV of the United States.

We hope you will continue to be part of the important work of the League, especially in this election year. We value the membership of each of you. Payment of your dues assures you of another year of promoting political responsibility through active and informed participation of citizens in government. Despite an inability to meet in person, League members continue to work hard on our on-line Voter Guide (VOTE411), candidate forums without audiences, as well as use social media to educate voters, and for membership recruitment, fundraising and advocacy.

Increasing your check to make a donation is welcomed and appreciated! If you want the tax deduction, you must send a separate check payable to LWV Northwest Wayne Education Fund (see instructions on the membership renewal form; p.5). Only \$5 of your dues payment stays with the our League; the balance of these funds go to LWVMI and LWVUS. We depend on fundraisers and your generous contributions to further our mission. Thank you for your support!

Membership Renewal Form
for
Fiscal year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Name: _____

Renewal Dues: \$60.00 **(Dues can also be paid via PayPal from our website:
www.lwvnorthwestwayne.org)**

Renewal Dues for Student: \$ 5.00

Second Person dues: \$25.00 *(Dues for second person in the same household)*

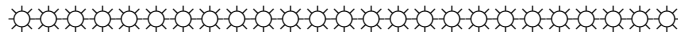
If you joined the League after March 1, 2020, your membership is in place through June 30, 2021 and you owe no dues at this time. If you joined in late 2019 or before March 1, 2020, you only owe a pro-rated share of dues – not the full \$60. You will receive an email indicating your prorated dues amount.

Contributions are welcome and appreciated! Please add any amount to your dues check. If you want to claim a *tax deduction* for your contribution, you must write a separate check to LWV Education Fund. This check can be sent to Susan Rowe along with your dues check.

Please make your check payable to the League of Women Voters and send it to our treasurer: Susan Rowe
35415 Elm
Wayne, MI 48184

If your name is not on your check, please include a note so we can attribute the payment to you.

If you have a new phone, mail or email address, please write it here:



If you know of someone who might be interested in joining the League, please write name and contact information below. _____

If you have any questions about your dues, please contact Susan Rowe at 734-595-8564 or srowe922@gmail.com

**NW WAYNE COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
2020 BALLOT**

**By June 15, 2020, please send
completed ballot to:**

**Paula Bowman
9000 N. Lilley
Plymouth, MI 48170**

**or call Paula with your choices:
734-277-2243.**

Carrie Moon-Dupree (incumbent) has been nominated to a 2-year term as Vice President of Voter Services. Do you support? Please circle:

Yes or No

Deanna Master has been nominated to a 2-year term as Secretary. Do you support? Please circle:

Yes or No

Kathy Mchahwar has been nominated to a 2-year term as a Director. Do you support? Please circle:

Yes or No

Mary Visos (incumbent) has been nominated to a 2-year term as a Director. Do you support? Please circle:

Yes or No

Carin Meyer (incumbent) has been nominated to a 2-year term as a Director. Do you support? Please circle:

Yes or No

Do you support the 2020-2021 Budget as it appeared in the May, 2020 Voter, which has been recommended by the LWV Northwest Wayne County Board of Directors? Please circle:

Yes or No

League program is the education and advocacy platform that we adopt to move our mission forward. The LWV Board of Directors recommends that we adopt the following program for the 2020-2021 fiscal year: 1) participate in the LWVMI Lame Duck Study and 2) support of the Making Democracy Work platform which includes voting rights, campaign finance reform and redistricting reform (which has largely been accomplished in Michigan but we may be called upon to monitor the Redistricting Commission). Do you support the proposed program? Please circle:

Yes or No

Directions to the Board: Please provide any ideas or suggestions you would like the Board of Directors to consider:

Please provide your name so that we can check you off our "Voted" list! _____