Annual Meeting

League of Women Voters
Oak Park & River Forest
June 8, 2023

6:00 PM Meeting

2023

League of Women Voters of Oak Park & River Forest
98th Annual Meeting
Thursday, June 8, 2023
Brookdale Senior Living
1111 Ontario St.
Oak Park, IL 60302

Oak Park Village Trustee and founder of Takeout 25 Oak Park, Ravi Parakkat will be our speaker after the 6:00 pm business meeting.



Business Meeting Agenda

Call to Order	Joan Petertil
Disposition of the Minutes of 2022 Annual Meeting	Mary Ann Porucznik
Co-President's Report	Joan Petertil
Treasurer's Report	Sue Jaffee
Budget Proposal 2022–23	Sue Jaffee
Bylaws Committee Report	None this year
Local Program Report	Jane Hastings
Presentation of Program Efforts 2022-2023	

Nominations and Elections Presentations and Proposed Nominations Nominations from the floor Elections of Officers and Directors	Judith Crown
LWV Cook County Update	Jan Goldberg
Recognition of Past Presidents, Lifetime Members and Past Hazel Hanson Award Recipients	Mary Cay Murray
Presentation of Hazel Hanson Award	Tina Birnbaum
Closing Remarks and Acknowledgments	Joan Petertil/Jane Hastings
Meeting Adjournment	Jane Hastings

Proposed Rules of 2023 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 can raise there hand during the meeting, 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 that 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-Presi dent.
    b. Motion for consideration of any non-recommended items shall be made by 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 by 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.

Current Assets as of April 30, 2022

Byline Bank Checking	$25,163.12
Certificate of Deposit	
Maturity Date 5/28/23	$25,036.88
Total	$50,200.00

LWVOPRF Proposed Budget 2023 - 2024	Projections	Budget
	7/2022-6/2023	7/2023-6/2024
REVENUE		
Annual Dues ($70 individual, $100 household of 2, $30 student/scholarship)	11,533	11,500
Member Contributions	5,475	4,000
Great Decisions Book Sales		1,000
Fundraising Income	2,900	2,200
Other Donations/Sponsors	4,003	4,000
Interest from CD	37	30
Interest from Checking	26	
Total Operating Revenue	23,974	22,730
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Advertising	1,000	800
Annual Meeting	500	700
Communications-Wk-in-Preview/FB/Zoom/Website	269	800
Delegate Fees (Cook County; LWVIL; US & Inter League)	579	1,250
Committee Projects- Advocacy		100
Committee Projects- Children/Youth/MOFP	150	400
Committee Projects- Environment	491	450
Committee Projects- Great Decisions	23	1,000
Committee Projects- Observers		50
Committee Projects- Second Tuesday	100	500
Committee Projects- Memorials/Museum Projects/Gifts		250
Committee Projects- Voter Services		500
Member Services-Directory	128	350
Events- Centennial Celebration Deposits		1,000
Events- Fall Kick-Off	100	450
Events- Social	320	750
Events- New Member Breakfast & Outreach	315	450
Events- Hazel Hanson Award	100	100
Events- Drinks & Dialogue	400	1,250
Board Training		400
Computer & Treasurer Expenses	288	100
Dues Subsidy- Scholarship/Sliding scale		70
Meeting Room Rental & Refreshments		700
Miscellaneous (Incl. Day in Our Village)	20	250
Printing + Photocopies + Letterhead supplies	175	350
Postage + Post Office Box	250	250
Business Expense Fundraising	707	500
Memberships dues for ILO (LMR, UMRR)	75	100
PMPs(Cook County; LWVIL; & US)	10,530	10,750
Total Operating Expenses	**$16,520**	**$24,620**
Net Revenue or (Deficit)	**$7,454**	**($1,890)**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST
2022-2023 PROGRAMS

Focus/Priority

- *Improve local League website, electronic, and media communications 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, upcoming events, and photos.
    - Had above-industry average open rate of 63% of weekly emails and newsletters.
    - Encouraged members to use digital version of League directory.
    - Added a sponsor page to the website that recognizes our sponsors while adding links to their websites.
    - Generated followers on Facebook while promoting all virtual events on our social media platforms.
    - Placed ad in Wednesday Journal to promote the Illinois Voters Guide.
    - Throughout the year, we promoted these topics: women, all League fundraisers, special and monthly events, committee meetings, and sister League activities.

- *Develop programs/speakers on timely issues as suggested by the Board of Directors or other members. Some committee programs were still done virtually.*
    - Great Discussions groups met in the spring at Brookdale Senior Living and virtually at the Maze Branch Library.
    - The Fall Kickoff was a virtual panel discussion on the role of local journalism on democracy.
    - Drinks & Dialogue had presenters on the Illinois SAFE-T Act and FORA, a Rohingya refugee non-profit support group.

- *Continue our voter service efforts to register and provide information to voters.*
    - Registered voters at all Oak Park and River Forest Senior Living Facilities. We also helped them fill out mail ballot applications.
    - Distributed palm cards and postcards with QR codes for voter registration at A Day in Our Village.
    - Sponsored a virtual program on "How to Get and Stay on the Ballot."
    - Worked with Julian M.S. to supply Pollstar Voting Booths for their mock election.
    - Worked with local organizations and Fair Vote Illinois to promote Ranked Choice Voting in future Oak Park Village Trustee and President elections.
    - Provided resources for students at Dominican University for their "DU Votes" program in which students register students. 101 students were registered at their events.
    - Made a presentation to the Oak Park Village Board about Ranked Choice Voting.
    - Hosted a "Rank Your Beer" event at a local Oak Park brewery to promote Ranked Choice Voting.
    - Worked with local community organizations to promote their Spring Municipal Candidate Forums on our website calendar and provided links to said forums on our website.
    - Worked with local libraries in Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park to host six candidate forums in contested races and four candidate statements in uncontested races.

- *Expand membership and encourage participation in League activities through social media and informal social gatherings.*
    - Sent a Welcome Packet to all new members that included a directory, note cards, Bill of Rights bookmark, and made a follow-up call..
    - This was followed up with contact by the appropriate resource person and/or committee chair.
    - Held informal meetings with some new members.
    - Held a raffle for a free membership during Day in Our Village
    - Reported monthly membership totals to the Board.
    - Organized a League social outing and fundraiser to see"Swing State" at the Goodman Theatre.

- *Encourage participation and engage all members in League advocacy and priorities.*
    - Met with local state legislators to discuss League positions.
    - Supported the Oak Park Ordinance to eliminate plastic utensils from restaurant carry-out bags and supported SB100 to ban polystyrene in Illinois restaurants.
    - Posted calls for legislative actions on FB and WIP.
    - Wrote a letter to the editor opposing the Invest in Kids Act.

- *Partner with other community organizations to accomplish shared goals and to increase League visibility.*
    - Organized and ran the June 2022 Resident Board Election at Mills Park Tower.
    - Held presentations on, supported, and promoted the Cook County Forest Preserve November referendum tax increase with distribution of 500 flyers in English and Spanish.
    - Promoted the One Earth Film Festival.
    - Partnered with Brookdale Senior Living and Maze Branch Library for a Spring Great Decisions Program.
    - Partnered with Pilgrim Youth Group for donut sale at Pilgrim Church/Farmer's Market.
    - Actively opposed Invest in Kids legislation.
    - Partnered with Brookdale Senior Living for a New Member Luncheon.
    - Partnered with local libraries for our virtual candidate forums.
    - Held a plant sale fundraiser with Good Earth Greenhouse.
    - Attended Go Green Days at the Oak Park Farmers Market and Barry Fest to educate the public on eliminating use of plastic wraps, plastic bags, and encourage composting.
    - Supported LWV Lake Michigan and LWV Upper Mississippi River Region to prevent toxic waste from being dumped into the Great Lakes.
    - Partnered with Go Plastic Free and Interfaith Green Network to work on mutual goals.

<u>Continuous/ Revised</u>

- *Promote LWVIL tax and school finance positions within our communities and convene studies and discussions of local economic issues as needed.*
    - *Actively advocated for support of Start Smart Early Childhood programs and against the Invest in Kids Act.*
- *Provide support for the environment including sustainability and attention to water as a precious resource.*

- Environment Committee continued work to eliminate single-use plastics by local restaurants.
- Rewarded 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 LWV CC.
  - Received reports for one or two local monthly board meetings.
  - Worked to recruit more observers of local municipal boards but fell short of goals.
- *Maintain our involvement in coalitions to improve well-being of youth*
- *Support archival development and oral history.*
  - Supported archival development and oral history.
- *Encourage and educate women on how to run for elected office.*
- *Held an ongoing discussion on how best to establish sponsorships/partnerships with local businesses.*
  - *Solicited and received financial sponsorship from twelve local businesses.*

PROGRAM POSITIONS ARE LISTED IN OUR INFORMATIONAL BOOKLET ON OUR WEBSITE

League of Women Voters of Oak Park and River Forest
Proposed Nominations for 2023-24

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT	Jane Hastings	2023-2024
VICE PRESIDENTS:	Judith Crown	2023-2024
	Tina Birnbaum	2023-2024
TREASURER	Susan Jaffee	2022-2024
SECRETARY	Mary Ann Porucznik	2022-2023
DIRECTORS:	Beverly Graham	2023-2024
	Belinda Lutz-Hamel	2023-2024
	Michelle Fitzhenry	2023-2025
	Beverly Tuck	2023-2025
	Candace Thompson	2023-2025
	Barbara Paterick	2022-2024

Committee Chairs:

ADMINISTRATION/League Matters Editor: Peggy Kell

ADVOCACY: Marilyn Pearson

ARCHIVES: Mary Ann Porucznik

CHILDREN & YOUTH: Inactive committee

COMMUNICATIONS: Peggy Kell & Leslie Lauderdale

DRINKS & DIALOGUE: Belinda Lutz-Hamel

ENVIRONMENT: Marsha Borders & Beverly Graham

FUNDRAISING: Beverly Graham & Judith Crown

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (Great Decisions): Alex Matthews

LWV CC LIAISON: Leslie Lauderdale

LWV LAKE MICHIGAN LIAISON: Sarah Shirk

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: Judith McDevitt

MEMBERSHIP RECORDING: Suzanne Isaacson

NOMINATING COMMITTEEE: Tina Birnbaum & Judith Crown

OBSERVERS: Amber Elmer

SECOND TUESDAY: Beverly Tuck & Barbara Paterick

VOTER SERVICE: Peggy Kell

Standing Committees to be appointed by the Board of Directors: Bylaws, Financial Review, Political Activity Committee.



Joan Petertil
2023 Hazel Hanson Award Winner

I have been a member of the League of Women Voters OPRF since 2004, joining primarily because of its advocacy and educational priorities. Since 2015 I served on the Board for seven years, worked on the Nominating Committee for three years, spent four years as a Vice-president and two years as Co-president. I also served on the 2019 State of the Villages committee, was a key member in the League's 501c3 efforts and participated on the 2020 – 2021 Criminal Justice Study group. I have always been interested in politics and actively follow local, state, and federal elections. Although I am leaving the Board, I intend to remain involved through various League committees.

I have an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education from NIU and an MBA from Dominican University. My career has always involved finance or finance-related work including 12 years at CNA Insurance, downtown Chicago, where I met my husband, Jeff Petertil. Once we started a family, I became involved with community work including volunteering at Pilgrim Congregational Church, sitting

on the PTA board, co-leading a Girl Scout troop, and co-chairing the Pilgrim Nursery School Board.

When my daughter was six, I took a part-time fiscal job at Parenthesis Parent Child Center, Oak Park, where I worked for 10 years. This local job afforded me the ability to work and still be home with the kids after school. In 2000, I accepted a challenging and rewarding finance position at the Ounce of Prevention Fund (now Start Early), where I worked for fifteen years. After retiring in 2015, I once again became heavily involved in the community, including volunteering for the OP-RF Community Foundation and being the treasurer at Pilgrim Church. I am an active member of our church choir and with the Sounds Good Choir/Oak Park-River Forest and am currently the Stewardship chair for Pilgrim which includes organizing food donations for the area.

Although I grew up in Chicago, I am a long-term Oak Park resident. Jeff and I raised our lovely children here and are most fortunate that they and our four adorable grandchildren remain nearby in Chicago!

The relationships I have built in the League have been most meaningful and I have enjoyed working on issues and priorities with those of varied backgrounds. My small contribution spent working for democracy has been most fulfilling. Thank you for honoring me with the Hazel Hanson award.