

**League of Women
Voters of the City
of New York**
2022 Annual Meeting
of the Members

**June 16,
2022**

Table of Contents

1	Letter From the Co-Presidents	3
2	2021 Annual Meeting Minutes	4
3	Report of the Nominating Committee.....	16
4	Report of the Bylaws Committee to the LWVNYC Board	19
5	Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Inc.	20
6	Annual Meeting Financials.....	29
7	Local Program 2022/2023.....	31
8	Committee Annual Reports Fiscal Year 2022	32



1

Letter From the Co- Presidents

Dear Members,

One year ago, we gathered on Zoom for our 2021 Annual Meeting. Needless to say, those were troubling times and in our letter to members, Lesley and I posed several questions as we looked ahead to 2022. With confidence, we can now share some answers to those questions.

We first asked, “How can we reimagine the “New” New York?” We understood that in order to create a “New” New York, we needed to expand and strengthen our partnerships with organizations all over the city to collaborate on voter engagement, criminal justice reform, and election reform. Organizations such as One Hundred Black Women, Hour Children, and the NYU Wagner School of Public Policy expanded our reach and our impact on issues such as TAP funding for people who are presently incarcerated, voter engagement, and campaign finance reform. We worked to create an Adult Civics program that we envision will improve voter participation across the city. We now offer these programs to our partners as well as to corporations as part of corporate volunteerism packages. Our growing awareness of diversity, equity and inclusion strengthens us as an organization as we strive to welcome members who represent many different communities in the city. We participated in the NYC Speaks Initiative sponsored by the Mayor’s office. This initiative directly engaged New Yorkers in conversations to elevate our voices and express our priorities and ideas to improve NYC..

Last year, we also wondered, “How can we continue to utilize the digital platforms that have allowed us to reach so many more New Yorkers than ever before?” Our meetings and events continue to be informative, productive, and meaningful. Our “At Home With The League” series continues to explore the most topical issues of our times. We have begun the move to a more hybrid style. In order to achieve that, we need to improve access to technology and make our website more

accessible. We are working to improve our presence online through greater visibility on social media. We have successfully created social media campaigns and upgraded our YouTube channel.

A year ago, we could barely imagine the answer to the question, “How can we come together, in-person, to reestablish the social interaction we all crave?” And yet, we successfully hosted our Awards Breakfast fundraiser event on March 30. We honored the Black Economic Alliance and their Executive Director, David Clunie. There were almost 150 people in the room and an additional 45 watching from home. We also celebrated together at the Public Theater on March 23, when we were invited to attend a preview performance of the new musical, SUFFS, as guests of the Public Theater.

Finally, we asked, “How can we safely re-engage with voters in-person?” In city parks this summer we will be conducting voter registration drives and providing information to voters as we navigate the changing landscape of the primary elections and voting laws. We will be introducing ourselves to City Council members and providing them a complimentary copy of What Makes NYC Run to remind them of the work we do. We will be a presence on BronxNet TV with a series of PSA’s about the vote. Our summer internship program participants will be creating content for our Adult Civics initiative and assisting with voter registration and outreach to the City Council.

This is just the beginning of the “New” New York. We have much work to do and many more questions to ask, but we believe we are now stronger and louder as an organization thanks to the hard work of all of you.

Thank you.

Diane Burrows and Lesley Sigall

2

2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

League of Women Voters of the City of New York Annual Meeting of the Members

June 17, 2021

Meeting held via Zoom

Annual Meeting Attendance and Voting	
Members in good standing as of 4/30/2021	326
Members needed for a Quorum	33
Number of members in attendance via Zoom	40
Number of proxies	29
Total Attendance (via Zoom and proxy)	69
Votes needed for a majority	35
Votes needed for 2/3 majority	46

Parliamentarian: Shelly Warwick

Meeting commenced at 6:00 PM

Natalie Silverman provided instructions on how to use Zoom.

Presidents' Welcome

Diane Burrows and Lesley Sigall

Welcome to the Annual Meeting of Members. The League has made it through a very difficult year—thanks to your incredible work. Today we are pleased to announce that the League is in a very strong place.

- ▶ The League helped thousands of New Yorkers participate in the biggest turnout election in our history.
- ▶ We advocated for changes in New York City and New York State election laws that will forever help with access to the polls.
- ▶ We have conducted over 50 Ranked Choice Voting trainings.
- ▶ We continued to register voters and get voters critical information about elections and voting.

- ▶ We partnered with the Philharmonic throughout the pandemic, appearing at pop-up concerts to register and inform voters.
- ▶ Lunch with League quickly pivoted to At Home with the League, providing topical speakers discussing issues such as homelessness
- ▶ We have worked with numerous organizations throughout the city to educate and engage voters. Many of these organizations are new partners, and we hope to continue growing these partnerships to reach more diverse communities in the city.

We were able to maintain communications with members, volunteers, and partners through our weekly Gazette, quarterly newsletter, and calls to action. Our Twitter and Instagram feeds saw large increases in traffic. We even found time for some entertainment, with a special production of Tea For Three, with Elaine Bromka.

Despite our office closing, we were able to quickly adapt to technology such as ZOOM, Signup.com., Salesforce.com and updates to our phone system so that volunteers could answer callers remotely.

- ▶ As a result, we were able to maintain our same membership level with a slight uptick in membership dues.
- ▶ We attracted a larger base of volunteers, for post-carding and other activities that were easily done remotely.
- ▶ We sold the Lady Pink Vote mural to the NY Historical Society, to be enjoyed by thousands of the museum's visitors every day.
- ▶ Since we were not going into the office, we were able

to economize by consolidating our office space, saving considerable money on rent.

- ▶ We have developed a comprehensive strategic plan that guides all that we do. Our plan was developed in conjunction with our DEI taskforce, and incorporates these values in all areas of the plan.
- ▶ The League's finances exceeded last year's budget, thanks to the successful gala that many of you attended and contributed to. We thank our membership, Barb Ettington and Susie Gomes for making it possible.
- ▶ We also received PPP loans, which helped us to keep our staff during the office closing.
- ▶ And we still have a reserve fund of over \$200,000, which was strengthened by the success of the gala.

As we come together tonight, we want to paint a picture for the future of the League.

- ▶ Can you imagine our phones ringing with questions from the media about what *the League* thinks when it comes to new city legislature or regulations?
- ▶ Can you imagine when the mayor insists that *the League* have a seat at the table when discussing civic engagement?
- ▶ Can you imagine when we get calls from every Borough President and Community Board asking us to run workshops?

We believe that now is the time for the League to position the organization to become the city's premier source of civics education for adults. Yes, there are other organizations in the city trying to re-fill the gap

left in our public-school systems when civics education was removed. But there is no one focused on the city's adult population—and no one focused on NYC civics. Thanks to Adrienne Kivelson, the League literally wrote the book on NYC government.

This is our time to make our claim on this position—and bring to life our statement that “Civic Engagement begins with Civic Education.”

We have started to roll out an education campaign this year with our first segment: WHO Makes New York City Run?, based on Chapter 2 “What Makes New York City Run” to help voters understand all of the various positions up for election this year. You can join the planning to create more presentations, videos, and interactive tools. We will continue to engage through training sessions for the public or future trainers. We are recruiting translators to make our materials more accessible to more communities in the city.

Your votes tonight are critical to rolling out a robust three-year financial plan.

- ▶ In the Bylaws you will see that we are looking to lift the cap on the number of members on the Advisory Board, so that we can broaden our donor support base and make membership a “give and get”.
- ▶ In the budget you will see that, while we are forecasting a shortfall for this next fiscal year, we are investing in our future growth.
- ▶ Our Local Program directs us to promote equity in all that we do. It permeates every committee and every activity.
- ▶ Our leadership is actively focussed on the fiscal sta-

bility that will be the foundation of all of our work.

We are so proud to be your co-presidents. but we also need to remember that we are following in the footsteps of remarkable women, some of whom we have sadly lost over these past 18 months. We remember Robin Bahr, Nikki Heller and most recently, Laura Altschuler, three of our past presidents. We also miss Phyllis Wells, a long-time member. We miss their wisdom and guidance and owe them a great debt of gratitude.

There will be many changes in New York this year: changes in city government, changes in the way the city moves forward, changes in the ways we interact with each other. But some things never change: League members' enthusiasm and devotion to our mission: To engage and educate New Yorkers to use their collective voices to make New York City a better place. Thank you all so much for the opportunity to serve in this mission.

Before we start the business portion of the meeting, I will read the credentials report:

We have 326 eligible members. A quorum is 10% or 33 members. We have 49 (but 4 are non-voting) people in attendance and 29 proxies which constitutes a quorum and therefore, I now call this meeting to order.

Meeting Business Introduction

Crystal Joseph, VP Communications

- ▶ Voting by raising hand in Zoom.
- ▶ Our parliamentarian is Shelly Warwick.
- ▶ There have been some changes in Robert's Rules of Order to accommodate virtual meetings, so we will be following the newly revised 11th edition.
- ▶ Board Committee reports, since they have been approved by the board, do NOT need a second.

- ▶ Amendments to the By-Laws need a 2/3 vote by the members to pass, if the members present and with proxies constitute a quorum.
- ▶ All other motions need a majority to pass.
- ▶ All motions from the floor need a second.

Tonight's Votes:

- ▶ Approval of the Minutes from the 2020 Annual Meeting
- ▶ Nominations
- ▶ Budget
- ▶ Bylaws
- ▶ Local Program
- ▶ Concurrence/Consensus process

1. Approval of the Minutes - Amy Matthews, Board Secretary

The minutes of last year's annual meeting are included in your packet starting on page 23. Do I have a motion to approve the minutes as presented?

Motion has been made.

Second has been made.

Are there any objections? Please raise your hand.

Mary Jenkins - difficulties accessing the packet and Q&A function.

There were no objections to the motion.

If no objections, I declare the minutes have been accepted by acclamation.

2. Nominations: Cathy Gray, former Co-President and Chair of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee submits the following nominations:

A. For the position of Vice President - Membership:
Suzanne Gabriel

Suzanne will fulfill the remaining term of Ashmi Sheth who has resigned from the position of VP Membership.

B. For Board of Directors:

- ▶ Patricia Manning for a second term
- ▶ Dorothy Ouzidane for a second term
- ▶ Laura Quigg for a second term
- ▶ Kai Rosenthal for a second term
- ▶ Deborah Brodheim for a first term

There were no nominations from the floor.

Do I have a motion to accept the slate of nominations as presented?

Paulette Austin: I move to accept the slate of nominations as presented.

A second was not needed because this was a Board report.

Do I hear any objections to this slate? There were no objections.

I declare the slate proposed by the nominating committee elected by acclamation.

We want to thank our outgoing Board Director Bella Wang and Membership VP Ashmi Sheth for their dedi-

cation and support, especially during this past year of COVID.

3. Development Plan - Susie Gomes - VP Development (no vote taken on this item)

Before we take our vote on next year's budget, I wanted to share with you our thoughts on a new approach to fundraising. We thank all of you for the giving that you do whenever we do outreach during our Giving Tuesday and Year-End Appeal events, as well as throughout the year. We recognize your generosity and are always so very grateful for it.

But our one large fundraising event historically has always been our gala which we have used as our base and buffer to get us through our next fiscal year. But this is not a tenable strategy for us to continue for a number of reasons: firstly, it is extremely difficult given our resources to execute a gala every year; secondly, as well as we did with the gala this year, and yes, we were extremely pleased with our results! - it will never provide us the funding with which to grow the League and allow us to expand our programming and our reach into the community the way we would all love to do. Therefore, we have designed a three year fundraising plan that will provide us with not only a more stable and consistent financial base, but one that will allow the League to grow and prosper. As with all long term plans, we understand that this first year will be our investment year which will allow us to at least have a balanced budget by year 2 and build stronger reserve funds by year 3. We will not be voting on this plan, but we encourage you to view it and see it as an opportunity to find a way to get involved with us as we build our financial future.

A major component of this three-year fundraising plan is to help the League move into a position where we can

develop and execute “the big picture” of becoming the resource for Adult Civics Education in New York City as Diane and Lesley mentioned earlier, as well as continuing to actively participate, advocate and lobby for the issues we hold dear. This “BIG PICTURE” initiative will fill a hole in the city’s civics advocacy programs which all tend to focus on the youth in the city, not the 18+ community who may have missed this education in school or are newer adult residents to the city. They represent a significant portion of the non-voting population, or those that feel disenfranchised from the process.

As for the specifics of fundraising: In lieu of a major gala event this year, we are going to focus on four smaller events held quarterly. These events will be thematically noted and embrace a substantial issue or historical moment for either the League, Women, or our country. We will also look to tie-in with our programming committee as they plan their speaking engagements for the year.

Specifically, how will this help us fundraise? In this transition year, we are laying the groundwork to build broader bases of financial support. These include:

- ▶ We are looking to grow our Advisory Board to gain more support
- ▶ We are approaching more corporations to ask for their sponsorship of this year’s smaller events, as well as tapping into their goal for social responsibility by offering employee volunteerism packages, and
- ▶ We are seeking out and approaching a wider group of grant funders for capacity-building funds as well as supporting our programming activities.

All of these require cultivation of our current contacts and meeting new contacts.

We rely on our membership in a variety of ways throughout the year for support. Today I am asking you to help introduce us to **your contacts**. If you work in a company, introduce us to the HR, Marketing or Social Responsibility Departments. If you have any contacts on foundation boards or funders, come speak with us. If you’d like to be part of the Development Committee to work on any of these as well this year’s events, join us. You can type into the chat right now, or contact me at development@lwvnyc.org.

4. Budget - Lesley Sigall - Co-President and Chair - Budget Committee

All budget documentation was included in the packet sent to members 30 days prior to this meeting.

Fiscal Year 2021 runs from July, 2020 to June 30, 2021

We forecast to have \$32K net in funds this year, a \$96K increase to budget from last year.

Favorability is due to decision to hold a virtual gala this year, as well as an increased focus on grants. The gala netted about \$95K after expenses.

Adjustments made for FY 2020: PPP loan forgiveness (no cash impact in FY2021 and receipt of FY2021 PPP loan (cash in 2021; forgiveness expected in FY2022)

FY2022 is an investment year, where we will build the capacity and relationships to support sustained fundraising and development. Our Operations Coordinator, Beatriz Guerrero, will be dedicated to supporting our development efforts so that we have the right infra-

structure in place.

A Gala will not be held in FY 2022 - this impacts revenue for FY2022.

Investment revenue is an estimate based on average of last three years

We are forecasting to lose \$59K this year, but this will be covered in our reserve fund. By the end of May, the reserve fund had in excess of \$300K.

Expenses - we are planning to take back the office space we gave up this year. But we are actively looking for more cost/effective office space.

Questions for Clarification:

Ruth Altman: Discussion on the office space - will you be taking back the space?

We are assuming that we will take in back, on a month-to-month basis.

No other hands raised.

Jane Colvin makes the motion: I recommend that the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 as prepared by the Budget and Finance Committee be adopted.

(This is a committee report so no second is needed)

Poll released:

In Favor: 40 in person plus 29 proxies

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

The motion passes unanimously.

5. Bylaws - Shelly Warwick - Technology VP and Chair - Bylaws Committee

The committee members included Kate Doran and Amy Matthews.

The Bylaws Committee presented their report to the Board of Directors, who recommend adoption of the proposed changes. The main amendments can be seen in your packet on page 4. In addition A number of minor changes were made to the document to improve the clarity, or reinforce the intent, or to clearly allow for virtual meetings and electronic mail communication.

After discussion (no changes can be made from the floor since they would void the requirement of giving notice to members)

Lesley: Do I have a motion to accept the bylaw as presented in the annual Report packet? To remind you, this does not need a second since it is recommended by the Board.

Questions: Jane Colvin: what is the current limit on Advisory Board?

Current cap is 10 members, but we are proposing no cap because we are looking to that board for fundraising support.

Ruth Altman: How will you will be counting the proxy votes?

They are being collected and will be voted based on the designated proxy. If a member provided specific instructions on how to vote a proxy, the proxy will follow

that instruction.

No further clarification questions.

Call for a motion:

Hazel Weizer: I move to accept the bylaws in total as presented.

No second needed because this was a Board report.

In Favor: 38 in person; 29 proxies

Opposed 0

Abstain 2

The motion has passed.

Lesley: I will now introduce Kai Rosenthal, Board Director and Chair of the Local Program Committee

6. Local Program - Kai Rosenthal - Board Director and Chair - Local Program Committee

The Local Program Committee recommends adopting the following local program, “Creating Greater Equity for the People of New York City.”

Previous League local programs have focused on more narrow issues such as the census or voting reform. However, the past 16 months have been extraordinarily difficult for many people who live and work in New York City especially for communities of color and lower income families. They were essential workers who could not work from home, they experienced unemployment, health care loss, housing and food insecurity, technology instability among other significant challenges. They faced great inequities before, but the pandemic exacerbated these circumstances and made

NYC’s most vulnerable even more so.

As an organization, we believe that we need to direct our Local Program to “Creating Greater Equity for the People of NYC.” We will achieve this goal by working on individual issues across all standing Committees and each committee will determine its area of focus. Through this Local Program focus we will seek to advocate for more equity in all areas for the people of New York City.

Thank you to everyone who submitted program topics via the website and attended the Local Program Forum.

Diane: Are there any questions for clarification only? Please raise your hand using the raise hand function and we will unmute you.

Gladys Krasner: what are the Committees going to be doing in relation to the Local Program?

Answer: we have asked all the Committees to come up with their topics and plans in conjunction with the Local Program. They will come up with issues specific to their Committee focus.

If the committees fall under existing state, national or local positions - no problem

Otherwise, membership has to approve it.

Ruth Altman: how would this work specifically?

If it falls under an existing position, for example: Voter Services might be looking into increasing accessibility to voting sites. This would not need member approval. if the committee work does not fall under an existing position, the membership would need to vote.

Suzanne Stasevich: when committees make their choices and move on their programs, will they need Board Approval? Who will make sure the Committees make sure they keep their focus?

Lesley: Committees will be working with the Board.

We will now vote on whether to accept the local program as proposed by the committee.

Do I have a motion to accept the local program as presented? No second is needed since this has been recommended by the Board.

Deb Brodheim: I move to accept the local program as presented.

In Favor: 36 in favor - 29 proxies

Opposed: 3

Abstain: 1

Due to timing constraints, the business portion of the meeting was delayed so that we could hear from Dr. Louise Mirrer, our featured speaker.

***Patricia Manning—Board Director
Introduction of featured speaker Dr. Louise Mirrer,
President and CEO of New York Historical Society***

We can now thankfully fulfill our promise and hear from our very special Guest Speaker Dr. Louise Mirrer, President and CEO of the New York Historical Society. In part, Dr. Mirrer will present on a new installation at New York Historical Society that is directly related to LWVNYC.

Dr. Mirrer joined the New-York Historical Society as President and CEO in June 2004. Under her guidance,

the institution has reinvigorated its commitment to greater public understanding of history and its relevance today, as well as to the support and encouragement of historical scholarship, and the education of young people.

Under her direction, the New-York Historical Society has launched groundbreaking exhibitions such as Slavery in New York, Nueva York, Chinese American: Inclusion/Exclusion, and The Vietnam War 1945-1975. As president and CEO, she oversaw a \$100 million capital campaign, completed in 2011, and the inauguration in 2017, of the first-ever Center for Women's History within the walls of an American museum. She has also initiated special projects on Citizenship and the Presidency, and has overseen the expansion of the institution's visitorship to nearly 500,000 annually.

Dr. Mirrer's research focuses on historical narrative and she has authored four books and numerous articles. Further, she was inducted into the Crain's New York Business Hall of Fame in 2018, and became a Member of the Council on Foreign Relations in 2017.

And now it is with great enthusiasm, I present to you Dr. Louise Mirrer!

Dr. Louise Mirrer: Very proud to partner with LWVNYC. Thank you to everyone for our collaboration. She is wearing the Vote Necklace, a gift from the League!

We are so grateful for the Lady Pink mural. We celebrated the opening yesterday. Colleagues are so pleased with the beauty and symbolism of this mural.

1. An inspiration in and of itself. It is impossible to miss in its home across from the tech center at the museum. Teens gather there. They cannot yet vote

but are close.

2. Becomes an adjunct to our Academy of American Democracy - 30,000 6th Graders in NY Public schools. The mural is now imbedded into the curriculum and becomes part of an education curriculum as these children begin to understand their civic duty.
3. Pairs with another piece - Ward - naturalized citizenship spells out “we the people” with shoelaces. Takes seriously the rights of an American citizen
4. Art as Activism - conveys a point of view, persuades. We have an installation around graffiti - expression of creativity and activism.
5. Black and white suffragists in the mural - working with public school teachers - work with a diverse student body - the mural invites young people into the mural and into the art,
6. An on-line curriculum available to all - about Women and their participation.
7. Summer student historian’s program - will be greeted with this marvelous expression of citizenship.

The mural is displaced near the replica of the Oval Office and Meet the President Display.

Q&A With Dr. Louise Mirrer

Diane Burrows: When you were talking about Women and the online project - do you think we are going to see more involvement of women in business, politics, etc.

Dr. Louise Mirrer: We are seeing movement in Congress. Women have made a lot of progress. We have a citizenship project to help green card holders get citizenship - the “Second Gentleman” is going to be our speaker!

Cathy Gray: ERA—are you going to be celebrating in 2023?

Dr. Louise Mirrer: We will have panel discussions and probably have a display. We still need the ERA.

Pat Manning: When will the naturalization ceremonies take place? We would like to help register voters.

Dr. Louise Mirrer: will get back to us on that.

Diane: Yesterday we had the opportunity to attend the “unveiling of the mural...we presented you with our wonderful VOTE necklace.

I now turn the program over to Diane Drew and Alex Yellin to resume the Business Meeting

Consensus/Concurrence - Diane Drew - Voting and Election Reform Committee

We would like to review non-citizens’ voting rights for lawful New York City permanent residents in municipal elections. There is currently a bill, #1867-2020, pending before the NYC City Council to amend the Charter to allow legal permanent residents to vote in municipal elections. We would like to establish a committee to review the position held by LWV of Boulder County and the materials supporting their position, with a goal of determining whether to hold a Concurrence with the LWVNYC membership.

This is not a vote to concur with that position, but to

begin a review on whether to hold a Concurrence or not. We expect this review to take 4–6 weeks, and will hold the concurrence with the membership.

This is a vote on establishing a committee to review Boulder CO's position.

Lesley: Questions for clarification on the process:

Barb Ettington: To clarify—the statement says: establish/enable a new committee.

Answer: It should be a new committee.

Ruth Altman: To clarify—Boulder CO position—should we research other places where this might have been voted down in other locales?

Diane: Boulder did a pro/con analysis with cities that had a similar experience. We would have a better understanding once we review Boulder's study and supporting materials. Boulder did a thorough study. Part of this study, was a historical analysis and a look at other municipalities.

Ruth: Why are we not doing our own analysis?

Shelly: This is the motion we are considering—an analysis of Boulder's study.

Diane: We are reviewing their study. If their study has relevance for NYC, it will save us time and effort to complete a full study.

Kate Doran: Do we cite the section of the Bylaws?

Lesley: We need to give members 2 months notice for a special meeting and they have to have 1 month to re-

view materials.

Jane Colvin: How many members on the committee and how would they be chosen?

Answer: The Committee will be open to all League members. We will not limit the number of members that can participate. It will be chosen by those interested in joining the committee - we will send out a notice for members to opt into joining the committee. This would include anyone interested in participating.

Clarification questions are closed. We are now moving into debate. Please enter your name and “pro” or “con” in Q and A...You will be unmuted....You will have one minute to speak...

Shelly Warwick: Pro or Con—To clarify, debate should be limited to the merits of forming the committee to analyze the Boulder study, not the actual issue itself.

Paulette Austin: Pro—I believe that LWVNYC should form a committee. This is in line with creating greater equity. Reason why—legal permanent residents pay taxes.

Gladys Krasner: Con—I am against a committee. A month ago—I was outraged how this issue originally came up. The issue is not one that the League should be handling.

Bella Wang: Pro - we brought this forward as something arising out of a bill in City Council with a number of co-sponsors and good government groups. We have been interested in an idea of doing a review—we should have an opinion on this. We work with a number of organizations that have already taken a position. With the Bylaws and Local Program—DEI—it is pretty reasonable

to form a committee and take a position.

Barb Ettington: Con—no on further study by NYC. I think this is a National issue, not a local one. We are very proud of the League for fighting voter fraud throughout the country. If we move forward on this, we may damage the League's position in the voter fraud fight.

Dorothy Ouzidane: Pro—the issue is with the NY City Council, it is something to look into this issue.

Ruth Altman: Con—It is an important issue, I feel strongly that it is a broader issue. Should be handled by State or National—they have the resources. We shouldn't take this issue on alone. NYC is a lot larger than Boulder. It is premature. City Council has not yet voted on this yet. It is a citizenship issue, it is a national issue.

A motion to extend debate. The motion fails.

Only 19 in favor of extending debate.

Bella Wang: I move to approve the request to review whether to concur with the LWVBC position on non-citizen voting rights.

We have a second.

In favor: 22 votes plus proxy 21

Opposed: 18 proxy 8

Abstain: none

The motion passes.

This concludes the business portion of our meeting.

Students Inside Albany

Video presentation with students' descriptions of their

experience at this year's Students Inside Albany event. Sheila Hosni hosted the video.

Directions to the Board—Diane Burrows

Directions to the Board is the time during the meeting when members have an opportunity to provide guidance to the incoming Board. Please be assured that your comments will be recorded in the Annual Meeting minutes and will be discussed at the first Board meeting of the new fiscal year. Please raise your hand, and we will unmute you so you can speak and give your direction to the board. Please announce your name before you begin to speak. You can also type a comment in the CHAT function. If you do not have time to speak this evening, you may also email your direction to the board at secretary@lwnyc.org. The newly elected Board will discuss these at the first Board meeting.

Gladys Krasner: There is a lack of history of the League and how the three levels function. I would ask the Board to learn how these levels function.

Toni Coffee: We need to remember the League's history. We had a luncheon in 2007 when Louise Mirrer was a woman of distinction and was honored. We need to keep a record of the people we have honored over the years.

Gladys Krasner: We do have a list of all the honorees. I wish this was mentioned today.

Kate Doran: I would suggest that the Board carefully consider Sheila's role in Students Inside Albany, and do a similar program in the City—students inside City Hall, for example.

Mary Jenkins: will committee meetings be done live and on zoom in the future? Yes

Closing Remarks/Awards/Gifts

At this time we would like to thank our amazing staffers:

Natalie Silverman, program administrator Beatriz Guerrero, our new operations coordinator, and Tayra Vionette, our social media manager. The three of you represent the triumvirate of professionalism anchoring our work, from your own homes, performing under the most difficult situations this crazy year created. We thank you for your tireless efforts.

Our Gala this year was an unforgettable over-the-top success. Thank you to Barb Ettington and Susie Gomes. Without you two and your committee, this event would never have happened. We have ordered special crystal apples as a token of our appreciation. They will be delivered to your homes.

Bella Wang, chair of our Voting Reform Committee, DEI Taskforce, and board member, is stepping down from the board but retaining her chair of the Voting Reform Committee. Bella, we thank you for your common sense, straightforward wisdom on the board and know that the Voting Reform Committee will continue to prosper under your leadership.

Thanks to Rob McConnell for help designing the Annual Meeting packet.

Jason Bohner, insightful creator and director of the NY-CL, our Youth driven, civic action Initiative, we thank you for partnering with us to provide space for young voices to be heard and young activists developed. This group is now state wide, and we applaud your success.

We are very pleased to announce that at last week's State Convention, we were honored with a \$500 award for our

GOTV efforts. Thanks to Deb Brodheim, Susie Gomes, Laura Quigg, Gerry Russo and all the volunteers who worked tirelessly on these efforts

And now that our work this evening has come to an end, do we have a motion to adjourn the 2021 Annual Meeting of Members?

Barb Ettington: I move to adjourn the 2021 Annual Meeting.

The meeting is adjourned at 7:55 PM.



3

Report of the Nominating Committee Proposed Slate for Officers

At this Annual Meeting, the Nominating Committee is proposing a slate of eight Officers to be elected for a two year term in even numbered years as stated in the Bylaws. All are first terms unless otherwise noted. The candidates include:

- ▶ **Deborah Brodheim**, Co-President
- ▶ **Kai Rosenthal**, Co-President
- ▶ **Laura Quigg**, Treasurer
- ▶ **Jacqueline Elkort**, Secretary
- ▶ **Amy Matthews**, VP of Membership
- ▶ **Susie Gomes**, VP of Development (2nd term)
- ▶ **Sherletta McCaskill**, VP of Communications
- ▶ **Caroline Smith**, VP of Technology (2nd term)

Respectfully Submitted by the Nominating Committee, Cathy Gray, Ruth Altman, Diane Drew, Bella Wang.

PROPOSED SLATE

Deborah Brodheim, Co-President, Nominee

Deborah has been a volunteer with the League since 2020 and Board member since 2021, supporting corporate and foundation fundraising events and efforts, as well as



the updating of the League's publications. She has over 25 years of global experience as a Senior Relationship Executive in the financial services industry. Over the

last 10 years she has served on non-profit boards and volunteered as a financial literacy tutor. Deborah joined the non-profit sector full-time in 2017 as the Regional Director of Development for the educational non-profit Playworks, supporting its mission to improve the health and well-being of children by creating opportunities for safe, meaningful play. Deborah began her career at JP Morgan after graduating from Harvard College with an A.B. in East Asian Studies.

Kai Rosenthal, Co-President, Nominee

Kai has been an active member of LWVNYC since 2017 serving on the Development, Education and Voting Reform Committees. She has been a Board Director for two years and Board Chair for the past year. In 2021, she led the Healthcare Consensus Committee that reviewed the updated State positions and managed the consensus process. Previously, Kai has worked on several key projects including the NYC Youth Civics Initiative (now the YCI), Constitution Day influencer outreach among others. She has more than 25 years of experience in marketing communications leading teams to develop successful campaigns that feature creative storytelling and messaging, social, digital and traditional media plans and memorable events. She graduated from Colgate University with a BA in Political Science. She is also a volunteer tutor with Hour Children's after school program.



**Laura Quigg,
Treasurer, Nominee**

Laura is a LWVNYC Board Member, as well as the Co-Chair of the League's DEI Committee, the Voter Services and Information Committee and the Census and Redistricting Committee and is active in numerous other committees as well. Laura was an Assistant Professor of Finance at University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign, but left the Midwest to move to NYC, where she worked in fixed income research at Lehman Brothers and JP Morgan, then as a portfolio manager at Sanford Bernstein, where she later became a Partner until she left the industry. She earned a Ph.D. in Finance from U.C. Berkeley and advanced degrees in economics and finance from Georgetown and Columbia. She volunteers with God's Love We Deliver and numerous other organizations. She has lived in NYC for 30 years with her husband and two daughters.

**Jacqueline Elkort,
Secretary, Nominee**

Jacqueline has volunteered with the League for the past couple of years serving on the Development Committee helping with event ideation and social media. Jacqueline works as the social media lead at Con Edison, and has previously worked with Birkenstock as well at several media agencies. As a social media professional, she is always aiming to see issues from various perspectives and come to equitable solutions and ways of expressing them and creating digital connections between brands and consumers. She grew up in Nassau, Long Island. Representation and democracy are central to her values.

**Amy Matthews,
VP Membership, Nominee**

Amy has served as LWVNYC's Board Secretary since 2017. She has also chaired the Telephone Information Service during the 2020 election year. She has participated in voter registration drives and trainings. Amy has also participated in strategic planning and other organizational functions for the League. Amy was a Managing Director at Risk Management Solutions, a catastrophe modeling firm focusing on the insurance and reinsurance sectors. She managed the US Client Services team. Amy graduated from Brown University and received an MBA at the University of Rochester Simon School of Business.

**Susie Gomes,
VP Development, Nominee**

Susie has served as VP of Development since 2020, working on expanding the League's events, funding sources and Advisory Board. Prior to this role, she was a co-chair of the Voter Services Committee for two years. Susie joined the League in 2016 and is passionate about civics and voter empowerment. She holds a BA in Economics and Political Science from University of Rochester, and an MS in Statistics from NYU Stern School of Business. She lives in New York City with her husband and two children who are in college.



**Sherletta McCaskill,
VP Communications, Nominee**

Sherletta has been a LWWNYC Board member for the past year and volunteered with the Voter Services Committee for the past two years. She is currently co-chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee working to instill best practices in the League's day-to-day work and programs. She has worked in social services and social justice in NYC for more than thirty years. Currently, she is the Training Director for the Coalition of Institutionalized Aged and Disabled.

**Caroline Smith,
VP Technology, Nominee**

Caroline has served as the VP of Technology for the past year working on upgrading the League's website and back office infrastructure. A graduate of Georgetown University, Caroline Smith works in Communications in the technology industry in New York. She previously was a board member for Democracy Works' TurboVote Challenge, an initiative that encouraged technology companies to support and enable improvements to the voting experience. A native Californian, she lives in Brooklyn, NY.

4

Report of the Bylaws Committee

Respectfully Submitted by the Bylaws Committee: Akyla Tomlinson, Kate Doran, Amy Matthews, Kai Rosenthal, Lesley Sigall

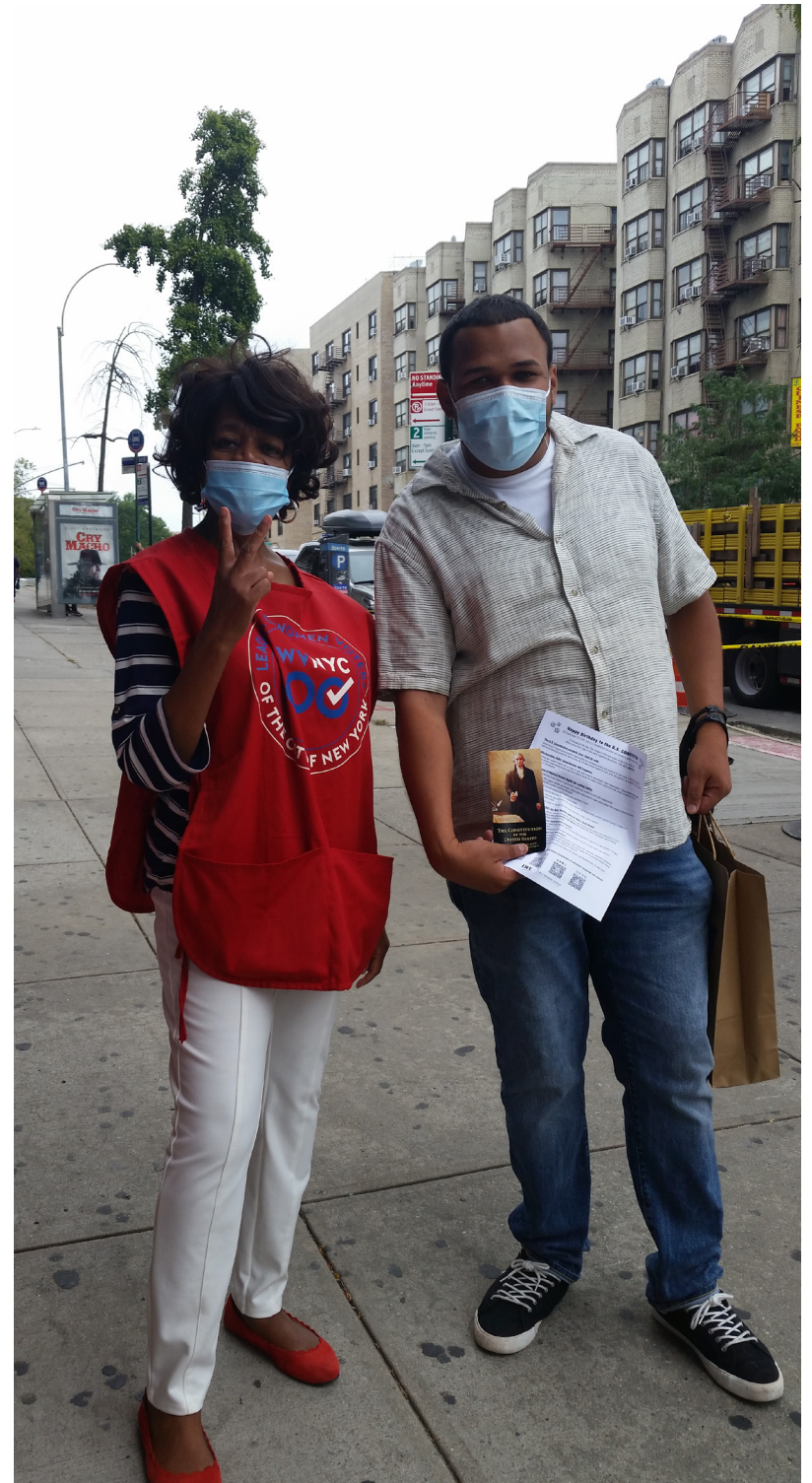
The Bylaws Committee has reviewed the LWVNYC Bylaws and is proposing two changes, as per our submission, with the changes blacklined attached at the end of this report. The changes were made to the document to improve the clarity and reinforce the intent. Material changes are outlined below:

▶ Article IV. Officers – Section 1

- ▶ *Proposed Change: remove the language “(as described in Article IV, Section I)”*
- ▶ *Rationale: We do not need to reference the section since the terms are already defined in the paragraph.*

▶ Article V. Board of Directors – Section 1a

- ▶ *Proposed Change: Change the term from two years to one year for the appointed Board of Directors.*
- ▶ *Old Language: The terms of office of the Appointed Directors shall expire concurrently with the terms of office of the Elected Directors.*
- ▶ *New Language: The terms of office of the Appointed Directors shall be up to one year and shall expire at the next Annual Meeting.*
- ▶ *Rationale: This gives us the opportunity to appoint other members and will create space for more people to serve as board members and take on leadership roles. Directors, whether elected or appointed, shall be limited to six consecutive years in the same office.*



ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be The League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Inc. (“LWVNYC”). LWVNYC’s former name was League of Women Voters of the City of New York Education Fund, Inc. (“Ed Fund”), the surviving corporation of the merger (“the Merger”) between the previously-existing The League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Inc. and Ed Fund. Ed Fund’s name was changed to The League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Inc. pursuant to the certificate of merger filed with the Secretary of State on pursuant to Section 904 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of the State of New York (“N-PCL”).

LWVNYC is a local league (a “Local League”) of The League of Women Voters of the United States (“LWVUS”) and of The League of Women Voters of New York State (“LWVNYS”), and is an integral part thereof.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES AND POLICY

Section 1. Purposes

The purposes of the LWVNYC are set forth in its Certificate of Incorporation (as amended from time to time) and include the promotion of political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. Policy

The LWVNYC may take action on local governmental measures and policies in the public interest in conformity with the Principles of the LWVUS and LWVNYS. It shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

Section 3. Diversity Equity and Inclusion Policy

LWVNYC is fully committed to ensure compliance — in principle and in practice — with LWVUS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility

Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the LWVNYC shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership

- a. *Voting Members.* Persons of at least 16 years of age, who upon payment of dues, join the LWVNYC, shall be voting members of the Local Leagues, the state Leagues and LWVUS; provided that,
 - i. persons who reside within the area of a Local League may join that Local League or any other Local League;
 - ii. persons who reside outside the area of any Local League may join a Local League or shall be state members-at-large; and

- iii. any person who has been a member of the League for 50 years or more shall be a life member excused from the payment of dues.
- iv. Student members - any individual who is attending an accredited institution of education either full or part time. Student members under the age of 16 are associate members.
- e. *Associate Members.* All others who join the LWVNYC shall be Associate Members. Associate Members are not voting members.
- f. *Initial Members.* The initial members of the LWVNYC shall be the members of the previously-existing The League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Inc. as of the effective date of the Merger.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers.

The officers of the LWVNYC (each, an “Officer”) shall be a President or two Co-Presidents, or if deemed necessary by the Board, a management team consisting of as many people as is necessary to carry out the work of the LWVNYC (herein referred to as “President”), up to four Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The Officers shall be elected for terms of two (2) years by the members at the Annual Meeting in even-numbered years (as described in Article IV, Section 1) or until their successors have been elected and qualified. They take office immediately upon the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Qualifications.

Only voting members of the LWVNYC shall be elected or appointed to serve as Officers or Directors of the LWVNYC.

Section 3. The President.

The President shall preside at the Annual Meeting. The President shall sign contracts and other legal instruments together with another officer authorized by the Board. The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

Section 4. Vice Presidents.

The Vice Presidents, shall in the event of absence, disability or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office, until such time as the Board shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy. The Vice Presidents shall perform such other duties as the President and the Board may designate.

Section 5. The Secretary.

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board and of the Annual Meeting. The Secretary shall notify all Officers and Directors of their election. The Secretary shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 6. The Treasurer.

The Treasurer or a duly appointed Assistant Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board, and shall disburse the same upon order of the Board. The Treasurer shall present statements to the Board at its regular meetings. The financial records of the organization shall be reviewed annually by a certified public accountant.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office.

- a. The Board of Directors (the “Board”) shall consist of the officers of the LWVNYC (“Officer Directors”), up to five but no fewer than three elected directors (“Elected Directors”) and up to six appointed directors (“Appointed Directors” and, together with Officer Directors and Elected Directors, the “Directors”). The number of Elected Directors shall be recommended by the Nominating Committee (as defined below). The Officer Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in even-numbered years, or at the next Annual Meeting if a vacancy in an elective office has occurred, and shall serve until the next election in an even-numbered year. The Elected Directors shall be elected in the Annual Meeting in odd-numbered years, or at the next Annual Meeting if a vacancy in an elective office has occurred, and shall serve until the next election in an odd-numbered year. The Officer Directors and Elected Directors shall appoint such Appointed Directors as they deem necessary, but not more than six, to help

carry on the work of LWVNYC. ~~The terms of office of the Appointed Directors shall expire concurrently with the terms of office of the Elected Directors.~~ The terms of office of the Appointed Directors shall be up to one year and shall expire at the next Annual Meeting. Directors, whether elected or appointed, shall be limited to six consecutive years in the same office.

- b. At the first meeting of the Board after the Annual Meeting, the Board shall elect a Chairperson of the Board (the “Board Chair”) from among the Board members, other than any director who is also serving as the President. The Board Chair shall, in conjunction with the President, develop the agenda for the meetings of the Board, and shall act as advisor to the President. The Board Chair shall be an ex officio member of all committees of the Board, except the Nominating Committee. No one shall serve more than six consecutive years as Board Chair.

Section 2. Qualifications.

Only Voting Members of the LWVNYC shall be elected or appointed or continue to serve as an Officer or Director of the LWVNYC.

Section 3. Vacancies and Absences.

Any vacancy occurring in the elected Board by reason of the resignation, death or disqualification of any member may be filled on an interim basis, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of all the remaining members of the Board. It shall be the function of the Nominating Committee to recommend to the Board candidates for vacancies in the elective offices

occurring between elections. Absence of any member from three consecutive Board meetings, without valid reason, shall be deemed a resignation.

Section 4. Powers and Duties.

The Board shall have full charge of the property and business of the LWVNYC with the full power and authority to manage and conduct the same, subject to the instructions of the Annual Meeting. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program as adopted by the National and State Conventions and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such committees as it may deem necessary, which shall include a committee on Diversity Equity and Inclusion. The Board may adopt, amend or discontinue such Standing Rules (as defined below) as it may deem necessary for the functioning of the Board.

Section 5. Standing Rules.

The “Standing Rules” are policies and guidelines to the Board for the carrying out of their duties, which are not contained in the Bylaws, and which shall be adopted, amended or discontinued as provided in these Bylaws.

Section 6. Meetings.

There shall be at least six regular meetings of the Board annually. The Board Chair may call special meetings of the Board and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board. Members of the Board shall be notified of the time and place of any special meeting by written notice, transmitted electronically, by mail, or fax sent at least five (5) busi-

ness days prior to such meeting. The Board Chair shall preside at the Board meetings.

Section 7. Quorum.

A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of the members in attendance at any board meeting shall, in the presence of a quorum, decide its action. Any member of the board may participate in a meeting by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment that allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time; participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

ARTICLE VI. ADVISORY BOARD

The Board may appoint an Advisory Board representing the corporate, civic, cultural and philanthropic community of New York City who support the work of the LWVNYC. The size and composition of the Advisory Board shall be decided by the LWVNYC Board of Directors. The Advisory Board shall serve as a committee of LWVNYC as described in Section 712(e) of the N-PCL.

ARTICLE VII. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year of the LWVNYC shall be from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

Section 2. Dues.

Membership dues shall be payable during the month in which the member joined. The Board may establish special procedures for collection of dues. The dues structure shall be as determined by the Board.

Section 3. Budget.

A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The Budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.

Section 4. Budget and Finance Committee.

A Budget and Finance Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at the first Board meeting following the Annual Meeting. The Budget and Finance Committee shall provide financial guidance and oversight, and shall, at least four months prior to the Annual Meeting, prepare a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee.

ARTICLE VIII. MEMBER MEETINGS

Section 1. Notice

There shall be at least one meeting of the membership each year, which shall be designated the Annual Meeting. Any other meeting of the Members shall be designated a Special Meeting. Notice of any meeting shall be

given to all members at least 30 days prior to the meeting electronically, by mail, or fax.

Section 2. Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Board (including, to the extent permitted by law, in virtual format). The Annual Meeting shall (a) elect officers and directors, (b) adopt a budget; (c) adopt amendments to the Bylaws; (d) adopt a local program for the ensuing one or two years; and (e) transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. Special Meetings.

Special Meetings of the Members may be called by the Board or by Members entitled to cast ten percent of the total number of votes entitled to be cast at such meeting, who may, in writing, including by e-mail, demand the call of a Special Meeting specifying the date and month thereof, which shall not be less than two nor more than three months from the date of such written demand. The Secretary upon receiving the written demand shall promptly give notice of such meeting, or if they fail to do so within five business days thereafter, any member signing such demand may give such notice. The Special Meeting shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Board (including, to the extent permitted by law, in virtual format).

Section 4. Quorum.

One hundred voting members, or 10% of the total members entitled to vote, whichever shall be less, shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Members.

The record in the office of the LWVNYC of paid-up voting members as of 45 days prior to a meeting shall determine the members entitled to vote at the meeting or any adjournment thereof. Any member entitled to vote may designate, by written proxy, transmitted electronically, by mail, email, or fax, another member to be present to vote in their stead. All proxies must be received at the LWVNYC office no later than three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

Section 5. List or record of members at Annual Meeting.

A list or record of members entitled to vote, certified by the LWVNYC Secretary, who shall be responsible for its preparation, shall be produced at each meeting, upon request therefor of any member who has given notice by email, fax or other electronic method to the Secretary provided that such request will be made at least 10 days prior to such meeting. If the right to vote of any person at the meeting is challenged, the Election Committee shall require such list or record of members to be produced as evidence of the right of the person(s) challenged to vote at such meeting. All persons who appear from such list or record to be members entitled to vote thereat may vote at the meeting.

ARTICLE IX. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominating Committee.

The immediate past President of the LWVNYC shall be the Chair of the Nominating Committee. In the absence of such person, the Board shall select one of its directors to serve in such a role. The Chair shall

select at least two members of the LWVNYC, only one of whom shall be from the Board, to prepare a slate for the elective offices. It shall be one of the functions of the Nominating Committee to recommend to the Board candidates for vacancies in the elective offices occurring between elections. Suggestions for nominations for officers and directors may be sent to the Nominating Committee by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained. The President or Co-President of the LWVNYC shall not be a member of the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee.

The report of the Nominating Committee, containing its nominations for officers and elected directors, shall be sent to the Members at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented at the Annual Meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member immediately after presentation, provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained.

Section 3. Election.

The Election Committee, appointed by the President at the Annual Meeting, shall be in charge of the election if it is by ballot. If there is only one nominee for each office, the election may be by voice vote. Officers are elected by majority vote of the members present, or voting by written proxy, and qualified to vote.

ARTICLE X. PROGRAM

Section 1. Authorization.

The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of the program.

Section 2. Program.

The program of the LWVNYC shall consist of (a) action to implement the principles and (b) those governmental issues chosen at the Annual Meeting for concerted study and action.

Section 3. Adoption of Local Program.

- a. The Board shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members not later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.
- b. The proposed program shall be sent to all members at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting.
- c. A majority of the qualified members present or by written proxy and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of any item in the proposed program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board.
- d. Recommendations for program items submitted by voting members 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board may be considered by the Annual Meeting provided that the Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote.

- e. A three-fifths vote of those qualified members present or by written proxy at the Annual Meeting is necessary to adopt a non-recommended program item.

Section 4. Member Action.

Members may act in the name of the LWVNYC only when authorized to do so by the Board. They may act only in conformity with, a position taken by the LWVNYC, the LWVNYS and the LWVUS.

Section 5. Local League Action.

The LWVNYC may act only in conformity with, or not contrary to, the position taken by the LWVNYS.

ARTICLE XI. NATIONAL CONVENTION AND STATE CONVENTION, AND STATE COUNCIL

Section 1. National and State Conventions

Nominations for delegates to a National or State Convention may be sent to the Secretary of the LWVNYC by any voting member not later than 60 days preceding that convention. From these nominations the Board shall elect by ballot delegates to the particular convention in the number allotted to the LWVNYC (or portion thereof) under the provisions of the Bylaws of the LWVUS and the LWVNYS. When less than a full delegation is to be sent, the apportioned number shall be determined each year by the Board of Directors in consultation with the Budget Committee.

Section 2. State Council.

The Board of Directors shall direct how LWVNYC votes are cast at the State Council.

Section 3. Alternates.

Alternates for the delegates to the National Convention shall be elected at the same time as delegates. The Board may empower the President and/or a committee to fill any vacancy in the event that the list of alternates shall have been exhausted.

ARTICLE XII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order as revised, shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

Bylaws Committee.

A Bylaws Committee shall be appointed by the Board at least four months prior to the Annual Meeting to consider any proposals for amendments submitted by voting members. The report of the Bylaws Committee together with the Statement of the Board's recommendations on the separate proposals shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting for action.

- a. The report of the Bylaws Committee and the recommendations of the Board of Directors shall be sent to the

members at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

- b. A two-thirds vote of those qualified members present or by written proxy at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of the amendments to these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV. STATUTORY COMPLIANCE ARTICLE

Section 1. Conflict of Interest Protocols.

This Organization shall adopt, and at all times honor, the terms of a written conflicts of interest policy to assure that its Directors, Officers and Key Employees act in the Organization's best interest and comply with applicable legal, regulatory and ethical requirements. The conflicts of interest policy of the Organization shall include, at a minimum, the following provisions:

- a. **Procedures.** Procedures for disclosing, addressing, and documenting Conflicts of Interest and Related Party Transactions to the Board of Directors, or authorized committee, as appropriate.
- b. **Restrictions.** Stipulations that when the Board of Directors, or authorized committee, as appropriate, is considering a real/potential conflict of interest, the interested party shall not:
 - i. be present at, or participate in, any deliberations;
 - ii. attempt to influence deliberations, and/or
 - iii. cast a vote on the matter.

- c. **Definitions.** Definitions of circumstances that could constitute a conflict of interest.
- d. **Documentation.** Requirements that the existence and resolution of the conflict be documented in the records of the Organization, including in the minutes of any meeting at which the conflict was discussed or voted upon.
- e. **Audit-Related Disclosure.** Protocols to assure for the disclosure of all real or potential conflicts of interest are properly forwarded to the Audit Committee or Conflicts of Interest Committee, as appropriate, or if there is no such Audit or Conflicts Committee, to the Board of Directors, or another Committee of the Board, as appropriate.



6

Annual Meeting Financials

FY 2022 Forecast

	Forecast	Budget	
Account	FY 2022	FY 2022	I/(D) to Budget
Direct Contributions	\$ 78,198	\$ 70,500	\$ 7,698
Grants	8,175	40,000	(31,825)
Program Sales and Fees	1,281	1,000	281
Membership Income	22,382	20,500	1,882
Investments	(2,755)	7,500	(10,255)
Special Events Revenue	109,305	33,700	75,605
Special Events Expense	(58,382)	-	(58,382)
Total Revenue	\$ 158,204	\$ 173,200	\$ (14,996)
Salaries and Related Expenses	\$ 109,702	\$ 140,856	\$ (31,154)
Contract Service Expenses	15,578	8,100	7,478
Facility Expenses	19,200	31,584	(12,384)
PMP	13,477	13,000	477
Other Expenses	21,457	39,044	(17,587)
Total Expenses	\$ 179,414	\$ 232,584	\$ (53,170)
Net Income	\$ (21,210)	\$ (59,384)	\$ 38,174
Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investments	\$ 8,082	\$ (7,500)	\$ 15,582
Total Non-GAAP Adjustments	\$ 8,082	\$ (7,500)	\$ 15,582
Adjusted Net Income	\$ (13,128)	\$ (66,884)	\$ 53,756

Notes:

- ▶ Fiscal year (FY) 2022 runs from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022
- ▶ We forecast a net loss of \$13K on an adjusted basis, a \$54K increase to budget
- ▶ Favorability is due to the success of the breakfast and underspending
- ▶ Adjustments made for Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investments, which is a non-cash item

FY 2023 Proposed Budget

Account	FY 2023	FY 2022	I/(D) to Prior Year
Direct Contributions	\$ 70,500	\$ 78,198	\$ (7,698)
Grants	40,000	8,175	31,825
Program Sales and Fees	1,230	1,281	(51)
Membership Income	20,000	22,382	(2,382)
Investments	4,800	(2,755)	7,555
Special Events Revenue	165,000	109,305	55,695
Special Events Expense	(85,000)	(58,382)	(26,618)
Total Revenue	\$ 216,530	\$ 158,204	\$ 58,326
Expenses			
Salaries and Related Expenses	\$ 115,175	\$ 109,702	\$ 5,473
Contract Service Expenses	21,600	15,578	6,022
Facility Expenses	36,000	19,200	16,800
PMP	13,000	13,477	(477)
Other Expenses	24,400	21,457	2,943
Total Expenses	\$ 210,175	\$ 179,414	\$ 30,761
Net Income	\$ 6,355	\$ (21,210)	\$ 27,565

Notes:

- ▶ The Board recommends the proposed budget be approved
- ▶ Fiscal 2023 revenue includes a gala and an expected grant to update Who Represents Me
- ▶ The expenses include an additional part-time staff member and allowance for additional space for in-person meetings
- ▶ Investment revenue is based solely on interest and dividends

Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2022

	Amount
Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 283,011
Security Deposits	3,600
Undeposited Funds	10,107
Total Assets	\$ 296,718
Liabilities and Equity	
Federal Bonds	\$ (10,000)
NYS Sales Tax Payable	19
Total Liabilities	\$ (9,981)
Retained Earnings	\$ 301,984
Net Income	4,716
Total Equity	\$ 306,699
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 296,718

Notes:

- ▶ Increase in Total Assets of \$13K from March 31, 2022

**Local Program
2022-2023:
Access to
Affordable
Childcare in
New York City**

Based on the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the City of New York, the membership must select a local program for the upcoming year. Thank you to the members who submitted proposals and ideas.

The Local Program Committee recommends adopting the Local Program **“Access to Affordable Childcare in New York City”**.

The issue of access to affordable childcare encompasses many of the areas of interest proposed by the membership relating to women’s reproductive rights, parental rights, and general issues of equity and access.

As New York City continues to recover from the pandemic, the League is aware of the importance of childcare and the issues created for so many New Yorkers, particularly lower income and people of color, who are having to make difficult financial and work-related choices that are directly impacted by the extent of a family’s access to affordable childcare. According to a December 2020 report issued by the Citizens’ Committee for Children, the average cost of daycare services is one-third of the median household income for families in New York City. According to the report, the cost consumes even more of the take home pay for lower income families, reaching as high as 65%.

To undertake the issue of access to affordable childcare as a local program, the League will work with its committees, other groups advocating for affordable childcare and possibly elected officials, with the goal of ensuring that childcare programs are adequately and equitably funded in all communities throughout New York City. The League is committed to educating and enacting change in support of this very important issue that impacts the lives of so many New Yorkers.

Respectfully submitted,

Karol S. Robinson





CENSUS AND REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ To stay on top of developments in NY State and NYC redistricting. To educate and inform our members, the League, and the public at large about how redistricting affects them and the election landscape, and how they can express their views and have a voice.

Summary of fiscal year 2022 accomplishments and activities

- ▶ We created and developed a presentation, “Redistricting 101”, which we gave to a live audience and recorded for later viewing. We kept up with the activities of the NY State Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) and reported new information to committee members and others at the League. We educated and informed our committee and others about opportunities to testify in the IRC hearings and make a case for how and why their communities of interest should be taken into account in the drawing of new district maps.
- ▶ We incorporated redistricting information into all our elections-based and voter registration presentations and engagements, as well as in the literature that we created for voter outreach in advance of the 2021 elections. This was especially important as Ballot Proposal #1 involved redistricting and was confusing to many people.
- ▶ We stayed on top of developments in redistricting in 2022 and helped inform and educate League members and others of the latest news and analysis as it related to new district maps and court cases, and how court decisions changed the election landscape. We

incorporated the latest information into all talks and literature, as is our practice.

- ▶ We also are beginning to train and engage with regard to NYC districting, which is beginning in Spring of 2022 in advance of the 2023 NYC election.

COMMITTEE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ The Committee for Criminal Justice Reform envisions establishing the LWVNYC as an influencer around issues of criminal justice in NYC. Toward this end, we will work in collaboration with community-based organizations and those directly impacted by the criminal justice system to advocate and lobby for legislation and policies that focus on criminal justice reform. Our priority is aimed to address the inadequate systems in place to police our communities, as well as advocate for legislation that reforms the current system.
- ▶ We anticipate continuing to partner with organizations that work with people in communities heavily impacted by criminal justice-related issues. The committee’s interest will be to engage these partners and actively encourage people they work with to participate in the political process. Overall, our goal is to achieve reform in a system that has disenfranchised members of our most vulnerable communities.

Summary of fiscal year 2022 accomplishments and activities

- ▶ The Committee for Criminal Justice Reform partnered

with the Katal Center in advocating for the passage of the Less is More Act. The bill's purpose is aimed to reform New York's parole law that imprisons those formerly incarcerated for technical parole violations. We hosted meetings, led "Calls to Action," participated in Katal Center's weekly workshops, testified before the NY City Council, and participated in rallies. The legislation was signed by Governor Hochul in September 2021.

- ▶ We partnered with the Women's Community Justice Association on their Beyond Rosies Campaign which advocates for the closing of the Rose M. Singer women's facility on Rikers Island.
- ▶ We partnered with Urban Justice's Freedom Agenda campaign to Close Rikers Island and replace the jail complex with four borough-based facilities. The plan to close Rikers also ensures the Island will no longer be used for incarceration or be under the control of the Department of Corrections. The Island is to be used for environmental justice initiatives.
- ▶ We partnered with College and Community Fellowship in the Turn on the TAP Campaign which allows those incarcerated to receive NYS tuition assistance to receive a degree in higher education.
- ▶ We hosted an "At Home with the League" event where we invited speakers to discuss the closing of Rikers and the banning of solitary confinement.
- ▶ We hosted a talk with "NYC Speaks" inviting League members and community members to participate in a conversation around equitable justice.
- ▶ In the next fiscal year, the Committee for Criminal Justice Reform will focus efforts on advocating for Elder Parole and Fair and Timely Parole.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ The Education Committee is continuing its partnership with Youth Civics Initiative (YCI), currently working on recruiting more student writers and journalist mentors.
- ▶ Build upon the YCI partnership with the NYC DOE's Civics for All initiative, and are exploring different possibilities, including advocacy/lobbying training workshops for Civics Week, and offering League internships as experiential learning opportunities for students.

Summary of fiscal year 2022 accomplishments and activities

- ▶ Have multiple international students writing for YCI, including one writer from Mumbai.
- ▶ Continue to be active members of DemocracyReady NY, working on several committees, including Youth Civic Action, Media Literacy, and Controversial Topics and the Harvard Case Method National Advisory Committee for the League.
- ▶ Work with the NY State League to coordinate and expand youth programming on the high school and collegiate level throughout NY State through our participation in the NY State Youth Chair Committee.
- ▶ Building upon the YCI partnership with the NYC DOE's Civics for All initiative, and are exploring different possibilities, including advocacy/lobbying

training workshops for Civics Week, and offering League internships as experiential learning opportunities for students.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ Our mission is to invite a monthly speaker to discuss a political or social issue impacting New Yorkers.
- ▶ Create ten programs of current interest that can be presented virtually.
- ▶ Collaborate with other LWVNYC Committees and other local Leagues.
- ▶ Ensure that DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) is incorporated in monthly programs

Summary of fiscal year 2022 accomplishments and activities

Ten programs were presented virtually at no charge to members and the community-at-large. They were recorded and can be viewed on the LWVNYC YouTube channel.

Three of the most successful programs included talks on:

- ▶ *Voter Suppression in Battleground States* (September 2021) featuring five state League of Women Voters representatives from Missouri, Michigan, Texas, Arizona and Georgia, and moderator Professor Doug Muzzio of Baruch College.

- ▶ *Critical Race Theory* (February 2022) with Professor Deborah Archer of NYU's Law School and LWVNY DEI Program Lead, Regina Tillman.

- ▶ *Closing Rikers and Banning Solitary Confinement* (March 2022), in partnership with the Committee for Criminal Justice Reform

Topics highlighting DEI and the need for greater equity were featured throughout the fiscal year in such talks as *Critical Race Theory*, *Closing Rikers and Banning Solitary Confinement*, and *Children in the Shadows: Educating Homeless Children in NYC* among others.

VOTING REFORM COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ Our committee advocates for electoral reform, in order to fight voter suppression and make voting easier for all.
- ▶ Each year we aim to advocate for the League's platform of voting issues with legislators and other key decision makers, as well as develop new positions to propose to the Board of Directors when appropriate.
- ▶ This year, we focused on process experimentation. We tried new methods of advocacy-focused outreach to NYC communities, and made iterative improvements to our lobbying outreach process to help engage both less connected members and interns.
- ▶ Next year, we hope to expand our lobbying process by launching a more formalized coordination process with other committees.

Summary of fiscal year 2022 accomplishments and activities

- ▶ Conducted more spring lobbying meetings than ever before (at least 18 as of April 26) with state legislators on issues including funding for voting, polling places on college campuses, the New York Voting Rights Act, and restoration of voting rights for currently incarcerated people. Engaged new and returning members, as well as student interns, in this process.
- ▶ Sent a representative to participate in the State League study committee on Board of Elections reform.
- ▶ Published opinion piece in support of same-day voter registration and no-excuse absentee voting in local Caribbean Community newspaper, as part of efforts to connect with community media outlets.
- ▶ Set up partnership with Brooklyn and New York Public Library systems to do voter outreach about fall 2021 ballot items: same-day voter registration and no-excuse absentee voting

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

This past year, the Voter Services Committee focused on four main areas:

- ▶ **Expanding committee membership and deepening its reach.** We sought to involve more people in our work, both within the committee, with other League committees, and with our many partner organiza-

tions. Our goal was to empower more people and organizations to work our shared missions, reach new communities, and do it through a DEI lens.

- ▶ **Creating opportunities for voter outreach.** We sought to find ways to reach people however we could, training them to work with us or on their own, relying less on requests for voter registration (VR) drives and Get out the Vote (GOTV) efforts and creating more of our own events. We also wanted to find ways to reach students whose schools were shut down, trying various avenues including training students to do their own VR drives.
- ▶ **Involving people who were working from home.** We engaged people to do voter services work, by conducting postcard campaigns, developing talks and educational materials, and making presentations on Zoom.
- ▶ **Developing Adult Civics program and expanding the Speaker's Bureau.** Our objective was to create several modules in the Adult Civics program, create videos of different length and scope, and present the talks to interested and diverse groups. This program would also be incorporated into the outreach program we share with the Committee for Criminal Justice Reform (CCJR) to groups of "returning citizens" – formerly incarcerated persons, as well as those affected by the criminal justice system that historically are not civically engaged. We also wanted to work on other topics for our speaker series, such as the History of Women's Suffrage, The History of Non-U.S. Citizen Voting, and Redistricting.

Summary of fiscal year 2022 accomplishments and activities

- ▶ We broadened participation in the workings of our committee. We benefited greatly from the insights and knowledge that committee participants shared, and further developed working relations with other League committees and outside partners. Our committee meetings involved lively discussions where participants shared their work and perspectives. We brainstormed about how we can reach more communities throughout NYC.
- ▶ We conducted over 30 VR/GOTV events throughout the city, in parks, libraries, and community centers. Volunteers registered voters and handed out over 1000 palm cards that gave voters information on the ballot proposals and upcoming elections. We began to get into schools in the spring and conducted a few events in the Bronx. We started to have success in teaching student groups to register their fellow students.
- ▶ We conducted a number of postcard campaigns, mailing out over 2000 postcards to low voter turnout districts. This effort is both an effective way to do voter outreach and involve volunteers.
- ▶ Our Adult Civics Initiative started to kick into high gear, with several talks on the basics of voting and “Who Makes NYC Run”, among other topics. In addition, we further developed our Speakers Bureau series and are planning to present in different media. We gave nearly 30 talks to well over 2000 people, in addition to providing video versions to reach even more audiences.

