

MINUTES OF JUNE 2, 2022 LWVDC ANNUAL MEETING

WELCOME by President Chris Clements

1. Meeting was held online.
2. Annual Meeting Report and 2022 Ballot Materials were posted on the LWVDC website. Hard copy packets were made available to those requesting them.
3. President welcomed new Executive Director, Wendy Hathaway. Wendy joined the League staff in November, bringing fresh eyes, new ideas, energy, and much needed increased capacity to our League.
4. Wendy explained to attendees how to ask questions, make Motions and vote during this meeting. Attendees could reference the Annual Meeting Report and Ballot Materials during the meeting via a link in the Chat. President thanked Wendy, Kerry Helmer, our new Office Administrator, and member Julia Gilden for providing technical assistance for this Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

1. Our bylaws require a quorum of 30 members to conduct business. There being 44 members present, the annual meeting came to order at 5:40 p.m.
2. Louise Robbins read the land acknowledgment. This statement was posted on the 2022 annual meeting web page on the LWVDC website.

BUSINESS MEETING

1. Cheryl Daniels served as parliamentarian, following the rules set forth in *Robert's Rules of Order*.
2. Adoption of rules for voting procedures. **Motion to adopt electronic voting for the elections to next year's board and nominating committee and to require a majority vote for the budget proposal, memorial trust fund withdrawal, and program priorities for next year** made by Wendy Hathaway of Fitchburg. Seconded by Mara Eisch of Madison. No questions or discussion. In favor 42, opposed 0. **Motion carried.**
3. The minutes of the 2021 annual meeting were distributed via the website, or paper copy if requested.
4. Nomination of Officers and Directors. Jan Van Vleck, chair of this year's Nominating Committee, presented the slate of officers and directors. The candidates for board officers were:
 - For president: Barb Feeney (two-year term)
 - For vice president: Mara Eisch (two-year term)

- For treasurer: Jean Jacobson (one-year term)
- For secretary: Marjorie Schuett (one-year term)

The candidates for board directors are:

- For program director: Sue Jennik (two-year term)
- For voter services director: Sue Fulks (one-year term)
- For diversity, equity and inclusion director: Lisa Hassenstab (one-year term)
- For membership director: no nominations as of yet. The LWVDC Board is authorized to fill any vacancies on the board. The Nominating Committee can be asked to assist in this process. *[LWVDC Bylaws, Article IX, Section 1.]*

Each candidate accepted nomination. No additional nominations were brought forward. **Motion to close nominations for the Board** made by Cheryl Daniels. Seconded by Mara Eisch of Madison. In favor 41, opposed 0. **Motion carried.** **Motion to accept the Slate of Officers and Directors** made by Brook Soltvedt of Madison. Seconded by Debra Cronmiller of Madison. In favor 40, opposed 1. **Motion carried.**

5. Nomination of 2022-23 Nominating Committee. Chair Van Vleck presented the Slate to be Elected to Nominating Committee.

- For chair: Lisa Janairo (one-year term)
- For committee member: Amber Rottier (one-year term)
- For committee member: Joan Provencher (one-year term)

Ms. Rottier accepted her nomination. Neither Ms. Janairo nor Ms. Provencher could attend but each had indicated her acceptance to the committee. According to the LWVDC Bylaws, the incoming board shall appoint two members of the Board to the 2022-2023 Nominating Committee at its first meeting.

No additional nominations were brought forward. **Motion to close nominations of the Nominating Committee** made by Karen Michael of Madison. Seconded by Mara Eisch of Madison. In favor 41, opposed 0. **Motion carries.**

Motion to elect this Nominating Committee Slate by Helen Horn. Seconded by Mara Eisch of Madison. No questions or discussion. In favor 42, opposed 0. **Motion carried.** President thanked Ms. Van Vleck for serving as chair of the Nominating Committee for two years.

6. Treasurer's Report. Jean Jacobson, treasurer and vice president of finance presented the following documents:

- Finance/Budget Summary
- Proposed Budget
- Proposed MTF Withdrawal for 2022-23 & 2023-24

These documents were linked to the LWVDC website prior to the meeting and are attached to these Minutes. Ms. Jacobson took questions from the members at the meeting.

Motion to accept the budget as presented made by Kathleen Fullin of Madison. Seconded by Debra Cronmiller of Madison. No further questions or discussion. In favor 45, opposed 0. **Motion carried.**

Motion to accept the proposed Memorial Trust Fund Withdrawal as presented made by Brook Soltvedt of Madison. Seconded by Sue Jennik of Madison. Ms. Jacobson answered member questions. No further discussion. In favor 44, opposed 1. **Motion carried.**

7. Committee Reports.

- Program Advocacy. Director Sue Jennik presented Report. She amended the Program Proposal to add the issue of Reproductive Justice. **Motion to accept the 2022-2023 Program Proposal as amended** by Sue Jennik of Madison. Seconded by Jan Anderson of Madison. Numerous comments were made in Chat, all in support of the amendment. No further questions or discussion. In favor 43, opposed 0. **Motion carried.**
- Voter Service. Director Barb Feeney presented report. No questions.
- DEI. Director Mary Ellen Schmit presented report. No questions.

8. President's Remarks. The president thanked the membership for their support over the past year. Barb Feeney thanked the president for her leadership.

AWARDS

1. **50-Year Members** Kathy Johnson and Nancy Jensen were honored for their long-standing dedication to the League. Earlier in the week they were presented with the gift of a yellow rose and a photo of the flowering crabapple tree that's flourishing at the UW–Madison Arboretum in recognition of all our 50-year members. Information about the honorees is on the LWVDC website.

2. Defender of Democracy Awards

Since 2005, the LWVDC has presented an award to a member in recognition of outstanding service as a champion of the League's mission of empowering voters and defending democracy. Previously this award was named after Carrie Chapman Catt. Although Ms. Catt was a leader in the women's suffrage movement, we now acknowledge she used racist arguments to further that agenda.

Starting this year, we will call this award by a new name: the Defender of Democracy Award. This name change is part of our League's efforts to investigate and own the impact of our actions and systems in our diverse community and move us to a position where we can be better partners and allies. Renaming the award does not diminish in any way the incredible dedication and accomplishments of past award winners. We are forever grateful for their outstanding service as champions of the League's mission as we are to this year's winners of the Defenders of Democracy award.

Marian Matthews introduced Paul Lindquist, the first of this year's Defender of Democracy Award honorees. Paul's many contributions included creating forms, steering Voter Outreach and Voter Helpline and providing hours of understandable tech training to our members

Bonnie Chang introduced Cindy Lindquist, our second Defender of Democracy Award honoree. You could always count on Cindy's steady presence at the LWVDC office for trustworthy advice and tech savvy.

(Paul and Cindy served the League in so many ways, they can't all be listed here. Their extraordinary contributions are appreciated by all)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. LWVWI annual meeting is in Appleton June 10 and 11, at the Hilton Appleton Paper Valley Hotel. Any member of a Wisconsin League who attends the state annual meeting may be a voting delegate this year, whether in-person or online via Zoom.
2. The LWVUS National Convention will be held in Denver June 23 through 26. Please let Chris Clements know if you will be attending in-person or virtually and if you would like to be a voting delegate for the LWV Dane County.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / NEW BUSINESS

1. Member social on June 7 at Vilas Park in Madison.
2. Membership renewal will be in your email inbox next week (preference is for folks to renew ASAP and online, not by paper)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn, by Wendy Hathaway of Madison. Seconded by Mara Eisch of Madison. No discussion. In favor 38, opposed 0. **Motion carried.**

Minutes submitted by Marjorie Schuett

Attachments: List of Members attending the Annual Meeting, Finance/Budget Summary, Proposed Budget, and Proposed MTF Withdrawal for 2022-23 and 2023-24.



Annual Meeting Report

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022



Annual Meeting

Thursday, June 2, 2022

Agenda Overview

5:20 - Zoom waiting room opens

5:30 - Meeting begins

- Election results
- Committee reports
- 50 Year Member recognized
- Defender of Democracy awards presented

7:00 - Meeting concludes

Registration for the Annual Meeting will be sent to members by email in May. If you do not receive the registration link, please email the League at office@lwvdanecounty.org.

[Presented virtually June 2, 2022, due to COVID-19 pandemic safety precautions.]

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LWVDC Board, Committee Chairs, Off-Board Positions & Discussion Unit Leaders

Below are just some of the incredible volunteer leaders who power the League of Women Voters of Dane County. Thank you to all our leaders and volunteers for your time, energy, and wisdom over the past year.

Board Officers

President

Christine Clements

Vice President–Finance & Treasurer

Jean Jacobson

Vice President–Governance

Maria Spinozzi (through 11/21)

Secretary

Joan Provencher

Directors

Advocacy

Joan Schwarz*

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Mary Ellen Schmit*

Lisa Janairo (through 01/22)*

Fund Development

Vacant

Governance

Elizabeth Kanne*

Membership

Amber Rottier

Program Advocacy

Sue Jennik*

Pat Patterson (through 12/31)*

Georgiana Hernandez (through 09/21)

Publicity

Bonnie Chang & Laura Grueneberg

Voter Service

Barb Feeney

Chairs & Coordinators

Adopt-a-Highway

Doug Johnson

Bulletin Editor

Lauren Surovi

Dane County Voter ID Coalition Liaison

Ingrid Rothe

Financial Advisory Committee Chair

Susan Dietzel

Nominating Committee

Janet Van Vleck

Webmaster & Enews Editor

Brook Soltvedt

Program Advocacy

Program Co-Chair

Pat Patterson

Book Discussion Coordinators

Sally Gleason & Louise Robbins

Climate Chair

Meg Gordon

Making Democracy Work Chair

Joan Schwarz

Observer Corps Coordinator

Laurie Egge

Social and Racial Equity Chair

Aileen Nettleton

Working Group for Fair Maps Coordinator

Janine Edwards (through 10/21)

Voter Service

Voter Service Co-Chair

Candidates' Answers

Candidate Forums

Know Your Candidates TV Interviews

Apartment Outreach

High School Voter Education

Homeless Liaison

Library Liaisons

Senior Liaison

Sue Fulks

Kathy Fullin

Erin Grunze

Shel Gross

Betty Cohen (through 04/21)

Susan Latton (through 04/21)

Joan Provencher

Gail Bliss

Kathy Fullin & Shirley Haidinger

Shirley Haidinger

Discussion Unit Leaders

Coordinator

Central West

Downtown Dinner

Northeast Side

Prairie Ridge

West/Middleton

Pat Patterson

Kathy Johnson

Ingrid Rothe

Karen Gunderson

Dorothy Wheeler

Ralph Petersen, Helen Horn & Gloria Meyer

**Board Appointed*

President's Report [Christine Clements]

The 2021-22 year has been a year of transition for our Dane County League. The impact of the coronavirus on our ability to meet with each other has continued, but our capacity to substitute with Zoom and online document sharing grows increasingly impressive. We have turned over several experienced key leaders due to location, family, and job changes, but we have also been fortunate in identifying talented new leaders and past leaders who were willing to step forward to fill in gaps. We put our best efforts into supporting voter registration, access to the polls, fair maps, and voter rights legislation . . . and those fights go on. Always, LWVDC members and volunteers respond with resilience, creativity, and an abiding commitment to empowering voters and defending democracy. I am deeply inspired by the people I have had the privilege of working with in the LWV Dane County. Together we are truly stronger.

Among the highlights of the past year:

- The expansion of League efforts in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), including the adoption and implementation of a set of League-wide DEI recommendations with a quarterly assessment of progress. Our committees are striving to further enhance their practices with DEI principles.
- The application for and receipt of an award for a Mellon Fellow graduate student from the UW–Madison fellowship program who will help us improve the sustainability of our leadership model, with an emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Evaluation of all LWV Dane County media and development of guidelines to better understand how we can use our communications portfolio for greater impact.
- Development and early implementation of a model for expanding and enriching the quality of our partnerships with other organizations in the community.

Strategic priorities for next year include developing our partnerships for mutual advantage, continued integration of DEI values across the LWVDC, and further development of our capacity to leverage our changing organization for maximum impact, including expanding our funding sources. We hope to identify the resources to do a more extensive strategic planning initiative either this year or next.

I am extremely grateful to the Board of Directors and Executive Director Wendy Hathaway for their tireless efforts and their commitment to the mission and the values of LWVDC.

Forward.

Vice President/Governance Report

Unfortunately, we lost our very capable Vice President of Governance Maria Spinozzi in November. Maria had been serving in the VP role since February 2020 and accomplished a great deal for the League during her short term in this role. The three main initiatives in the governance area were:

- The Executive Director Search—After extensive Board discussion, a successful search was conducted to replace our exiting Executive Director Kate Vickery, resulting in the hire of Wendy Hathaway.
- Partnership Policy—The LWVDC Partnership Policy was updated to mitigate ongoing issues of ambiguity and debate and better align the policy with that at LWVUS.
- Vendor Policy—The LWVDC Vendor Policy was revised to provide greater guidance and support to the League’s diversity, equity, and inclusion commitments.
- Editorial and Publication Guidelines—Both general guidelines and specific guidelines for 11 LWVDC external communication tools were developed to allow better management of League communications for greater impact.

The Vice President assumes governance domain responsibilities. As part of these duties, a governance committee is expected to be developed in the coming year.

Treasurer’s Report [Jean Jacobson]

Income Statement

LWVDC is forecasted to complete FY 2021-22 with an operating loss of \$54,200 as compared to a budget operating loss of \$119,000 and to actual operating income of \$4,300 in FY 2020-21. Investment dividends and realized gains for the year remain on par with the prior year (\$17,000), but overall market values have declined \$29,150 from the start of the year. A net loss of \$64,500 is expected for the year after taking investment activity into account.

Revenue is estimated to total \$143,000 for FY 2021-22. Membership dues and contributions continue to be the primary revenue streams, accounting for 92% of the annual revenue; grants contribute 3-5% of annual revenue. Membership numbers have declined by more than 100 persons from the prior year. Current year fundraising campaigns, while successful, have fallen slightly below similar campaigns from last year. One less grant was received this year, and a second was one-half of last year’s amount.

- Last year’s revenue included the Dane County Voter ID Coalition contract (\$86,000), while the budget included grants (\$48,000) for DEI training and strategic planning.

Operating expenses are forecasted to total \$197,200 for FY 2021-22 versus the prior year of \$231,900 and the budget of \$334,000. Last year’s expenses included the Dane County Voter ID Coalition contract (\$82,000), while the budget included expenses (\$48,000) for DEI training and strategic planning that were contingent upon securing grant funding.

- General office expenses reflect the addition of the Executive Director position and the inclusion of funds for a contract grant consultant.
- Community engagement expenses are impacted by additional internship program hours/pay and support of the Fair Maps initiative. One fewer election results in lower

support costs such as for *Candidates' Answers*. The savings to the budget reflects the impact of COVID-19 on in-person events and the decision to reconsider further expansion of the internship program.

- Organizational expenses exceeded the prior year due to per-member payments to LWVWI and LWVUS based upon January 2021 membership numbers.

Balance Sheet

The Cash on Hand estimate reflects withdrawals from the Memorial Trust Fund to fund the anticipated operating deficit of \$54,200. The Board expects to take advantage of the 4.5% operations withdrawal authorized by plan documents, as well as a partial draw against the 15% withdrawal approved at the June 2021 Annual Meeting to support year 1 salary and benefits of the Executive Director position. These two withdrawals total \$54,200 and would reduce the balance of the Memorial Trust Fund to \$665,800. The timing and amount of the withdrawals will be reviewed and may be adjusted based upon available cash reserves.

It is to be noted that no withdrawals have been made from the Memorial Trust Fund since 2007. The value of these foregone withdrawals is approximately \$100,000, well in excess of the planned withdrawals.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY			
FY 2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT			
INCOME STATEMENT COMPARISON			
	FY 20-21 Actuals	FY 21-22 Budget	FY 21-22 Estimate
REVENUE			
Membership Dues	39,113	41,250	37,581
Contributions and Bequests	97,749	116,000	94,334
Grants	8,000	52,000	5,500
Miscellaneous Revenue	9,246	5,800	5,621
Dane County Contract - Voter ID Coalition	82,210	0	0
TOTAL REVENUE	236,318	215,050	143,036
GENERAL OFFICE EXPENSES			
Rent	24,067	24,540	24,540
Office Related Expenses	14,391	13,610	12,840
Staff Salaries and Benefits	48,627	122,550	77,021
All Other Expenses	7,078	20,645	12,306
Subtotal	94,163	181,345	126,707
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EXPENSES			
Event Expenses	1,983	10,400	750
Internship Program	6,766	20,000	10,524
Printed Materials	1,934	5,550	6,093
Publicity and Advertising	2,005	12,100	7,200
Candidates Answers	9,249	5,500	5,500
All Other Expenses	3,088	1,950	2,142
Dane County Contract - Voter ID Coalition	82,210	0	0
Subtotal	107,235	55,500	32,209
ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENSES			
Strategic Planning Retreat & Training	299	57,000	2,400
Membership Payments to LWVWI & LWVUS	25,629	33,247	32,949
All Other Expenses	4,634	7,000	2,984
Subtotal	30,562	97,247	38,333
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	231,960	334,092	197,249
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	4,358	(119,042)	(54,213)
Investment Management Fees	0	0	(1,000)
Dividends/Interest/Realized Gains (Losses)	17,191	12,700	17,827
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	144,764	0	(29,149)
INVESTMENT INCOME (LOSS)	161,955	12,700	(10,322)
NET INCOME (LOSS)	166,313	(106,342)	(64,535)
FUNDING RESOURCES			
MTF Year 1 Executive Director Withdrawal	0	73,900	38,500
MTF 4.5% Operational Withdrawal	0	15,700	15,700
Cash Surplus/Usage	4,358	(29,442)	(13)
4/11/2022			

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY			
FY 2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT			
BALANCE SHEET COMPARISON			
	6/30/21 Actuals	6/30/22 Budget	6/30/22 Estimate
CASH			
Old National Checking Account	38,719	10,646	48,373
Old National Money Market Account	67,137	42,140	52,159
Memorial Trust Fund Cash	4,864	0	0
Subtotal	110,720	52,786	100,532
ALL OTHER ASSETS			
Accounts Receivable	555	0	0
Undeposited Funds	1,965	2,000	1,500
Prepaid Expenses, Rent & Deposits	4,310	4,475	4,038
Subtotal	6,830	6,475	5,538
INVESTMENTS - Memorial Trust Fund	727,484	594,371	665,804
TOTAL ASSETS	845,034	653,632	771,874
LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	5,312	4,600	6,911
Credit Cards Outstanding	1,020	500	475
Unearned or Deferred Revenue	15,179	3,000	7,500
Subtotal	21,511	8,100	14,886
EQUITY			
Unrestricted Net Assets	657,210	752,174	823,523
Net Income	166,313	(106,642)	(66,535)
Subtotal	823,523	645,532	756,988
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	845,034	653,632	771,874
4/11/2022			

Finance Committee Report [Jean Jacobson]

The Finance Committee is a standing committee of the LWVDC and is appointed by the Board of Directors at the first Board meeting of the fiscal year. The committee consists of at least five members, including the Treasurer and two Board Directors. The duties of the committee include monitoring the financial condition of LWVDC, preparing an annual budget, monitoring investments, and ensuring compliance with all legal filing requirements.

The Finance Committee identified and worked on the following goals and objectives during the current fiscal year:

- Developed dashboard metrics for Finance, Fund Development, and Membership. These dashboards provide a pictorial view of metrics used to measure the impact of each domain's activities as well as the financial health of the organization. Currently used mostly for Board Reports, the dashboards could become an informational tool available to League members.
- Worked with the Financial Advisory Committee to evaluate the current model of using League volunteers to invest/manage the Memorial Trust Fund versus hiring a professional investment management firm. Research and vetting by the Financial Advisory Committee led to their recommendation that the League hire a local investment firm, eCIO. The Board approved the recommendation in January.
- Developed working copies of policies and procedures related to Finance, Fund Development, and Membership. Work continues in this area with a targeted completion date of June 30, 2022.

Other activities of the Treasurer and the Committee included:

- Oversight of an Annual Financial Review as required by the Bylaws.
- Completion and review of the annual 990 tax return.
- Completion of the annual insurance renewal including the consolidation of all policies under one insurance agency, Ansay and Associates.
- Support the Domain Committees in their completion of domain budgets for FY 2022-23.
- Presentation of the FY 2022-2023 Budget to the Board for their approval.

Many thanks to the outstanding work of the members of the two Finance Committees: Julie Allen, Susan Dietzel, Linda Syth, Helen Horn, Paul Lindquist, Amber Rottier, Joan Provencher, Linda Dietrich, Caroline Liedtke, Sally Carpenter, and Alexandra Graff.

Financial Advisory Committee Report [Susan Dietzel]

The Financial Advisory Committee is responsible for monitoring League investments and recommending policy regarding the Memorial Trust Fund (MTF) to the Board. The MTF is a Board-directed endowment that allows for the use of 4.5% of the annual value of the portfolio averaged over five years for LWVDC expenses. The value of the MTF on December 31, 2021, was \$775,802 compared with a value of \$657,389 one year ago, a return of 18%.

The 4.5% withdrawal to support operations is expected to resume this current fiscal year. In addition, a withdrawal to partially fund the newly created Executive Director position is anticipated. At the June 2021 Annual Meeting, membership approved a withdrawal of up to 15% of the value of the Memorial Trust Fund to fund the first-year salary and benefits of the Executive Director. The actual withdrawal amounts will depend upon the operating deficit and the estimated cash reserves at the end of June 2022.

In the last 10 years, the MTF increased in value by over 400%, largely due to donations from the Ogg Foundation and other bequests and donations, as well as an increase in investment earnings. Because of the size of the MTF and the commitment to financial integrity, the Committee felt it would be prudent to obtain the services of a professional financial advisor. Members conducted research, including obtaining references, and submitted a proposal that was approved by the Board to hire eCIO, a local company specializing in nonprofits.

With the assistance of eCIO advisors, the Committee drafted a new Investment Policy Statement to guide the fund's investment portfolio and incorporate accountability standards that will be used for monitoring the progress of the portfolio's investment program. Reporting services through eCIO will greatly enhance the Committee's ability to monitor investments.

	Value 12/31/2020	Purchases & Sales	Income & Net Return	Value 12/31/2021
Vanguard 500 Index Fund Inv	\$ 80,230		\$ 22,997	\$103,227
Vanguard Mid-Cap Index Fund	117,296		28,749	146,045
Vanguard Total Stock Mkt Index Inv	103,191	\$ 16,474	29,880	149,545
Vanguard Balanced Index Fd	113,540		16,142	129,682
Vanguard Capital Opportunity	56,605		11,902	68,507
T Rowe Price Converg Allocation Fd	68,691		4,879	73,570
Dodge & Cox Income Fd	30,518		(278)	30,240
Fidelity Investment Grade Bond Fd	70,844		(722)	70,122
Schwab Bank Account	16,474	(16,474)	4,864	4,864
Total Portfolio Value	\$657,389	\$ 0	\$ 118,413	\$775,802

Committee members: Sally Carpenter, Susan Dietzel, Alexandra Graff, Helen Horn, Jean Jacobson, Caroline Liedtke

Fund Development Committee Report [Chris Clements and Wendy Hathaway]

Over the last year, LWVDC conducted two member fundraising appeals and, as of this writing, is preparing a third—the May Challenge, which is supported by an incredibly generous matching gift of \$10,000 from an anonymous member donor.

The Fall/End-of-Year appeal, which ran November–December 2021, raised \$27,169 from 97 member and non-member donors. The success of this appeal was due in part to a \$5,000 matching donation made by a generous LWVDC member. The 2022 Valentine’s Day appeal, which was also an opportunity to celebrate the League’s 102nd birthday, raised \$3,250 thanks to donations from 26 members.

As of April 1, LWVDC also received \$17,294 in general donations from members, including gifts made at the time of joining or renewing membership; \$9,907 in general donations from non-members; and \$1,223 in corporate matching gifts.

Finally, LWVDC was the recipient of three grants supporting the work of Voter Service. The Evjue Foundation awarded \$5,000 to help fund printing and preparation costs of the *Candidates’ Answers* publication. The League of Women Voters Education Fund awarded \$1,500 to support voter registration activities for new citizens. And the Wisconsin Public Education Network’s Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools awarded \$500, which was used to place digital ads promoting the Voter ID Coalition’s Voter Helpline.

In the coming 2022-23 fiscal year, the League will focus on diversifying our fundraising portfolio, which includes hiring a contract grant consultant.

All donations make a difference, whether \$5 or \$5,000. We are grateful to everyone for their gifts to the League, whether that’s time, talent, or resources.

Thank you to the members of the Fund Development Committee for your work this year: Julie Allen, Gail Bliss, Jean Jacobson, Lisa Janairo, Megan Severson, Mary Ellen Schmit, and Caryl Terrell.

Program Committee Report [Sue Jennik and Pat Patterson]

The Program Advocacy Committee responsibilities are set forth in Article X, Sec. 2(c) of the League's Bylaws: "The duties of the committee are to recommend program priorities for Board and membership approval and to plan and present the selected topics and recommended actions to the membership and the community at forums and other informational meetings."

Many League members helped plan and present the Program Advocacy activities. Their work is greatly appreciated; unfortunately, we do not have the space to name them here.

- The priorities approved by the membership and the Board for the past year were: Making Democracy Work; Climate Change; and Social and Racial Equity. The Committee established a subcommittee in each area, overseen by the Program Advocacy Steering Committee.
- Five forums were presented on these issues. Topics included fair maps; protecting the vote; reducing carbon use; eviction; and low-income housing. In addition, the Lively Issues meeting featured Matt Rothschild of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign speaking on saving democracy in Wisconsin. An average of 96 people attended each event.
- There are five Unit Discussion groups that regularly meet to discuss the issues raised in the forums: Central West; Capitol Lakes; Middleton West; Northeast Side; and Prairie Ridge. An average of 26 members attended each of these discussions.
- The Climate Change Subcommittee issued a transportation challenge to members to reduce their vehicle miles traveled. Forty-six participants agreed to track their vehicle miles and explore alternate forms of transportation. The subcommittee held a midwinter check-in to discuss insights; a ride to explore bus transportation; and another ride to experience using the Madison BCycle program.
- The Program Committee organized discussions of the following books: "The Sum of Us" by Heather McGhee; "Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmerer; "Twelve Ways to Save Democracy" by Matt Rothschild; "Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay and a Mother's Will to Survive" by Stephanie Land; and "How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America" by Clint Smith. An average of 20 members attended each of these discussions.
- Twelve League members attended a pilot eight-week Civic Education seminar hosted by Advocacy Director Joan Schwarz about the state of our government today and the need to restore the guardrails of democracy.

The Program Committee prepared and distributed a membership survey to determine the priorities for the coming year. The issues with the highest votes were: Election Integrity (64); Economic Opportunities for All (61); Campaign Finance Reform (59); Neighborhoods for Social and Racial Equity (58); Judicial Integrity (56); and Climate Resistant Rural and Urban Communities (53). These priorities are subject to approval by the Board and the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Advocacy Report [Joan I. Schwarz]

The Advocacy Committee provides opportunities to be more active in timely nonpartisan public issues campaigns. The Committee has a tripartite structure of the Observer Corps, the Advocacy Corps, and the Speakers Bureau. Examples of 2021-22 Advocacy efforts include:

Advancing the League's position on redistricting

- Submitted oral and written testimony as individuals to the People's Maps Commission.
- Participated in meetings, letter writing, and phone banking with the Fair Maps Coalition.
- League member Janine Edwards coordinated a working group on redistricting in the DeForest/Windsor area with a digital billboard, outreach, and Spanish radio advertising.
- Participated in a Legislative Meeting Day on redistricting maps.
- League member Joan Schwarz was a nominated member on the Dane County Redistricting Commission and the Madison Ad Hoc Redistricting Council.
- League member Caryl Terrell submitted an oral statement to the Dane County Redistricting Commission in support of its nonpartisan work on maps.
- Participated in a Fair Maps End Gerrymandering Rally at the capitol.
- Participated in the Fair Maps Lobby Day.
- League member Joan Schwarz submitted an oral statement on behalf of LWVWI and LWVDC opposing the legislature's senate, representative, and congressional maps.

Advancing LWVDC's position on the administration of justice

- Lili Crane, Jill Jokela, and Joan Schwarz attended the first in the LWVWI Fair Courts Series: Understanding Wisconsin's Courts and Judicial Elections.
- Kathleen Fullin and Mary Anglim observed all of the meetings of the new City of Madison Police Civilian Oversight Board (PCOB) for the LWVDC. The League sent several communications to the PCOB about their processes for public involvement.

Monitoring government meetings

- The Observer Corps' five members observed the following Dane County meetings: Criminal Justice Council; Land Conservation Committee; Agriculture Environment and Natural Resources Committee; Health and Human Needs Committee; and Public Protection and Judiciary Committee. A member also observed the Wisconsin Election Commission.
- Observer Corps procedures, report forms, and data spreadsheets were updated.
- League member Joan Schwarz attended a Michigan statewide Observer Corps meeting.

Developing advocacy outreach to the community

- 45 League members attended the Braver Angels workshop "Depolarizing Within."
- Advocates organized training and a letter-writing campaign for election-integrity issues, focusing on the 2020 election audit, fraudulent electors, and protection of poll workers in upcoming elections.

In the coming year, the committee will work to ensure that our efforts reflect the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion in all its forms. To that end, we are committed to partnering with community allies to develop and implement our campaigns. Advocates will be organizing future campaigns on judicial integrity, campaign-finance reform, and civil discourse.

Voter Service Report [Barb Feeney and Sue Fulks]

The Voter Service Steering Committee (VSSC) oversees and directs the work of volunteers who provide citizens with unbiased factual information and nonpartisan assistance to register and prepare to vote. The Voter Service (VS) work is carried out by nine subcommittees working under the direction of subcommittee chairs who report to the VSSC.

Ongoing Work

Many volunteers are carrying out the ongoing work of **reaching out** to senior facilities, libraries, Meals on Wheels, and food pantries.

The **High School Team** recently held voter registration events at several high schools in collaboration with student leaders.

Apartment Outreach continues. Challenges with apartment outreach have led to the development of a pilot project to develop two neighborhood teams. (See below for more information.)

In cooperation with the Dane County Voter ID Coalition, we are working with the Dane County sheriff on issues related to voting for **jail residents**.

Successful voter registration events have been held at **Madison College**.

The **Voter Helpline** operates year-round thanks to the experienced volunteers who staff it.

During the distribution of **bus passes at UW–Madison** in Fall 2021, LWVDC volunteers staffed voter registration tables outside the ASM building on Campus Mall and Union South. League volunteers also assisted at campus locations on National Voter Registration Day.

Two **UW–Madison interns**, Tabitha Houghton and Kayla Swartz, have continued their work on the UW BadgersVote Team. Tabitha was named the lead intern for the team at the end of 2021. The Morgridge Center for Public Service staff member who oversaw the BadgersVote team left his job at the end of December. Recruitment efforts have been underway since then to find a replacement.

Outreach to voters continued at farmers' markets, the Madison Night Market, the UW–Madison Public Service Fair, the Beacon homeless day resource center, and elsewhere.

The Spring 2022 issue of **Candidates' Answers** was produced and distributed in March. The informative weekly issue of **Enews** provides our members with timely information about VS activities and opportunities provided by other organizations. LWVDC's presence on social media is creative and has attracted many followers, including nonmembers.

New Directions

The VSSC applied for and received a **New Citizens Grant** from LWVUS to reach out to immigrants who have become citizens and are eligible to vote. This project is being directed by a team of volunteers who will partner with organizations that work with new immigrants. To the greatest extent possible, we are asking League volunteers who have existing relationships with these organizations to help make connections. The grant funding makes it possible to provide special non-English publications and, potentially, “extras” for special events. The goal is to make lasting connections with these organizations.

A new subcommittee, **Government Collaboration**, is recruiting volunteers who live in outlying municipalities to review their local clerk’s website to assess the completeness of voter information and offer suggestions for improvements. Thus far, 19 volunteers have signed up to carry out this work.

The VSSC recently approved a new initiative to explore the development of **neighborhood teams**. These groups will work within a defined geographic area, such as a municipality or voting ward, and will combine League resources with hyperlocal knowledge and creativity to engage with their neighbors and promote civic participation. Apartment outreach, library liaisons, senior liaisons, and others may be wrapped into each team’s strategy. This project is starting with a pilot team in the City of Fitchburg; a low-voter turnout neighborhood in the City of Madison will be selected for the second pilot team.

VSSC and Executive Director Wendy Hathaway are **rejuvenating more regular communications** with our very lengthy list of voter service volunteers. Communications include topics such as volunteer sign-ups, voter registration deadlines, trainings, quizzes, and more. We also surveyed volunteers to find new ways to match them with available opportunities.

To improve internal VSSC communication, the subcommittee chairs now include **written reports** in the monthly VSSC meeting agenda. There is not enough meeting time available for verbal reports, so the written reports are provided to ensure that we all know what is underway. These reports include a report from the ED and a report from the LWVDC Board.

At the request of the Board, **VS liaisons** have been appointed for the following domains: Communications, Membership, Fund Development, Finance, and DEI. We formalized the role Bonnie Chang had been playing informally as our liaison to the Madison City Clerk’s Office.

Our technology leader, Paul Lindquist, created an online tool for VSSC volunteers to **track the hours** they put in as a way to get a sense of how much time each volunteer position takes.

Looking Ahead

A small army of dedicated volunteers gives hundreds of hours to carry out the work of the Voter Service domain. We are deeply grateful for the work that is done by volunteers who perform these tasks with great dedication and often without recognition. A challenge ahead is to match more of our members with opportunities to serve, so we can be even more effective in our work. An additional challenge is to intentionally develop new leaders to ensure the work continues and to lighten the load of the existing leadership team.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion [Mary Ellen Schmit]

First and foremost, we need to thank Lisa Janairo for her tireless work on behalf of DEI for years, as chair and champion. Lisa stepped away from her position as DEI Director in compliance with our Bylaws in order to run for office in the City of Middleton. The DEI Committee has been operating since 2020; 2021–22 was the first time the chair became a Board position. Mary Ellen Schmit filled in as director during the remaining months of this term.

To improve communication across the organization, liaisons from committees throughout LWVDC attend and report at DEI Committee meetings. The emphasis this year has been on decentralizing DEI efforts throughout the League and was addressed with recommendations approved by the Board and then reviewed regularly.

Building on last year's education (in particular Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins's book and webinar), the action taken this year to transition the Carrie Chapman Catt Award to a newly named Defender of Democracy Award is a step toward owning our past and charting our future. Following up on the recommendation to offer DEI-related training, LWVDC sponsored a group of members to participate together in the virtual "Black History for a New Day" course taught by the Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development. Multiple local Leagues in Wisconsin, including LWV Dane County, are coordinating to cosponsor "How We Got Here: The Hidden History of Diversity in America," a presentation by Reggie Jackson, scheduled for May 12. DEI Cafés continue to be held, giving space where members can together process and address current issues. Contributions to the *Bulletin* included "Untangling the Web of Inequality That We've Woven," "Amplifying the Good, Learning from the Inexcusable," and "DEI Reflections: First Trust, then Combined Efforts," as well as committee updates.

Working through the LWVWI Community Alliances Committee, our members also have been involved in efforts to develop guidance for land acknowledgments and create a process for reporting and resolving incidents of bias.

Coordination and decentralization of DEI is evident in efforts such as avoiding religious and cultural holidays when scheduling gatherings; rethinking how we welcome new members; a more intentional sharing of pronouns; the process to recruit members for leadership positions; and data collection using DEI dashboards. Publicity has been responding promptly to support communities within Dane County when social justice issues arise. We continue to try to improve our culture of reflection in League meetings, with future work on messaging through visual imagery, social media, and listening in neighborhood teams. Website redesign should include a process of active input from diverse voices. Finally, Board and member training in implicit bias, microaggressions, and other DEI-related principles will continue.

Adopt-a-Highway [Doug Johnson]

Volunteers again worked to support the twice-a-year commitment of LWVDC to Adopt-A Highway along U.S. Highway 14 just west of Middleton. Due to concern about COVID-19, there was not the usual pick up in the spring 2020. In September 2020, 11 participants picked up 16 bags. In May 2021, eight volunteers picked up 13 bags of debris on a perfect spring day. In October 2021, six volunteers picked up 11 bags of debris plus a \$10 bill!

Membership Report [Amber Rottier]

The Membership Committee works to welcome new League members, assist with connecting members to the different areas of the League, and implement initiatives to increase membership engagement and retention. We report our membership numbers to the national League yearly on January 31. As of January 31, 2022, we have 528 members, compared with 613 members reported on January 31, 2021.

Key Accomplishments

- The Membership Committee hosted virtual **Member Hangouts** for members to get together informally, meet new members, and reconnect with old friends. League members enjoyed the opportunity to socialize, something that has been greatly missed with the move to virtual meetings during the pandemic.
- Virtual **member orientation** sessions were held to provide additional information about the League and volunteer opportunities for both new and existing members. Voter Service, DEI, and Program Advocacy presented about engagement opportunities.
- The Committee continues to evolve the process for contacting and **onboarding new members**.
- The annual **Member Activities and Interests Survey** has been revamped based on feedback from members.

Thank you to the hardworking members of the Membership Committee. Sally Gleason and Margaret Fuguitt made countless calls to new members and connected them with their areas of interest. Joy Cardin, Mary Ellen Schmit, and Brook Soltvedt always provided meaningful insights and were essential in all membership event planning.

In the coming year, our strategic initiatives and priorities will include improving member engagement by talking to new members to identify their interests and connect them to domains of interest; holding quarterly orientation sessions for new and existing members so they can learn more about the League and opportunities to participate; and holding quarterly social events for members.

Publicity Report [Bonnie Chang & Laura Grueneberg]

During 2021-22, the LWVDC Publicity Committee continued outreach efforts with Dane County residents despite the ongoing pandemic. Members of the Madison Common Council, Dane County Board of Supervisors, and several state representatives now follow and engage with all LWVDC social media accounts, and we have earned a reputation as a reliable source of trusted information for our followers.

During July and August 2021, social media postings focused on diversity, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act/For The People Act, HR1 & S1, and Civic Health Month. These efforts reaped over 200% increase in our impressions on Instagram. During late 2021, social media focused on Disability Vote's newest campaign, Indigenous Peoples' Week, Spanish language access, and redistricting. At this time, we are still continuing to grow and our engagement is still up despite this not being a presidential election year. Our platforms continue to be a valuable hub for Dane County voting information.

In line with the League's goal of expanding its DEI outreach, we continue uplifting the voices of youth, BIYOC, those with disabilities, BIPOC, those who have experienced homelessness, those who have been incarcerated, and the LGBTQIA+ community. We are growing LWVDC's social media following with local BIPOC leaders and strengthening relationships with community organizations by continuously showing up in person and collaborating with these groups. Publicity's use of "alt text" functions and highlighting Spanish language resources helps with this goal.

We regularly emailed press releases to Madison and Dane County community newspapers, television and radio stations, and nonprofit community organizations with common interests. This, combined with social media reminders and events to which viewers could RSVP, meant attendance at forums remained consistent, and even increased, when we could not meet in person.

Specific outreach efforts included promotion of *Candidates' Answers*, Making Democracy Work, Social and Racial Equity, and Climate Crisis forum events, voter information, and the Voter Helpline.

Executive Director Letter [Wendy Hathaway]

This has certainly been (another) year of change for the League of Women Voters of Dane County. After more than two years of social distancing and doing most of our work online and via email, we are looking ahead and beginning to plan in-person member gatherings, educational programming, and voter engagement. The leaders and volunteers who make up each domain are working tirelessly to continue with traditional activities while creatively designing new ways to further the mission of the League. We said farewell to a few LWVDC leaders and welcomed new ones. And, you have two new staff members supporting the work of the League. I joined the League as executive director November 2021; Kerry Helmer came on board in February 2021 as our new office administrator and jumped right into the deep end, learning about the many and sometimes-complex inner workings of LWVDC while taking the lead on new projects and meeting many new faces.

As we look ahead to the next year, I can't wait to get to know more of you and tap into the extraordinary amounts of enthusiasm and expertise we have among our membership. Together, we will build and strengthen relationships with community partners, increase civic engagement throughout Dane County in a variety of ways across domains, find new and meaningful ways for more members to engage with the League, and develop a more sustainable and inclusive leadership model.

As a former volunteer, a current member, and now as Executive Director, I'm especially proud to serve the League and our community during this defining moment for our democracy. Each and every person reading this is a crucial part of our fight to empower voters and defend democracy and I look forward to partnering with you all in the coming months and years.

Special thanks to everyone who contributed to writing, editing, and designing our Annual Meeting materials, as well as those who helped in the planning of our online gathering.

2022 Ballot Materials LWVDC Annual Meeting of the Membership

Thursday, June 2, 2022
5:30–7 p.m.
Virtual



Annual Business Meeting Agenda Timeline

April 26–May 17	Read Annual Meeting Materials and Annual Report
May 12	Last day to email any questions to the office (office@lwvdanecounty.org)
June 2	Ballots due
June 2	Annual Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meeting • Celebration of 50-Year/Life Members • Presentation of Defender of Democracy Award

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021-22 Annual Meeting will be conducted via Zoom, including elections and approval of the program and budget. Meeting materials will be available to members online or, upon request, printed copies may be mailed or picked up in person.

Ballot Materials for 2022 Annual Meeting

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY				
ANNUAL MEETING				
INCOME STATEMENT COMPARISON				
FY 2022-23 BUDGET				
	FY 2020-21 Actuals	FY 2021-22 Budget	FY 2021-22 Estimate	FY 2022-23 Budget
REVENUE				
Membership Dues	39,113	41,250	37,581	35,025
Contributions and Bequests	97,749	116,000	94,334	100,000
Grants	8,000	52,000	5,500	16,800
Miscellaneous Revenue	9,246	5,800	5,621	4,744
Dane County Contract - Voter ID Coalition	82,210	0	0	2,140
TOTAL REVENUE	236,318	215,050	143,036	158,709
GENERAL OFFICE EXPENSES				
Rent	24,067	24,540	24,540	25,016
Office Related Expenses	14,391	13,610	12,840	20,781
Staff Salaries and Benefits	48,627	132,550	77,021	105,233
All Other Expenses	7,078	20,645	12,306	23,324
Subtotal	94,163	191,345	126,707	174,354
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EXPENSES				
Event Expenses	1,983	10,400	750	6,700
Internship Program	6,766	10,000	10,524	12,912
Printed Materials	1,934	5,550	6,093	9,797
Publicity and Advertising	2,005	12,100	7,200	4,100
Candidates Answers	9,249	5,500	5,500	8,800
All Other Expenses	3,088	1,950	2,142	5,370
Dane County Contract - Voter ID Coalition	82,210	0	0	0
Subtotal	107,235	45,500	32,209	47,679
ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENSES				
Strategic Planning Retreat & Training	299	57,000	2,400	1,580
Membership Payments to LWVWI & LWVUS	25,629	33,247	32,949	28,008
All Other Expenses	4,634	7,000	2,984	2,100
Subtotal	30,562	97,247	38,333	31,688
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	231,960	334,092	197,249	253,721
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	4,358	(119,042)	(54,213)	(95,012)
Investment Management Fees	0	0	(1,000)	(4,000)
Dividends/Interest/Realized Gains (Losses)	17,191	12,700	17,827	12,700
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	144,764	0	(29,149)	0
INVESTMENT INCOME (LOSS)	161,955	12,700	(12,322)	8,700
NET INCOME (LOSS)	166,313	(106,342)	(66,535)	(86,312)

FUNDING RESOURCES	FY 2020-21 Actuals	FY 2021-22 Budget	FY 2021-22 Estimate	FY 2022-23 Budget
MTF Year 1 Executive Director Withdrawal	0	73,900	38,500	41,700
MTF Year 2 Executive Director Withdrawal	0	0	0	32,250
MTF 4.5% Operational Withdrawal	0	15,700	15,700	21,000
Cash Surplus/Usage	4,358	(29,442)	(13)	(62)
4/11/2022				

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DANE COUNTY				
ANNUAL MEETING				
BALANCE SHEET COMPARISON				
FY 2022-23 BUDGET				
	6/30/21 Actuals	6/30/22 Budget	6/30/22 Estimate	6/30/23 Budget
CASH				
Old National Checking Account	38,719	10,646	48,373	48,261
Old National Money Market Account	67,137	42,140	52,159	52,159
Memorial Trust Fund Cash	4,864	0	0	0
Subtotal	110,720	52,786	100,532	100,420
ALL OTHER ASSETS				
Accounts Receivable	555	0	0	0
Undeposited Funds	1,965	2,000	1,500	1,500
Prepaid Expenses, Rent & Deposits	4,310	4,475	4,038	4,088
Subtotal	6,830	6,475	5,538	5,588
INVESTMENTS - Memorial Trust Fund	727,484	594,371	665,804	579,554
TOTAL ASSETS	845,034	653,632	771,874	685,562
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	5,312	4,600	6,911	6,911
Credit Cards Outstanding	1,020	500	475	475
Unearned or Deferred Revenue	15,179	3,000	7,500	7,500
Subtotal	21,511	8,100	14,886	14,886
EQUITY				
Unrestricted Net Assets	657,210	752,174	823,523	756,988
Net Income (Loss)	166,313	(106,642)	(66,535)	(86,312)
Subtotal	823,523	645,532	756,988	670,676
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	845,034	653,632	771,874	685,562
4/11/2022				

Proposed LWVDC Budget for 2022-23

INCOME STATEMENT

Operating Revenue

The plan for the upcoming fiscal year includes revenue growth of 10% over the current year. The Fund Development Committee continues to develop strategies for expanding the donor giving base whether that be engaging a larger percentage of the existing members or seeking out additional non-member donors. Grants continue to be an area of focus as they have traditionally played a small role in our revenue results. The committee is currently seeking a contract grant consultant to identify available grants and lead the grant-writing effort. Understanding that it will take time for the consultant to understand our organization and its needs, we have been conservative and have only added \$10,000 to the grants budget.

Operating Expenses

Operational budgets have been developed with a focus on the basics, postponing expansion of activities into new areas until the revenue base has grown and diversified. That said, total operational expenses have grown at a faster rate (28%) than the revenue base in fiscal year 2022-23. The growth is concentrated in three areas which, long term, will strengthen our foundation and provide capacity for growth. These areas include the full-year salary impact of the Executive Director position (\$33,400), the contracting of outside support for grant writing, technology, and website redesign (\$12,200), and the costs (\$6,150) associated with in-person events.

Investment Income (Losses)

In February 2022, the League engaged the services of an investment management firm to manage the Memorial Trust Fund (MTF) assets, which had grown in value from \$318,000 in June 2018 to \$775,000 in December 2021. The Finance Committee and the Board felt it prudent to transfer management of the fund to a professional investment firm. This change will result in annual management fees of 0.05%, estimated to be \$4,000 in the upcoming fiscal year. It is expected these fees will be offset by growth in value of the MTF.

Realized dividends and capital gains totaling \$12,000 have been included in the budget but unrealized gains (losses) resulting from changes in market values have not, due to the potential volatility of those values.

Operating Shortfall

The budget for fiscal year 2022-23 does anticipate a net operating loss of \$94,800. To fund this loss, the Board plans a 4.5% operational withdrawal from the Memorial Trust Fund as provided in plan documents. In addition, the Board will withdraw the balance of the approved Year 1 Executive Director funding request and will make a partial withdrawal against the Year 2 Executive Director funding request if the request is approved by League membership at the June 2022 Annual Meeting. The total of these three withdrawals is \$94,450.

The League has demonstrated over the years the ability to react to changing economic conditions, adjusting revenue and expenditures to reflect current realities. This same sensibility coupled with management of available cash reserves will be considered in the timing and amount of all withdrawals from the Memorial Trust Fund.

BALANCE SHEET

The League balance sheet continues to be strong with cash reserves of \$100,000 and nominal liabilities. The Memorial Trust Fund balance is projected to be \$579,500 at the end of June 2023 versus \$665,800 at June 2022. The decline reflects the withdrawals to support the Executive Director position as well as the authorized 4.5% operational withdrawal. The withdrawal amounts will be dependent upon operating results and/or a decision to use existing cash reserves to partially fund any operating losses. Despite these withdrawals, the Memorial Trust Fund continues to provide a solid and sustainable base for the future.

MEMORIAL TRUST FUND WITHDRAWAL

At the 2021 LWVDC Annual Meeting, members approved an extraordinary withdrawal from the Memorial Trust Fund to subsidize 100% of the Year 1 salary of the newly created position of Executive Director (ED). A request is now presented to LWVDC members to approve annual withdrawals to partially subsidize Year 2 and Year 3 of the ED's salary, as outlined in the report to membership last year. The intent is to withdraw up to two-thirds of the ED's salary in FY 2022-23 and up to one-third of the ED's salary in FY 2023-24. At the end of this three-year period, it is expected the Fund Development Committee and the Board will have increased the donor base to sustain the ED position going forward.

League policy states that withdrawals from the MTF should be no more than 4.5% annually; withdrawals above that shall be approved by the Board and taken to the membership for a vote. The Board has approved a proposal to withdraw up to 8% of the market value of the Memorial Trust Fund as of January 1, 2022, and up to 5% of the market value of the Memorial Trust Fund as of January 1, 2023. These withdrawals will be taken on an annual basis and only if required.

*****BALLOT ACTION*****

Approval of 2022-23 Budget and Memorial Trust Fund Withdrawal requires approval from a majority of members present at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

League of Women Voters of Dane County Program Proposal for 2022-23

The LWVDC Program Advocacy Committee proposes the education and advocacy program for the chapter in the coming year. The proposed Program includes policy priorities identified by the national, state, or local League and reflects the interests of local members. It is subject to adoption by members at the Annual Meeting as its success depends on the interests and work of the members. The recommendations offered here reflect the opinions and preferences of the LWVDC membership based on a membership survey. The proposals were developed by the committee as informed by the current socio-political context and by the lessons and successes associated with the committee's work this past year.

At the 2022 Annual Meeting, members of the LWVDC will vote on these proposals to be carried out by the Program Advocacy Committee in the coming year. The Committee remains committed to the core program design and strategies of the 2021-2022 Program year, which focused on the broad areas of Making Democracy Work, Climate Change, and Social and Racial Equity. They continue to be organized around these issues: In developing its proposals, the Committee considered:

- Which program design and strategies might best respond to the growth in polarization and political divide that weighs on our nation and our state?
- What combination of education and advocacy activities might help strengthen what we increasingly recognize as the fragility of our democracy?
- How can the 2022-2023 program help move our League's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion beyond the safety of organizational confines and out into our communities?
- How can we leverage the energies of our growing membership toward these ends?

A survey planning team was formed to develop the Annual Program and Advocacy Member Survey to gather member input for the upcoming year. A total of 99 members responded to the survey to indicate their priorities for Program and Advocacy. All of the highest-rated topics were chosen by over 50% of the respondents. The priority topics from the survey are the basis for the recommendations for next year.

2022-2023 Program/Advocacy Recommendations

The Committee recommends the following to members:

Under the general oversight of the Board and the Program Advocacy Committee, the League of Women Voters of Dane County will implement program activities, including education and advocacy, based on the targeted policy objectives. The Program Advocacy Committee will conduct research, form community alliances, educate members and wider audiences through forums, unit discussion groups, and book discussion groups, and implement targeted advocacy campaigns on the specific public policy issues described below:

Election Integrity: Voter access; election administration; Wisconsin Election Commission

Economic Opportunities for All: Living wage jobs; guaranteed income; job training

Judicial Integrity: Judicial campaign accountability; transparency and ethics

Campaign Finance Reform: Limits on corporations and political action committees

Neighborhoods for Social and Racial Equity: Sustainable shared spaces; sustainable mixed-income housing; food, broadband access

Climate-Resilient Rural and Urban Communities: Climate-friendly infrastructure via school and community gardens, streets, parking lots, backyards

*****BALLOT ACTION*****

The program requires approval from a majority of members present at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

Other Recommendations of the Program/Advocacy Committee

The committee also recommends these additional features:

1. Committee members will design educational and advocacy activities so they are aligned to meet specific DEI, community engagement, and policy objectives.
2. As requested by the membership via the online survey, public issue forums will be presented using in-person and virtual formats, in consideration of factors such as weather, relevance of the issue to other League chapters within Wisconsin, and other special circumstances.
3. The committee will continue to refine its organizational structure to include theme- and issue-focused program and advocacy working groups pursuing the specific public policy issues adopted by the members.
4. The advocacy components will continue to include the Observer Corps, Speakers Bureau, and Advocacy Corps, which will expand opportunities and resources for individual members to take action through observing governmental meetings, action alerts, letter writing, and other individual/group actions.
5. Discussion Unit and Book Discussion activities will continue as integral components of the committee.
6. The committee recommends offering the eight-week Civics Education seminar series, "Renewing the Republic: How to Restore the Guardrails of our Democracy," to be held virtually, exploring the constitutional foundations and vulnerabilities of our democracy.
7. The committee recommends expanding member engagement in educational and advocacy activities.
8. In addition to the six policy issues chosen by the members, several respondents noted the topic of public school education as an important issue to consider in planning future events. The committee will explore how to address this issue.

LWVDC Nominating Committee Slate of Candidates for 2022-23

Candidates for BOARD OFFICERS

President	Barb Feeney 7/1/22 – 6/30/24
Vice President	Mara Eisch 7/1/22 – 6/30/24
Treasurer	Jean Jacobson 7/1/22 – 6/30/23
Secretary	Marjorie Schuett 7/1/22 – 6/30/23

Candidates for BOARD DIRECTORS

Program Director	Sue Jennik 7/1/22 – 6/30/24
Voter Services Director	Sue Fulks 7/1/22 – 6/30/23
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Director	Lisa Hassenstab 7/1/22 – 6/30/24
Membership Director	OPEN
Advocacy Director*	OPEN
Communications Director*	OPEN
Fund Development Director*	OPEN

*Bylaws allow the Board to appoint three Board directors to one-year positions

Candidates for NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair	Lisa Janairo 7/1/22 – 6/30/23
Non-board member	Joan Provencher 7/1/22 – 6/30/23
Non-board member	Amber Rottier 7/1/22 – 6/30/23

[Two Board members will be appointed to the 2022-23 Nominating Committee by the incoming Board at its first meeting of the fiscal year (LWVDC Bylaws, Article IX, Nominations and Elections)]

BALLOT ACTION

Approval of slate or individual candidates requires approval from a majority of members present at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

Candidates for BOARD OFFICER Positions:

Barb Feeney, Candidate for President (2022-24)

I grew up in Green Bay and attended UW-Green Bay for both my undergraduate and graduate work. I spent nine years living in Sturgeon Bay where I was deeply involved with the League of Women Voters, working especially on land use and planning issues. That work actually piqued my interest in public policy and led me to start graduate school at UW-Green Bay in planning and policy. After completing my MS degree, I moved to Madison to start working in state government. Since July of 2021, I have been serving as the Voter Service Co-Chair for LWVDC. This has been a fast-track immersion learning experience! I have immense respect for the commitment and expertise of many members with whom I have worked during the last year. As President, my priorities would be to find new ways to involve our members in ways that match their interests and availability, forming new partnerships in the community, and increasing the diversity of our reach and our membership.

Dr. Mara Eisch, Candidate for Vice President (2022-24)

I retired in 2019 from a long and rewarding career in healthcare, most of which was as Nursing Faculty in Madison and the Fox Valley. I thoroughly enjoyed preparing the next generation of nurses as practitioners, leaders, and patient advocates through the clinical experience as well as through the Student Nurses Association. Retirement has afforded me time to become more informed about, and involved in, city/county issues. In exploring resources for information in 2020, I 'rediscovered' the League. Now having the time, I am looking forward to the opportunity to volunteer in the position of Vice President.

Jean Jacobson, Candidate for Treasurer (2022-23)

I have been serving as the Treasurer for the past 1 1/2 years and my term will expire June 2022. My background is in the accounting/finance area, having worked for a major manufacturing company in Dane County for 30 years. My positions included controller, director of finance, and audit manager for both the local subsidiary as well as the parent company in South Carolina. For the past two years I have been responsible for the financial records of LWVDC and moved into the Treasurer position in June 2020. During my tenure we have moved from the desktop version of our financial software (QuickBooks) to the online version, greatly expanding our recordkeeping capabilities as well as our financial reporting. Under my leadership we researched the advantages of creating a formal endowment (we elected to continue our quasi endowment) and we researched and made the decision to outsource the investment management of the Memorial Trust Fund which has grown to over \$700,000. In addition, we have been documenting finance-related policies and procedures as well as creating an organizational dashboard of League metrics. What I appreciate most about the League are the many opportunities for members and non-members to become involved in the governance of their local community. Education, oversight of government committees, advocacy, and activism in local, state, and national issues—the League offers it all.

Marjorie Schuett, Candidate for Secretary (2022-23)

My involvement with the LWVDC has been mainly with Voter Service and with the Book Discussions. I have participated in several voter registration events, including the West Side Farmers Market, both Madison College campuses, UW campus locations, St. Vincent's Food Pantry, Downtown Madison Night Markets, Epic, the homeless veterans' services event and Disability Fest as well as high schools, a library and even a memorial service. Additionally, I moderated one of the Book Discussion meetings. The LWV's mission inspires me because of its focus on educating the public about voting, as well as educating its members about critical

social issues. I appreciate that the League has not shied away from tackling timely discussions on such topics as Fair Maps, anti-racism, climate change, infrastructure, the judicial system, and civil discourse. My vision of the future League includes more members of different ages, backgrounds and experiences defending democracy together. My own experience includes my legal background as a lawyer, court commissioner and municipal judge; teaching clients, litigants, lawyers, high school and law students and community groups about the legal system; serving on the Middleton Youth Commission and the United Way's Middleton pilot program to improve high school achievement; and serving on the boards of the Dane Co. Bar Association, Legal Association for Women, State Bar Family Law Section, The Respite Center, and New Harvest. Recent personal experiences include downsizing our Middleton home during the pandemic and moving back to Madison, visiting our twin sons in their respective cities of Richmond and Seattle and being the number one fan for my husband's band.

Candidates for BOARD DIRECTOR Positions:

Sue Jennik, Candidate for Program Director (2022-24)

I have been a member of the Dane County League since 2019. I began by attending book discussions and joined the State Legislative Committee focusing on Labor & Employment issues. In 2021 I joined the newly created Social and Racial Equity subcommittee and helped plan forums on eviction and low-income housing. In February, 2022, I was appointed as Program Director to fill an unexpired term. I am inspired by the League's thoughtfulness and by the care with which positions are developed. While I highly value the League's voter services work, I am excited that the League also addresses social and racial equity issues which are essential to a functioning democracy. I am grateful for the opportunity to work closely with so many dedicated League members and look forward to continuing our work together. I am a retired labor attorney and represented workers, unions, and employee benefit funds in the New York City area for 38 years.

Sue Fulks, Candidate for Voter Service Director (2022-23)

I have been a member of LWVDC since the fall of 2013, initially attending forums and volunteering to assist with office mailings. I moved into voter registration activities at UW-Madison campus locations, Epic, St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, and Goodman Library. I am a poll worker and have assisted with in-person absentee voting on campus and in Madison libraries. I served on the LWVDC Board from 2015 to 2017 as Publicity Chair and promoted League forums and activities through print, multimedia, and social media. In 2017 I recruited members and organized the high school voter education action team. We developed voter registration/education training opportunities for volunteers and students and facilitated in-school registration in several Dane County high schools (2018-2020). I am active with the Voter ID Coalition Voter Helpline. I joined the Voter Service Steering Committee in 2018 and have served as co-chair of Voter Service since July 2021. I also serve as a local-league member of the LWV-Wisconsin Voter Services Committee. I volunteer two days per week at the Richard Dilley Tax Center as a VITA tax preparer. I have also been very active in support of PBS Wisconsin by volunteering for membership drives, the Flower and Garden Show, the Quilt Show, and the WI PBS Auction. My vision for Voter Service echoes the position statement made in the 2022-23 Board Nominations description – *to provide citizens with unbiased factual information and nonpartisan assistance to register.*

Lisa Hassenstab, Candidate for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Director (2022-24)

I have been a member of LWVDC for a handful of years and also served for a short time on the LWVWI State Legislative Committee. Much of my career has been in policy and advocacy work for nonprofits at the state and national level, focused primarily on health and human services as well as voter engagement. My connection to the mission and future of the League aligns with that work—ensuring all have their voice heard to push forward a more equitable society for all. My vision for the League is to continue to expand outreach—and membership—to underserved communities to ensure a broad range of voices is represented in the League's critical work. I currently work for a research program at UW and live in Madison with my husband and nine-year-old son, two cats, and a lot of yarn and books.

Candidates for NOMINATING COMMITTEE Positions:

Lisa Janairo, Candidate for Nominating Committee Chair (2022-23)

I'm currently in my second year as the chair of the DEI Committee. I served for six months on the Board this year before having to step down because I decided to run for alder in Middleton. In my career, I managed nominations for an organization of state and provincial legislators that I directed for 10 years.

Joan Provencher, Candidate for Nominating Committee (2022-23)

I retired in 2016 from a career as a Human Resources Director (mostly in health care organizations) and later as a consultant. During the time that I had my consulting business, my time was more flexible, so I started getting involved in LWVDC and became certified as a registration deputy with the City of Madison. I was elected to the LWVDC Board as Secretary in 2019. Having served three years on the board I am moving on to other activities. I am currently leading the High School Voter Education team and participate in many voter registration activities, including serving as a Voter Helpline volunteer. I also served as chair of the search committee for our first Executive Director. I have been a City of Madison Election Official since 2008.

Amber Rottier, Candidate for Nominating Committee (2022-23)

I grew up in the south suburbs of Chicago and graduated from Ball State University with a degree in cultural anthropology and digital media in 2014. I moved to Madison soon after and began my career in project management in the healthcare software industry. I joined the League in July 2020 and immediately began volunteering with the membership committee, and joined the Board as membership chair from 2021-22, where I was also a Board representative for the nominating committee. I am interested in joining the Nominating Committee again in 2022-23 as I enjoy connecting with League members who may be interested in leadership positions.

Candidate names were submitted by the 2021-2022 Nominating Committee: Jan Van Vleck (chair), Elizabeth Kanne, Gail Krc, and Board members Joan Provencher and Amber Rottier.

2022 LWV Wisconsin Annual Meeting

Partnering with Changemakers to Power the Vote

Friday, June 10, from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (in-person or online via Zoom)
Saturday, June 11, from 9:30 a.m.-noon (in-person only)

Hilton Appleton Paper Valley Hotel
333 W College Ave, Appleton, WI 54911

Learn more about programming, COVID-19 safety protocols, and fees, and register online at lwvwi.org.

Instructions for the delegates

All members attending the State Annual Meeting, whether in-person or online via Zoom, will be able to act as voting delegates. Any member of a Wisconsin League who attends the state annual meeting may be a voting delegate this year.

Appendix A

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

June 2, 2021

Land acknowledgment statement—read by Paul Lindquist

We recognize the land we occupy is the ancestral home of the Ho-Chunk Nation, who have called this land Teejop (day-JOPE) since time immemorial. We acknowledge the circumstances that led to the forced removal of the Ho-Chunk people, and honor their history of resistance and resilience

Welcome & Orientation to Agenda—Chris Clements

Chris started the meeting by acknowledging that we had a challenging year, including a pandemic, and voter rights challenges. She thanked the members for stepping up to these challenges and noted that, thanks to our 641 members, we are well-positioned to continue working on these and other challenges. She also expressed sincere gratitude to the Board of Directors and all members who worked to empower voters.

Chris also acknowledged that the departure of Kate Vickery as Executive Director is a current issue, but the focus of this meeting will be on the past year's achievements.

Process for 2021 Annual Meeting business

1. Members were mailed a packet including 2021 Ballot Materials and an Annual Meeting Report.
2. All members were invited to attend a Ballot Question & Answer session via Zoom on May 6, 2021.
3. Members were asked to complete a written ballot and return it to the office by May 26, 2021
4. Per LWVDC Bylaws, votes are to be counted by 2 LWVDC members. Margaret Fuguitt and Pat Sammataro counted the votes.
5. All members were invited to a meeting on June 2, 2021, to discuss vote results and to celebrate the past year's achievements.

Election Results:

141 ballots were mailed by the deadline. Per LWVDC bylaws, 30 votes are needed for a quorum.

Board and Nominating Committee candidates were approved by 140 yes votes and 1 blank ballot.

Budget was approved by 131 yes, 3 no, 7 blank.

Withdraw 15% of the Memorial Trust Fund was approved by 131 yes, 3 no, 7 blank.

By-law amendments were approved by 131 yes, 3 no, 7 blank.

2021-2022 Program was approved by 132 yes, 1 no, 8 blank.

Domain Highlights

- **Program—Georgiana Hernandez**

Georgiana reported that the past 15 months were challenging. April was the start of the programs no longer being presented as in-person events. We began with Zoom in the summer, and also had pre-recorded sessions. A total of 13 forums were presented via Zoom. Lively Issues, normally a luncheon, was changed to a conversation with Dr. Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins and we celebrated the League's 100 years. Attendance averaged 80 at virtual forums. The virtual forums enabled people outside of Dane County to participate.

Aileen Nettleton, Barb Arnold, and Mary Anglim are members of the Program Committee along with Georgiana.

- **Voter Service—Marian Matthews**

Marian also noted that her committee also had a challenging year due to limited in-person events. LWVDC partnered with the Voter ID Coalition and publicized the Voter Helpline which handled 2,200 calls. Over 100 people served as ballot witnesses for absentee voters who could not leave their homes. Members of the committee and volunteers also distributed flyers and worked with apartments and senior housing. Food pantries included flyers with their food boxes. Zoom registration was held at high schools and UW. Thanks to the Voter Service Steering Committee and a special thanks to Paul Lindquist who served as co-chair.

- **DEI—Lisa Janairo**

Lisa is helping our League implement our DEI policy. Two DEI cafes were held via Zoom. She is hoping to bring new educational activities in the coming year. Lisa is planning to present short-term and long-term recommendations to the Board in July. She also plans to work with various domains to expand community partners.

50-Year Member Recognition—Mary Ellen Schmit

Peggy Glassford was recognized for 50 years as a League member. Peggy's League service began in Park Forest, Ill., before she relocated to Wisconsin upon retirement. A summary of Peggy's work with the League was included in the Annual Meeting packet that was mailed to members.

Award Presentations

The Carrie Chapman Catt award is presented each year to a member as a tribute to years of excellence in contributing to the community, making a sustained commitment to the League and to its governing principles, and fulfilling the words of Carrie Chapman Catt: "*What should be done can be done; what can be done let us do.*"

Two members were honored this year as Carrie Chapman Catt Award winners:

Gail Bliss and Caryl Terrell.

Bonnie Chang and Laura Grueneberg introduced Gail; Georgiana Hernandez introduced Caryl. Both awardees spoke briefly about their work with LWVDC. A summary of Gail's and Caryl's work was included in the Annual Meeting packet that was mailed to members.

Conclusion

Chris thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Optional Q&A regarding Executive Director position

Members were invited to stay and ask questions about filling the ED position. Those who participated asked what the plan is and whether we will we just start over. Chris Clements explained that the Board is devoting the June meeting to a thorough discussion of this topic. Members also asked how people who are not on the Board can communicate their thoughts about filling the position. Chris said they should contact her.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Provencher
Secretary

Appendix B

LWV Wisconsin Guidance on Conducting Board and Annual Meetings during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Summary/Excerpts, March 26, 2020

Motion approved by the LWVWI Board of Directors, March 30, 2020: *That the LWVWI Board adopt a policy that in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for local Leagues to conduct business virtually to keep their members safe, specifically permits (but does not require) Wisconsin's local Leagues to conduct elections by written ballot. And, to permit local Leagues to conduct their annual meetings in a month that is not the time prescribed in their local Bylaws as long as the annual meeting takes place by the end of August 2020.**

Board Meetings

“Conducting Board meetings remotely presents no problem as you can conduct them by written consent, electronically, by written ballot, or by teleconference.”

Annual Meetings

“Current local League Bylaws under the section Written Ballot expressly prohibits written ballots to be used for elections or amendments to your Bylaws...”

Action Being Taken

“LWVWI is moving forward immediately with a recommendation from our nonprofit lawyers at Scholz Nonprofit Law LLC. Because local League Bylaws must comport with the LWVWI Bylaws under the group exemption, the LWVWI Board will be asked ASAP to pass a policy that states that in light of the current situation with COVID-19 and the need to conduct business virtually to keep its members safe, LWVWI specifically permits ... local chapters to conduct elections by written ballot.”

Ballot Process

A poll vote is allowable by state statute provided we have the ability to download a “written” record of the polling to satisfy written ballot requirements. The wording on the poll question will need to include the written ballot requirements.

Any action that may be taken at an annual, regular or special meeting of the members may be taken by written ballot as set forth in section 181.0708 of the Wisconsin Statutes if the League of Women Voters of Dane County delivers a written ballot to every member entitled to vote on the matter. A written ballot shall set forth each proposed action and provide an opportunity to vote for or against such action. Approval by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast by ballot equals or exceeds the quorum required to be present at a meeting authorizing the action, and the number of approvals equals or exceeds the number of votes that would be required to approve the matter at a meeting at which the total number of votes cast was the same as the number of votes cast by ballot. Solicitations for votes by written ballot shall: (1) indicate the number of responses needed to meet the quorum requirements; (2) state the percentage of approvals necessary to approve each matter other than election of directors; and (3) specify the time by which a ballot must be received by the corporation in order to be counted.

- 1. The number of responses needed to meet the quorum requirements per our Dane County Bylaws is 30 members.**
- 2. The percentage necessary to approve each matter other than election of directors is greater than 50%.**
- 3. The time by which a ballot must be received by the corporation in order to be counted is June 2, 2022 for online ballots. Voting will take place during the meeting.**

Appendix C

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Policy

LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity.