THE 68TH ANNUAL MEETING WAS PRECEDED BY THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

WELCOME Sara Allen welcomed the group and thanked long time member Dan Anderson for sponsoring the event as a member of Glen Oak CC.

Erica Nelson and Bernadette Laszewski reminded us about upcoming candidate forums, May 3,4 for Illinois 6th Congressional, and May 11,12 for DuPage County District 4. Illinois 3rd Congressional will be hosted by the Wheaton league. Please register for these on lwvge.org.

Thank you to Lynn Bruno for designing the meeting booklet.

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS: Judy Gervase introduced new members. See pg 2of the Program for all names.

DINNER

SPEAKER: Dr. Sania Irwin: Dr. Irwin is the Senior Vice-President of Systems Engineering at Eagle Rail container Logistics. She is a co-founder and President of One Community, a 501(c)(3) charitable entity in Glen Ellyn, which aims to raise awareness, acceptance and involvement of neighbors of all backgrounds. She is an elected member of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and serves on its Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee, as well as the Leadership Development task force.

Her talk was titled: “A National View of the League of Women Voters” in which she highlighted the League’s mission of empowering voters and defending democracy through educating voters, improving elections, and combating mis and dis information. Building power, women power.
League has been involved in litigation to fight for democracy.

Building power: How?

1. LWVUS Bylaw change: Membership upgrades: A new national database that will make joining the League much easier. When you go to sign up as a new member, you will enter national database, national data will be integrated with local league data. Additionally a more equitable and unified dues structure is being proposed; a sliding payment scale. There are too many areas in the country where there are no local leagues,“league deserts”. The goal is to make it easier to join the League of Women Voters.
The proposed bylaw change will also eliminate the“per member payment” that local leagues pay now and the national league will not take more than 1/3 of a due. State 1/3, local 1/3 and national 1/3.
2. By state league investments: increase the state league’s ability to exercise political power on state legislatures by increasing support staff.
3. By empowering local leagues: Simplify the federated structure to ensure leagues maintain focus on the mission. State leagues will take on administrative jobs from local leagues.

4. By formalizing membership and league rights and responsibilities.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS: Awards were presented by Candy Purdom. Other members of the awards committee were Sonja Faulkner and Judy Gervase.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY VOTER SERVICE AWARD: Bernadette Laszewski has excelled at the job of Voter Services and Voter Registration. She helped to reinvent candidate forums into the most professionally produced, virtual forums which became models for other DuPage County leagues.

OUTSTANDING NEW LEAGUE MEMBER AWARD: Barbara Kwiatkowski joined League and jumped right in to the Civic Betterment Party study offering thoughtful and constructive contributions. She will be attending the 2022 LWVUS convention representing our League as a delegate.

PHYLLIS RENFRO COMMUNITY ACTION AWARD: Erica Nelson has served the League and the wider Glen Ellyn community as past LWVGE Co-President, current Co-Director of Voter Services, past member and President of District 41 school board, founding member of One Community and as a model community activist working tirelessly to pass the 708 Board referendum in Milton Township.

AGENDA
68TH Annual Business Meeting
April 28, 2022
Parliamentarian: Jane B

CALL TO ORDER at 8:29 p.m. by Michelle Thorsell

ROLL CALL taken by Secretary: Ann Robinson. Members in attendance_____. The Secretary declared a quorum, (20% of the total membership).

SECRETARY'S REPORT/MINUTES: Pg 5-7. Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting are printed in the Program and were read and approved by a committee consisting of three members:Sonja Faulkner, Lois Walter and Jayne Boeckelman.
Minutes of 2021 will be read by committee of three:Sara Allen, Michelle Thorsell and Ann Robinson.
Motion to approve the 2020 Minutes was made by Carrie Burrows, and seconded by Donna Jean Simon. Motion passed.

BYLAWS CHANGES NONE

LWVGE POSITION UPDATES Pg 9: The Civic Betterment study group asked members to consider adopting the revised local position on Selection of Glen Ellyn Village and Library Board Offices. Carrie Burrows and Sonja Faulkner reported. They thanked the other members of the study group: Kristin Malone, Barbara Kwiatkowsky, Gail Bernstein, Rita Doyle and Michelle Peterson.

Because LWVGE members voiced questions about the Civic Betterment Party selection process, a study group was formed. They conducted extensive research, met with CBP board members and led a consensus meeting. The question presented was "Does the Civic Betterment Party continue to serve the purpose of identifying potential candidates for Village offices in the IL Consolidated election."

The study group agreed that CBP does serve that purpose, but made some recommendations:

1.Update the website and use social media to communicate and encourage participation.

2. Partner with other civic organizations to offer diverse candidates and for the CBP Nominating Committee.

3. Limit the terms of combined years one person may serve on the Board and Nominating Committee.

4. Change their name from "Party" as this indicates a political party, which the CBP is not.

5. Have written procedures for actions.

Carrie moved to approve recommended changes. Discussion followed. Erica Nelson thanked committee. Question: how will this be presented to CBP? It will be presented to the CBP Board. Q: was there application procedure challenged for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion? Sonja explained that the committee will follow up on a lot of things beyond what were reported on here, including offering league assistance.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Full report can be found on pg 10 of the Program. Judy Kinn reported. The report was accepted and will be filed by the Secretary. Special recognition given to a generous donation of $5000 from the estate of _____. Judy expressed her gratitude on behalf of LWVGE to members for participation in the fundraising drives and for payment of annual dues.

PROPOSED BUDGET The full budget for 2022-23 can be found on pg 11-12 of the Program: Gail Bernstein reported and Kristin Duncan and Judy Kinn were members of the committee. The annual budget is formed with input from board members. Anticipating in person or virtual events does affect the budget. 2022-23 expenses include attendance at the national convention as well as supporting voter education for the Primary and Mid term elections. Moved to adopt proposed budget: Carried.

NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Committee members: Michelle Peterson, Jennifer Larrabee, Judy Gervase, Amy Hohulin and Ginger Wheeler. Jennifer Larrabee reported; The committee put forward a slate of candidates for positions on the Board. With no additional nominations from the floor, _____made a motion to accept the committee's slate. Seconded

by Wendy Boden. Motion passed and the following nominees are elected to the Board of Directors:
Vice President of Communications: Karin Daly
Treasurer: Joyce Miller
Voter Services: Dave Evans
Membership: Judy Gervase
Voter:Jacquelyn Casazza
Local Government: Barbara Kwiatkowsky
Local Issues: Joyce Hothan
Nominating Committee: Amy Hohulin, Kristin Malone, Ginger Wheeler, Judy Gervase
Motion made by Sania Irwin to propose one ballot
Motion approved

CO-PRESIDENTS' REPORT
Michelle Thorsell thanked her Co-President, Sara Allen.The Co-Presidents teamed up with other DuPage LWV leaders to be stronger when unified. LWVGE achieved its membership goals and now stand at 203. They will continue to work on diversity in the membership.
Sara thanked Michelle and all members for a successful year..

PROGRAM 2022-2023 Jodi Baltimore reported.
On June 2, the League and the DuPage Election Commission will co-sponsor a voter education event at the Glen Ellyn Public Library on using the new voting equipment as a "Primary 101".
There will be a league study on TIF districts.
Alex Darrow and Karin Daly will research the need for a study on developing a local position for Environmental concerns.

LUGINBILL SCHOLARSHIP: (I don't think there was a report this year)Shawn Fasules reported that the LUGINBILL Scholarship for 2021 was awarded to Austin Simon, who is attending the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and plans to be a high-school History teacher. Contributions to the Scholarship, which provides approximately $2500 toward college, to a Glenbard West student planning to pursue a career in Education, can be made through the DuPage Foundation.

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS.
Co-president Sara Allen recognized the following Board members who are stepping down.
Judy Kinn, Treasurer who has served under 9 LWVGE presidents and has been a trustworthy source when there is ever a question about LWVGE History or precedent.

Bernie Laszewski, Voter Services, took on this huge job at a very difficult time of global pandemic and, with her partner, successfully reinvented how candidate forums are presented to the voters.

Candy Purdom: Voter editor 2018-2020, changed the look and content of the Voter.

Carrie Burrows: Coordinated the Observer corps, building it up to 14 observers who attend and report on village, park district, 3 school boards and now, Milton Township and DuPage County Board.

Angela Smith: fundraising 2020-2022, used her knowledge and familiarity with local businesses to be the face of League to those supporters.
Jodi Baltimore: Vice President of Programing for outstanding service.

Also thanks to members and student members.

ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING Motion made to adjourn at 9:08p.m. by consensus. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned