



**League of Women Voters of Oak Park & River Forest**  
**96th Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 26, 2020**

**Agenda**

Call to Order	Beverly Graham
Disposition of the Minutes of 2019 Annual Meeting	Johan Walsh
President's Report	Beverly Graham
Treasurer's Report	Sarah Shirk
Budget Proposal 2020-21	Sarah Shirk
Bylaws Committee Report	Johan Walsh
Local Program Report	Mary Haley
Presentation of Program Efforts 2019-2020	

Nominations and Elections	Joan Petertil
Presentations and Proposed Nominations	
Nominations from the floor	
Elections of Officers and Directors	
Recognition of Past Presidents, Lifetime Members and Past Hazel Hanson Award Recipients	Mary Haley
Presentation of Hazel Hanson Award	Kathy Balk
Meeting Adjournment	Beverly Graham

**Proposed Rules of 2020 Annual Meeting**

- 1. Only members of the League of Women Voters of Oak Park & River Forest may vote.
- 2. Only voting members may address the meeting. A member wishing to speak must rise, be recognized by the chair, and give her or his name and League position, if held.
- 3. During debate on a motion, no person may speak more than once until all others who wish to speak have been heard. After the original presentation, debate shall be limited to one minute for each speaker.
- 4. No announcements shall be made which do not relate to the business of the meeting or the welfare of the members.
- 5. Procedure for adoption of local program shall be:
  - a. Recommended items shall be moved for adoption by the Vice President or the Co-President.
  - b. Motion for consideration of any non-recommended items shall be made (majority vote).
  - c. Debate on recommended and non-recommended items shall then be held (items may be amended at this time).
  - d. Recommended items shall be voted upon in their entirety (majority vote).
  - e. Non-recommended items shall be voted on individually (two-thirds vote required).
- 6. Business of the Annual Meeting shall be further governed by those procedures outlined in *Simplified Parliamentary Procedure* based on *Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised*.
- 7. These rules may be amended, rescinded, or suspended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting.

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**By-Laws Committee Report**

The recommended 2020-21 changes to the By-Laws were sent via separate email to all members. They were also posted on our website lwvoprf.org.

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## LWVOPRF Budget and Treasurer's Report for Annual Meeting May 2020

<b><u>OPERATING INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>2019-20</u></b> Actual as of 5/1/2020	<b><u>2020-21</u></b> Proposed Budget
Annual Dues (\$70 individual, \$100 household of 2, \$30 student/scholarship)	11,015	12,000
Member Contributions	4,570	3,000
Great Decisions Book Sales	896	900
Fundraisers	270	5000
Interest from CD (Note: 2020 target rate APY .50%)	249	100
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>21,000</b>
<b><u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u></b>		
Advertising	600	600
Annual Meeting	0	500
Communications-League Matters/Week-in-Preview	143	500
Communications-Website/Facebook/Zoom	576	700
Delegate Fees- Cook County	0	150
Delegate Fees- State Issues Briefing	0	200
Delegate Fees- Inter League Organizations	125	200
Delegate Fees- State or National Convention	225	500
Committee Projects- Advocacy	158	200
Committee Projects- Children/Youth/MOFP	208	300
Committee Projects- Environment	300	500
Committee Projects- Great Decisions	976	900
Committee Projects- Observers	0	50
Committee Projects- Second Tuesday	150	300
Committee Projects- Speaker fees or gifts	100	250
Committee Projects- Memorials/Museum Projects	160	400
Committee Projects- Voter Services	206	500
Room Rental	0	500
Videographer Fees	300	500
Member Services-Directory	400	400
Events- Fall Kick-Off	81	100
Events- Holiday Social	826	1,000
Events- New Member Breakfast & Outreach	228	300
Events- Hazel Hanson Award	100	100
Events- Drinks & Dialogue	1120	1000
Board Training	500	500
Computer Expenses	18	100
Treasurer Expenses	122	100
Dues Subsidy- Scholarship/Sliding scale	0	70
Insurance	115	120
Meeting Room Rental & Refreshments	200	200
PayPal or Square Transaction Fees	152	200
Miscellaneous	196	100
Phone-Voicemail	84	100
Printing + Photocopies	803	800
Postage + Post Office Box	221	250
Supplies-letterhead/envelopes	510	400
Memberships dues for ILO (LMR, UMRR)	75	100
PMP LWV Cook County	0	400
PMP LWVIL	6,240	6,240
PMP LWVUS 1/2	6,144	6,144
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$22,362</b>	<b>\$26,474</b>

<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>	<b>5-1-2020</b>
Byline Bank CD 2.5% Interest Rate Maturity Date 5/27/20	<b>\$17,199.69</b>
Byline Bank Checking Account	<b>\$19,973.58</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$37,173.27</b>

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST

## 2019-2020 PROGRAMS

### Focus/Priority

- *Improve local League website, electronic, and media communications to serve as a resource to foster transparency and participation in government.*
  - Recorded all membership information in local and US databases.
  - Continued publication of weekly email and monthly newsletters to members.
  - Continued weekly updates to website with calendar, observer reports, upcoming events and photos.
  - Had above industry average open rate of 48% of weekly emails and newsletters.
  - Had a 20% use of links within emails and newsletters.
  - Encouraged members to use digital version of League directory.
- *Develop programs/speakers on timely issues as suggested by the Board of Directors or other members.*
  - Facilitated discussions of foreign policy issues including “Global Warming” and “China and Latin America” through Great Discussions.
  - Organized speakers for Second Tuesday on topics such as the census, Fair Tax amendment, criminal justice reform and ranked choice voting.
  - Continued the tradition of monthly Drinks and Dialogue events to educate members and the public on issues relevant to government and League priorities, and to provide a forum to engage in meaningful discourse with persons knowledgeable about such issues. Four gatherings were held, at which audience heard presentations from, and engaged with, members of the local press; a circuit court judge; and persons working with humanities programs for prisoners, a non-profit assisting pro se civil litigants and asylum seekers at the Mexican border.
  - Coordinated with Second Tuesday group to present a joint annual “kickoff” at the Oak Park Public Library in September 2019 to educate members and the public about criminal justice issues. Event drew 98 attendees.
  - Presented speakers and encouraged discussion through the Second Tuesday program. The issues included civics education as mandated by HB 2265 (Rep. Lilly,) programs such as parenting classes and job training to help new mothers (New Moms of Oak Park,) Census 2020, and affordable housing study, H.A.R.D. conducted by the League of Women Voters Cook County, and information to present arguments in favor of the Fair Tax amendment (Ann Courter, Illinois League of Women Voters Issue Specialist.)
  - Coordinated presentation among Environment Committee, OP Trustee Deno Andrews and River Forest Sustainability Coordinator Julie Moller for Second Tuesday.
- *Continue our voter service efforts to register and provide information to voters.*
  - Organized program on voting rights with taping for online viewing.
  - Partnered with other organizations to provide Deputy Registrar training resulting in 55 new deputy registrars.

- Organized voter registration drives at OPRF, Trinity High School, Elmwood Park High School, Concordia University, Dominican University and Mills Tower. Over 340 new voters registered.
- Partnered with OPRFHS Youth Action Civics Club to register students at the high school.
- *Expand membership and encourage participation in League activities through social media and informal social gatherings.*
  - Welcomed 27 new members since August 2019.
  - Recruited new members through Drinks and Dialogues, Second Tuesday and Great Discussions.
  - Held small wine and cheese gathering for new members.
  - Hosted Members Coffee in January 2020.
  - Had booth at Day in Our Village (June 3, 2019) to increase visibility in the community and to recruit new members.
  - Sent a Welcome Packet to all new members that included membership directory and an opportunity to indicate their interests. This was followed up by contact by the appropriate resource person and/or committee chair.
- *Encourage participation and engage all members in League advocacy and priorities.*
  - Met with Rep. Lilly, Rep. Ford, Rep. Welch, Sen. Lightford and Sen. Harmon to present League position on Fair Maps amendment.
  - Presented League position on criminal justice reform, affordable housing, immigration and re-districting to Rep. Lilly.
  - Voter Services in collaboration with OP Library sponsored screening of documentary “Suppressed: The Fight to Vote.”
  - Spoke before local school boards to present League’s opposition to two resolutions coming up for vote at the Illinois Association of School Board Convention, November 2019. These resolutions were to support legislation allowing the arming of teachers and to create grants to hire and train school resource officers.
- *Partner with other community organizations to accomplish shared goals and to increase League visibility.*
  - Partnered with local chapter of Jack and Jill to present program on voting. Twenty-five students and their parents learned about Census 2020, Climate Change, Health Concerns and Equity in Education.
  - Collaborated with Maze Library and River Forest Library as part of the Great Decisions program.
  - Worked with the Village of Oak Park and the Oak Park Township to present town hall meeting on legalization of cannabis.
  - Prepared a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary display in honor of Women’s History Month at the River Forest Public Library.
  - Worked with the Historical Society of Oak Park-River Forest and Pomeroy Foundation to secure the placement of an historical marker at the Oak Park home site of suffragist Grace Wilbur Trout.
  - Partnered with VOP’s Energy and Environment Commission on effort to eliminate use of plastic straws, takeout containers and eating utensils at local restaurants.
  - Set up table at Farmers Market on Saturdays in July to educate public on elimination of single use plastic.
  - Worked with boards in Oak Park, River Forest and Forest Park to approve resolution celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Illinois being first state to ratify 19<sup>th</sup> amendment on June 10, 1919.

## Continuous/ Revised

- *Promote LWVIL tax and school finance positions within our communities and convene studies and discussions of local economic issues as needed.*
- *Provide support for the environment including sustainability and attention to water as a precious resource.*
  - Environment Committee continued work to eliminate single use plastics in local restaurants.
  - Planned to reward top ten local restaurants with window sticker acknowledging their work in reducing plastic waste.
- *Continue to be the eyes and ears of our communities by strengthening our Observers Corps.*
  - Received reports on work of LWVCC. This included the Voter Services work creating a video Voter Guide (in conjunction with WTTW) and a questionnaire to evaluate new voting machines.
- *Maintain our involvement in coalitions to improve well-being of youth.*
  - Began relationship with Jack and Jill, an organization dedicated to nurturing future African-American leaders by strengthening children through leadership development, volunteer service, philanthropic giving and civic duty.
- *Support archival development and oral history.*
  - Supported archival development and oral history.
- *Encourage and educate women on how to run for elected office.*

**League of Women Voters of Oak Park & River Forest**  
**Program Positions are listed in our directory**

# League of Women Voters of Oak Park and River Forest

## Proposed Nominations for 2020-21

### **OFFICERS:**

PRESIDENT	Beverly Graham	2019-2021
VICE PRESIDENTS:	Joan Petertil	2019-2021
	Michelle Fitz-Henry	2020-2022
TREASURER	Pauline Koch	2020-2022
SECRETARY	Johan Walsh	2019-2021
DIRECTORS:	Kathy Balk	2020-2021
	Julianne Bonwit	2020-2022
	Judith Crown	2020-2022
	Jane Hastings	2020-2022
	Judith McDevitt	2019-2021
	Carolyn Skipper	2019-2021

### **Committee Chairs:**

ADMINISTRATION: Leigh Eicher & Peggy Kell

ADVOCACY: Diane Moses

ARCHIVES: Johan Walsh

CHILDREN & YOUTH: Cleraine Camper

COMMUNICATIONS: Peggy Kell & Leslie Lauderdale

DRINKS & DIALOGUE: Julianne Bonwit & Suzanne Isaacson

ENVIRONMENT: Marsha Borders & Beverly Graham

FUNDRAISING: 2020-2021 Beverly Graham & Vice-Presidents

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: Alex Matthews

LEAGUE MATTERS EDITOR: Peggy Kell

LWVCC LIAISON: Ann Bolan

LWV LAKE MICHIGAN LIAISON: Sarah Shirk

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: Mary Haley

MEMBERSHIP RECORDING: Leigh Eicher

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Suzanne Isaacson, Leslie Lauderdale & Joan Petertil

OBSERVERS: Ameri Klafeta

SECOND TUESDAY: Jane Hastings & Judith McDevitt

VOTER SERVICE: Peggy Kell

BY-LAWS: Beverly Graham, Joan Petertil & Johan Walsh

HAZEL HANSON AWARD: Marsha Borders



## **Marsha Borders 2020 Hazel Hanson Award Winner**

Marsha Borders has been an active League member since 1999. She is currently the co-chair of the Environmental Committee where she has worked tirelessly on the elimination of single use plastics, helped to organize the "Plastic Free July" event and was a panelist on two Second Tuesday Environment Presentations. She formerly co-chaired the Membership and State of the Village Committees, and has served as a delegate at LWV Lake Michigan Meetings and at the LWVIL Convention. She was an observer of the Oak Park Township Board and the Cook County Health and Hospitals Board for LWV Cook County.

Marsha has participated in numerous Lobby Days in Springfield on a variety of occasions and legislative issues. She is a voter registrar and has assisted in many Voter Services Events over the years. Her contributions to the League are numerous, and her dedication is unwavering.

## **LWV IL Criminal Justice Consensus Study Update**

After 3 years of work, the criminal justice study group is finishing up study materials for a criminal justice position update. The current criminal justice position was last updated in 1995 - 25 years ago! A lot of research in criminal justice has happened in those years and without updating our current position the LWVIL is unable to take action on many of the issues currently being debated.

Some materials were shared at the recent Issues Briefing and are also available to those who join the Criminal Justice Google Group. (To join, contact Morgan Lyn [mlyn@lwvil.org](mailto:mlyn@lwvil.org) at the LWVIL office.)



More materials will be coming out soon, including a Speakers Bureau, a list of videos, articles, books, and other resources. One advantage of the COVID-19 situation is that for zoom gatherings, travel for our speakers is not a problem!

Next steps--Each local League:

- forms its own team to read and discuss the materials. Joining with other local Leagues shares the work. Their task is to prepare a presentation so that local League members at the consensus meetings are acquainted with essential information.
- may want to offer a program with the help of the Speakers Bureau.
- will hold consensus meetings in January, 2021. If the study group has involved two or more local Leagues, their presentation may be made once for all those Leagues involved. The audience after the presentation divides into their own Leagues and each conducts its own consensus.

Consensus forms are due to the LWVIL office by January 31, 2021. The results will inform the new, updated Criminal Justice Position.

The United States incarcerates more people than any other country. Punitive policies have caused great harm to families and communities and have cost billions of dollars without really improving public safety.

Need help? Have questions? Contact the LWVIL criminal justice study group at [issues@lwvil.org](mailto:issues@lwvil.org) and in the subject line "FOR CJ UPDATE."