League of Women Voters Austin Area - 2017 Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 20, 2017, Noon
Trinity United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway

2017 WORKBOOK DEDICATIONS

Maxine Barkan has been a member of the League of Women Voters for more than 67 years, having served as president of the League of Women Voters of Columbus, Ohio, and President of the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area for six years, later as chair of the Nominating and Bylaws committees.

She was the first Advocacy Vice President of the League of Women Voters of Texas, chair of the study of the Political Campaign Process, Issue Chair of Campaign Finance Reform, and Judicial Selection. Her awards include “Ten Top Women of Columbus, Ohio, 1953,” for community service as President of the LWV, first President’s Award at a LWV-TX Convention, honored by the 2008 LWV-TX Convention celebrating her 90th birthday with the 90th birthday of the LWVUS, and honored in the 2010 LWVAA Annual Meeting for her service to the League.

Margit Orange is a long-time LWV member, having first joined in Raleigh, NC. After moving to Austin in 1978, she has been active in many positions of service.

From the mid-1980s, she served as chair of UNICEF sales, as a fundraiser from 1999-2001, and from 2004-2006 as chair of the annual fundraiser Phonathon. In April 2004, she organized volunteers for the LWV Texas Convention held in Austin. She’s served as chair of the nominating committee from 2008 – 2010 and again from 2014 – 2017.

Jaci Collins joined the LWV Austin Area in 2000 or 2001. She served as VOTER newsletter editor from 2001 to 2009. From 2009-2015, she managed Member Records (now called Roster Manager).

Jaci became 3rd VP - Organization in 2015 where she manages the office and the volunteers. She has been an essential part of the Voters Guide committee since 2008, the same year she became an election worker. Throughout the years, she’s provided essential help with the Fall Kickoff, State of the City, Membership Directory, and numerous Legislative and Elected Officials Receptions. She presently continues as editor of the Workbook.

Please bring this Annual Meeting Workbook to the meeting.
AGENDA

12:00 Lunch [Requires advance reservation and $10 payment]
12:30 Call to order upon confirmation of quorum of at least 35 members
12:31 Welcome/introduce Officers, Directors and Past Presidents
   – Cinde Weatherby, President
12:40 Recognition of lifetime members and introduction of new members
   – Judy Parken and Brenda Koegler, Co-Membership directors
1:00 Recognition of Office Corps – Jaci Collins, 3rd VP - Organization
1:10 Appointment of Minutes Review Committee, Parliamentarian and Timekeeper
   – Weatherby
1:15 Adoption of Roberts Rules of Order for Annual Meeting
1:17 Approval of 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes – Diane Davis, Secretary (partial term) / Debbi Voss, Secretary (partial term)
1:22 Treasurer’s Report – Gwen Santiago, Treasurer
1:27 Report on transition to 501(c)(3) status – Santiago
1:37 Consideration of proposed bylaws amendments – Maxine Barkan, Bylaws Chair and Santiago
1:45 President’s annual report to the membership – Weatherby
1:55 Presentation and adoption of local program – Lea Masiello, 1st VP - Programs
2:10 Presentation and adoption of proposed FY 2017-2018 budget
   – Michelle Goerdel, Budget Chair
2:25 Recognition of outgoing leaders – Frances McIntyre, Advocacy Director/Voters Guide Editor
2:30 Nominating Committee report – Margit Orange, Nominating Committee Chair
2:35 Election of Officers and Directors – Weatherby
2:40 Election of chair and two members of next Nominating Committee – Weatherby
2:45 League Dream Time: “I wish the League would…”
2:55 Announcements / group photo
3:00 Adjournment

Please bring this Annual Meeting Workbook to the meeting.
MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our membership for 2017 was 346 members, up from 202 members in 2016. We have experienced phenomenal growth! See the list of new members below. However, 32 members have yet to renew.

The Austin League was deeply saddened by the passing of long-time members Beverly Kimbrough, Past President Janice May, and Patricia LaCombe.

This year we continued the tradition of the New Member Holiday Brunch. Thirty-one new members and thirty veteran members attended, at the lovely Summerwood Clubhouse, provided by Harriett Harrow. Many of the new members signed up to fill needed positions on League committees at the brunch.

PMP stands for Per Member Payment and each League reports the total membership to the national LWV each January. The membership number is used to determine what each League pays for each membership to LWVUS (National) and LWV-Texas (State).

Currently, dues for Sustaining Members are $100 for individuals and $150 for a Household Membership. Regular dues are $60 for individuals and $90 for Households. Student memberships are $20 and we have nine student memberships this year. Our League can only use $7 out of the $60 regular dues; the rest goes to LWVUS and LWV-Texas for PMP. We can only use $9 out of the $90 regular household dues. That is why being a Sustaining Member is so important. The number of Sustaining Members has allowed us to not raise our dues for more than 6 years. Please consider becoming a Sustaining Member next time you renew! See list of Sustaining Members below.

Membership is everyone’s job, so please welcome and get to know our New Members.

Judy Parken, Membership Co-Chair
Brenda Koegler, Membership Co-Chair

LWV Austin Area Membership Distribution
(As of March 6, 2017)
## New Members 2016 - 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Members</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Sponsorship</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Ackley &amp; Guhan Swaminathan</td>
<td>Jackie &amp; Tom Graves</td>
<td>Nancy Murphy</td>
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<td>Amrita Adhikary</td>
<td>Martha Griffin</td>
<td>Chrissy Nanton</td>
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<td>Beth Andre</td>
<td>Vive Griffith</td>
<td>Maanas Nathan</td>
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<td>Kassie Barroquillo</td>
<td>Diane Groat</td>
<td>Rebecca Oliver</td>
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<td>Brenda Beck</td>
<td>Melanie Guest</td>
<td>Gretchen Otto</td>
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<td>Bridgid Bender</td>
<td>Lynn Gunn</td>
<td>Lindsey Pappas</td>
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<td>Beth Beutel &amp; Christian Long</td>
<td>Leslie &amp; Donny Hall</td>
<td>Regan Parks</td>
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<td>Angela Bishop-Connolly</td>
<td>Alice Hammer</td>
<td>Christopher Paton</td>
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<td>Sherry Blyth &amp; Mark Craig</td>
<td>Elizabeth Heard</td>
<td>Joyce &amp; John Phelps</td>
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<td>Amanda Boudreault</td>
<td>Margaret Hester</td>
<td>Angela Philley</td>
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<td>Paul Hintikka</td>
<td>Julia Ragsdale</td>
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<td>Mary Jane Burson</td>
<td>Kelly Hochanadel</td>
<td>Virginia Reeber</td>
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<td>Michelle Butcher</td>
<td>Katherine Hoffman</td>
<td>Jamie Reid</td>
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<td>Clare Cahalan</td>
<td>Dell Hollingsworth &amp; Paul Raffel</td>
<td>Elsa Reyes</td>
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<td>Tom Canby</td>
<td>Joyce Jackson</td>
<td>Anne Rioux</td>
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<td>Sarah Carriker</td>
<td>Brooke Jacobs</td>
<td>Darcie Robert</td>
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<td>Barbara &amp; Richard Chiarello</td>
<td>Nardis &amp; Omar Kadir</td>
<td>Celeste Rowe</td>
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<td>Mara Coleman</td>
<td>Elaine Kieffer</td>
<td>Marisela Salayandia</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Cooper</td>
<td>Carol &amp; David King</td>
<td>Shubhada Saxena</td>
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<td>Pamela Craig</td>
<td>Kristin Knifton</td>
<td>Stephanie Sheppard</td>
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<td>Melissa Crijns</td>
<td>Caroline Knight</td>
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<td>Merinda Cutler</td>
<td>Daniel Koegler</td>
<td>Virgilia Singh</td>
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<td>Dixie Davis</td>
<td>Lauren Kreeger</td>
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<td>Cynthia McCollum</td>
<td>Zoe Trieff &amp; Marc Bruner</td>
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<td>Frances Gibich</td>
<td>Gina McCool</td>
<td>Patty Tune</td>
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<td>Erin Giglio</td>
<td>Cathy McHorse</td>
<td>Rachel Union &amp; Andrew Jacobson</td>
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<td>Michelle Goerdel</td>
<td>Robin McKeever</td>
<td>Lydia Valdes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie Goode</td>
<td>JoAnn McKenzie</td>
<td>Deborah Voss</td>
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<td>Deanna Goodson</td>
<td>Amy Miley</td>
<td>Tracy Walters-Rogers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Miriam Mora</td>
<td>Erin Warner</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Miriam Mora</td>
<td>Laura Weiser</td>
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2017 LWVAA Annual Meeting Workbook
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<tr>
<th>Sustaining Members 2016 - 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marion Alsup</td>
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<td>Robbie Ausley</td>
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<td>Shelly Baumgartner</td>
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<td>Bridgid Bender</td>
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<td>Nancy Bene</td>
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<td>Angela Bishop-Connolly</td>
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<td>Mary Blackstock</td>
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<td>Delores Block</td>
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<td>Terrell Blodgett</td>
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<td>Sherry Blyth &amp; Mark Craig</td>
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<td>Amanda Boudreault</td>
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<td>Gigi Bryant</td>
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<td>Cecelia Burke</td>
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<td>Michelle Butcher</td>
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<td>Barbara Cambron</td>
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<td>Kate &amp; Tom Canby</td>
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<td>Debra Danburg &amp; Randy Chapman</td>
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<td>Grace &amp; Beau Chimene</td>
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<td>Anne Clark</td>
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<td>Jaci Collins</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Cooper</td>
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<td>June Conway</td>
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<td>Melissa Crijns</td>
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<td>Mary Cullinane</td>
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<td>Ruth Davis</td>
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<td>Dana DeBeauvoir</td>
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<td>Robyn &amp; Richard Diaz</td>
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<td>Tracy DiLeo</td>
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<td>Bonnie Garner</td>
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<td>Lucy &amp; Gary Gibbs</td>
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<td>Michelle Goerdel</td>
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At the Annual Meeting in 2016, the membership decided to follow LWVUS and LWV-TX suggestions that we take advantage of IRS rulings that have evolved over the years with regard to not-for-profit status. This allows the entire organization to operate as a 501(c)(3).

Over the years, the tax laws have changed and everything we do falls into the 501(c)(3) category. This is especially true for organizations with no employees. Requirements for 501(c)(3) organizations do not allow devoting a major portion of our expenses to legislative lobbying. Of course, as you know, we spend zero dollars on lobbying. What the League calls lobbying, is actually individual advocacy. We pay neither lobbyists, nor staff members, to advocate positions in legislative bodies. The IRS designations are primarily related to dollars, not advocacy positions.

When the revised Bylaws and resolutions are approved by you, all of our dues will be tax-exempt. All contributions will also be tax-exempt, rather than only one fund being exempt. Equally important, we will require only one budget, one Board meeting each month, and it will not be necessary to transfer dollars back and forth between the two existing funds. It is anticipated that the conversion process will be implemented immediately after the Annual Meeting and approval of the Bylaws, the Budget, and the appropriate Resolutions.

Last May, when we approved the merger in concept, we thought we needed to have a different name. However, we discovered that by filing additional documents with the State of Texas and IRS, we do not need to change our name.

We engaged an attorney who specializes in not-for-profit legal assistance to assure that all actions are on firm legal ground.

The Bylaws Committee met and suggested a number of improvements to the Bylaws to standardize format throughout the document and clarify actions to be taken with regard to such items as participation in meetings, no proxy voting, process for removal of board members, prohibition of compensation of board members, executive committee membership and authority, indemnification, and registered agent. The attorney developed proposed wording needed to comply with state and federal regulations for tax-exempt organizations. She also worked with the Chair of the League of Women Voters-Texas Bylaws Committee to develop language to meet LWVUS and LWV-TX requirements.

See the updated, proposed bylaws document, included in this Workbook, after page 28.

Maxine Barkan, Chair, Bylaws; Gwen Santiago, Treasurer
PRESIDENT’S REPORT

The 98th year of the Austin Area League has been a raucous roller coaster ride – one full of challenges and achievements. Our all-volunteer organization emerges stronger than ever, having grown in number by more than 50 percent in the past year and on firm financial footing.

We say goodbye to several very long-serving Board members and leaders who are retiring from their positions and recognize all they have given their community through League. I feel privileged to know each of them and respect their lives of service. I am sure they will continue to offer advice and support in other ways. Please give each of them your personal thanks.

- Judy Parken, Membership Chair
- June Conway, Voter Registration Director
- Jaci Collins, 3rd VP – Organization
- Jacklyn Williams, 4th VP - Voters Service
- Maxine Barkan, Bylaws Chair
- Margit Orange, Nominating Committee Chair

Also leaving the Board are two other members with shorter Board tenure, but who have made major contributions to our operations: The VOTER Editor Donna Pauler and Communications Director Charlotte Slack. Pauler has also been a long-time participant in production of the Voters Guide.

We say hello to new leaders who are inspired to carry forward into our bright future. That leadership will take full advantage of our new members. They represent a wide range of age and geographic area. The map, in the Membership report, depicts relative membership, by zip code, as of March 2017. We had to leave The Merlin Building in May that we had called home since 1983. Our most warm gratitude and thanks go to the Philips Family for offering us the space for such an extended period at a greatly subsidized rate. As with most challenging situations, there are benefits that come with adversity. It gave us the opportunity to perform an overdue assessment of our needs and de-clutter. It also led us to a new space we are now subletting from Leadership Austin, just down the street at 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd. Our new arrangement will surely lead to opportunities for collaboration and has enhanced amenities for our members.

In this heightened environment of advocacy and activism, our Director of Advocacy, Frances McIntyre, stepped up activity with regular Action Alerts for all levels of our government. Our 1st VP – Programs, Lea Masiello, significantly upped the number of programs and opportunities for learning about issues and meeting with our elected officials. Communications Director, Charlotte Slack, and The VOTER Editor, Donna Pauler, improved upon our regular communications with members and supporters. Our next year is sure to see a continual increase in quality and quantity in all of these areas.

The more than 50 percent increase in membership meant additional challenges for our Co-Membership Chairs Judy Parken and Brenda Koegler. They assured that new members were graciously welcomed and that all the related “paperwork” was in order.

This past year saw increased voter registration and educational activities, with June Conway leading more registration outreach. Jacklyn Williams and June, actively participated in widespread general education on new Voter ID requirements, put in place by the courts, for the November 2016 election. They each made special contributions to our collaboration with Travis County Voter Registrar Bruce Elfant’s First Vote! initiatives that included activity in the local high schools, a student public service announcement contest promoting voting to their peers, and a mock Presidential election in most all AISD schools. This groundwork will lead to an even more robust future effort in the schools and with other special low-voting propensity citizens.

Nearly 80,000 voters checked out the November 2016 Voters Guide, produced under the direction of Editor Frances McIntyre, on our website alone and more viewed it on the Austin American-Statesman and Ahora Si! websites. In addition, each Statesman subscriber received it with their Sunday printed edition and others
at local libraries and locations throughout the area. Many organizations and individuals also promoted the *Voters Guide* through their websites and social media channels. We also educated voters in person at our well-attended candidate forums led by Carol Eckelkamp – covering Austin and Kyle City Council, AISD, and ACC races.

Following the conceptual decision at the May 2016 LWV-AA meeting, to follow LWVUS and LWV-TX suggestions that we take advantage of evolved IRS rulings on nonprofit status, our Treasurer Gwen Santiago worked diligently to lead that transformation. She coordinated with the LWV-AA Bylaws Committee, LWV-TX Governance Committee and legal advisors to assure we are on firm ground adopting the new bylaws that transition us to a primarily 501(c)(3) organization. With that change, membership annual dues and all donations become tax-deductible and simplify reporting.

Special Events Chair Elizabeth Cooper, assisted by former chair Eliza May, coordinated an enjoyable State of the City Dinner where we celebrated the voter registration and engagement contributions of the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, ThunderCloud Subs, and TechVotes with our Making Democracy Work® Award. Our speaker, Susan Dawson of the E3 Alliance, gave a fact-filled presentation on the state of education in our region and issued a call to action to us. Our financial standing benefited by $9,500 that came from increased dinner attendance and sponsorships, and from live and silent auction receipts.

We were the beneficiary of an extremely thoughtful legacy gift by former member Janice May who was a long-time member, former president and parliamentarian. Her generosity to LWV, at the local, state and national level was extraordinary. We’ve also been notified of a pending bequeath from Patricia LaCombe. Alamo Drafthouse Cinema also provided a very generous donation in honor of our voter registration efforts at the theaters.

**Other 2016-2017 Highlights**

- Fall League Kick-off Event on Voting Rights with collaboration of UT’s LBJ School & Law School student organizations. Featuring national, state, and local Voting Rights experts.
- Rapid response to Voter ID changes with educational materials, including the Handy Dandy Guide and LWV-AA bookmarks with important election-related information and deadlines and full details on Voter ID requirements.
- Assistance to the Children’s Defense Fund pilot “Voter Navigator” project.
- An array of educational programs, including those in collaboration with El Buen Samaritano, Texas Disability Rights, Huston-Tillotson University, and Environment Texas.
- Participation with LWV-TX in the Women’s March, in Austin, for Voting Rights + Women’s Rights

**Cinde Weatherby - President**
PROGRAMS
An Overview of Program Accomplishments and Recommendations

LWV-Texas study: Get Out The Vote

Our efforts in this area included networking with other organizations, especially non-profits, to increase voter registration and participation. We held programs with non-profits toward this end.

- El Buen Samaritano - General Membership Meeting 1 – 3 p.m., October 2, 2016, 7000 Woodhue St. Austin. Making Connections: Partnering with Non-Profits to Improve Communities. Laura Guerra-Cardus of the Children’s Defense Fund; Karen Green from El Buen Samaritano; Carmen Llanes Pulito from GAVA (Go Austin! Vamos! Austin!); Sofia Barbato from Foundation Communities; Grace Chimene, LWV-Texas Board of Directors; and Imaad Khan from Texas Impact.
- Disability Rights Texas. “Opening the Conversation about Voting Rights.” General Membership Meeting, co-sponsored with Disability Rights Texas, held at their location. Speakers included Molly Broadway, Disability Rights Texas; Training and Technical Specialist for Voting Rights; speakers from REV UP (Register, Educate, Vote, Use our Power), the Disability Vote; Cassie Champion, Texas Civil Rights Project; Cavan Ó Raghallaigh, Community advocate/legislative liaison for LGBTQ organizations; Texas Two Spirits Society; Legalize Human; and Equality Texas; Celina Moreno, Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund; and Cheryl Reese, Travis County Voter Registration.
- Meetings with City Council members (CMs), one at a time, with LWV Austin members, to learn about the current city council initiatives. Council members who responded included CMs Ora Houston, District 1; Leslie Pool, District 7; Jimmy Flannigan, District 6; Sabino Renteria, District 3; Delia Garza, District 2; and Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo, District 9.
- Luncheon meeting at Huston-Tillotson University with Women Vote. Purpose was to learn about historically black colleges and universities, Huston-Tillotson in particular, and to begin additional collaborative programming.
- Two unit meetings with Luke Metzger, founder and director of Environment Texas.

Programs in Development for spring, summer, and fall 2017 will be part of reviewing selected LWV Austin positions on Education, Affordable Housing, Healthcare, and Environmental Quality.

- Successful After School Support Programs: A close look at the highly successful after-school programs offered by Foundation Communities. May 24th at a Foundation Communities Learning Center.
- Education Roundtable: Programs at Austin Community College that help adult students improve their opportunities for economic advancement. Fall, 2017.
- CodeNEXT and Affordable Housing. At Sustainable Food Center, June 4th, 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm. Speakers to be determined.
- Women’s Health Unit Meetings, dates, locations, and speakers to be determined.
- Protecting the Edwards Aquifer, June 22th, 7 pm - 9 pm. Location to be determined. Speakers include Jim Blackburn from Sustainable Planning and Design and Rice University.
State Programs, 2016-2017

Update to LWV-TX Position on Gerrymandering to Include A Recommendation for Independent Citizen Redistricting Committees

A committee, headed by Frances McIntyre, including Lea Masiello, Debbi Voss, and Carol Olewin, wrote and distributed an update on this topic to the LWV-TX Board and general membership at Lobby Days in January, when it was approved.

LOCAL PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS, 2017 - 2018

Programs in 2017 - 2018 will focus on reviewing and updating current LWV Austin Area positions. We have identified six to review. The goal will be to review positions and evaluate the ways in which they need to be updated and proceed to do so. General programs, along with unit meetings, will present information to the membership about the topics we have identified as most in need of updates and of most interest to the membership. These positions and their topics include:

1. Affordable housing in Austin
2. Current environmental issues
3. Criminal justice in Austin
4. Transportation
5. Education and equal opportunities
6. Healthcare

Lea Masiello, 1st VP - Programs
# League of Women Voters Budget Proposal - Michelle Goerdel, Budget Chair
## For Fiscal Year June 1, 2017 - May 31, 2018

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<th>Note #</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
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<td><strong>4000</strong> · Contributed support</td>
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<tr>
<td>4006 · Voters Guide Contributions</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 8,075.56, Actual FY 2016: 1,348.54</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 12,183.68, Actual FY '16: 12,500.00</td>
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<td>4011 · Individual Contributions</td>
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<td>4022 · Business Contributions</td>
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<td>4141 · Donated Goods &amp; Services</td>
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<td>Actual FY 15: 2,000.00, Actual FY '16: 2,000.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total 4000</strong> · Contributed support</td>
<td>Total FY 2015: 12,321.10, Total FY 2016: 10,362.30</td>
<td>Total FY 15: 95,520.79, Total FY '16: 15,400.00</td>
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<td><strong>4250</strong> · Nonprofit Organization Grants</td>
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<td>4251 · LWV-Grants</td>
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<td>Actual FY 15: 500.00, Actual FY '16: 500.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total 4250</strong> · Nonprofit Organization Grants</td>
<td>Total FY 2015: 500.00, Total FY 2016: 500.00</td>
<td>Total FY 15: 500.00, Total FY '16: 500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5000</strong> · Earned revenues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5200</strong> · Membership</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 5211 · Regular Individual Membership</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 5,236.46, Actual FY 2016: 5,636.44</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 8,700.00, Actual FY '16: 11,762.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 5212 · Sustaining Individual Membership</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 7,793.08, Actual FY 2016: 6,658.63</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 11,762.00, Actual FY '16: 11,762.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 5213 · Regular Household Membership</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 1,044.66, Actual FY 2016: 1,186.31</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 1,886.00, Actual FY '16: 1,886.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 5214 · Sustaining Household Membership</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 2,120.73, Actual FY 2016: 3,040.48</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 6,490.00, Actual FY '16: 6,490.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 5215 · Student Membership</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 83.04, Actual FY 2016: 165.32</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 223.00, Actual FY '16: 223.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 5200</strong> · Membership</td>
<td>Total FY 2015: 16,277.97, Total FY 2016: 16,687.18</td>
<td>Total FY 15: 29,061.00, Total FY '16: 29,061.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5300</strong> · Revenue from Investments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5311 · Int-savings/short-term Inv</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 0.59, Actual FY 2016: 477.76</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 54.48, Actual FY '16: 55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5312 · Interest Earnings-Money Market</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 15.92, Actual FY 2016: 30.14</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 3.81, Actual FY '16: 3.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 5300</strong> · Revenue from Investments</td>
<td>Total FY 2015: 16.51, Total FY 2016: 507.90</td>
<td>Total FY 15: 58.29, Total FY '16: 55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5800</strong> · Fundraising</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2 5811 · State of the City Dinner</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 7,155.00, Actual FY 2016: 6,569.11</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 9,000.00, Actual FY '16: 8,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5812 · State of the City Auction</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 5,151.55, Actual FY 2016: 9,107.88</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 7,309.07, Actual FY '16: 8,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5813 · SOC Sponsors/Donors</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: 2,057.91, Actual FY 2016: 4,777.80</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: 5,000.00, Actual FY '16: 5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5817 · Fund Raising-Other</td>
<td>Actual FY 2015: -4,000.00, Actual FY 2016: -1,000.00</td>
<td>Actual FY 15: -1,000.00, Actual FY '16: -1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 5800</strong> · Fundraising</td>
<td>Total FY 2015: 12,306.55, Total FY 2016: 17,734.90</td>
<td>Total FY 15: 23,000.00, Total FY '16: 23,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>Total FY 2015: 40,922.13, Total FY 2016: 45,792.28</td>
<td>Total FY 15: 68,016.00, Total FY '16: 68,016.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expense</td>
<td>Combined FY '15</td>
<td>Combined FY'16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note #</strong></td>
<td>Actual FY 2015</td>
<td>Actual FY 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8100 · Operating expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8101 · Insurance</td>
<td>1,359.00</td>
<td>1,345.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3 8102 · Rent</td>
<td>3,720.00</td>
<td>3,720.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8103 · Personal property taxes</td>
<td>13.82</td>
<td>12.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4 8104 · Board of Directors</td>
<td>176.40</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8105 · Bank Expense</td>
<td>152.84</td>
<td>40.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5 8106 · Miscellaneous Expense</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>342.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5 8111 · Supplies</td>
<td>653.52</td>
<td>634.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6 8112 · Telephone &amp; telecommunications</td>
<td>1,263.77</td>
<td>1,506.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6 8131 · Web/email hosting &amp; Facebook</td>
<td>436.91</td>
<td>478.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8132 · Pay Pal</td>
<td>419.63</td>
<td>488.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6 8135 · Postage, shipping, delivery</td>
<td>380.64</td>
<td>351.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5 8171 · Printing &amp; copying</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>92.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 8100 · Operating expenses</strong></td>
<td>8,576.53</td>
<td>9,038.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8300 · Travel &amp; meetings expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8321 · Travel-Delegates to State Convention</td>
<td>300.00</td>
<td>1,100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8322 · Travel Delegates to Nat'l Convention</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>395.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7 8324 · Training-Regional</td>
<td>139.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 8300 · Travel &amp; meetings expenses</strong></td>
<td>439.00</td>
<td>1,545.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8500 · Membership Expense</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8501 · Reimbursement to AA Fund</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8510 · Interest expense - general</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8 8531 · National PMP</td>
<td>5,859.00</td>
<td>6,640.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#9 8532 · State PMP</td>
<td>4,158.00</td>
<td>4,573.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8560 · Outside Computer Services</td>
<td>544.95</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 8500 · Membership Expense</strong></td>
<td>10,561.95</td>
<td>11,213.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8700 · Program Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8701 · Program Expense</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>1,953.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#10 8702 · Voters Guide Expense</td>
<td>10,371.05</td>
<td>12,634.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8703 · Fundraising Expenses</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#11 8704 · Fund Raising Expense</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6 8705 · Voter Services</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#12 8706 · State of the City Expense</td>
<td>4,085.18</td>
<td>11,422.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8707 · Membership Directories</td>
<td>56.10</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8708 · Voter Newsletter Expense</td>
<td>286.59</td>
<td>130.06</td>
</tr>
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</table>
For Fiscal Year June 1, 2017 - May 31, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note #</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Combined FY '15</th>
<th>Combined FY'16</th>
<th>Combined-Current Year</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Actual FY 2015</td>
<td>Actual FY 2016</td>
<td>Budget FY 2017</td>
<td>Actual Jun '16 - thru 3-13-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8709</td>
<td>Annual Report</td>
<td>122.30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>69.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8711</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>550.00</td>
<td>450.00</td>
<td>(200.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8713</td>
<td>Program Publications</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#13</td>
<td>Elected Officials Reception</td>
<td>290.96</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#14</td>
<td>Candidates Forums</td>
<td>96.69</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8717</td>
<td>Sponsorships</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8718</td>
<td>Recognition/Speaker Gifts</td>
<td>116.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#15</td>
<td>PSA Program</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8752</td>
<td>Vote 411 Expense</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>350.00</td>
<td>800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 8700</td>
<td>Program Expenses</td>
<td>15,724.87</td>
<td>26,840.14</td>
<td>30,550.00</td>
<td>16,430.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8800 · Membership Meetings
#16    | Kick-Off Meeting                                 | -               | 352.20         | -                    | 466.51                   | -                         |

Total 8800 | Membership Meetings                             | 375.81          | 426.16         | 750.00               | 730.84                   | 1,000.00                  |

Total Expense |                                               | 35,678.16       | 49,063.11      | 52,913.00            | 33,944.29                | 68,016.00                 |

9800 · Fixed asset purchases
9803 | Capital purchases - equipment                   | -               | 560.00         |                      |                          |                          |

Net Income |                                               | 5,243.97        | (3,830.83)     | -                    | 100,526.39               | -                         |

Notes Regarding Proposed Budget
#1 Membership-Significant increase in the current year with approx. 3 months remaining.
#2 SOC Dinner-Anticipate increased support for SOC Dinner
#3 Rent-Cost of new office space expected to increase.
#4 Board of Directors-Funds included for strategic planning
#5 New facility may lead to additional expense
#6 Increased outreach anticipated
#7 Travel to Nat'l Convention-Cost increase anticipated
#8 National PMP-Increased membership
#9 State PMP-Increased membership
#10 Voters Guide Expense-Costs included for translation services only
#11 Fund Raising-Will combine two accounts
#12 SOC Dinner-Amount budgeted based on expected 2017 costs
#13 Elected Officials Reception-No reception planned
#14 Candidates Forums-No forums planned
#15 PSA Program-Increased participation expected
#16 Kick-Off Meeting-May combine with Acct. for Membership Meetings
NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

League of Women Voters Austin Area,
Nominating Committee Slate for 2017-2019

Elected Officers, Terms of Office:

President: Cinde Weatherby 2016 - 2018
1st VP (Program): Lea Masiello 2016 - 2018
2nd VP - Community Rel.: Mary Jane Burson 2017 - 2019
3rd VP - Organization: Debbi Voss 2017 - 2019
4th VP - Voters Service: Joyce LeBombard 2016 - 2018
Secretary: ** 2017 - 2018
Treasurer: Gwen Santiago 2017 - 2019

Six Directors, One-Year Terms:

Advocacy: Frances McIntyre 2018
Communication/Publicity: Cindy Schaufenbuel 2018
Development: Melissa Crijns 2018
Membership: Brenda Koegler 2018
VOTER Newsletter Editor: Chrissy Nanton 2018
Voter Registration: JoAnn McKenzie 2018

Up to Six Directors Appointed by Board (If needed)

Off-Board Chairs:

Budget: Michelle Goerdel 2018
Bylaws: Carol Olewin 2018
Roster Manager: Brenda Koegler 2018
Special Events Co-Chair: Elizabeth Cooper 2018
Special Events Co-Chair: Angela Koegler 2018
Voters Guide Editor: Frances McIntyre 2018
Webmaster: Hal Jennings 2018
Assistant Webmaster: Dixie Davis 2018
Workbook Editor: Jaci Collins 2018

Margit Orange, Nominating Committee Chair

** Open Position
VOTERS SERVICE

The purpose of Voters Service is to provide “Communication and Coordination of Voters Service Activities for the Austin Area League.” We focus on voter registration, voter education, publish the Voters Guide for elections, moderate candidate forums, “Get Out The Vote (GOTV)” and other events. We are concerned about activities for adult and youth civic engagement and welcome any ideas to get more citizens involved. We are non-partisan and do not endorse nor support candidates for office.

Voter Registration

This year we deputized approximately a dozen volunteers and held registration drives at numerous locations. Here is the list of events we staged from last May through the November election, last year:

- Capitol Grounds Democracy Awakening
- Juneteenth Festival - Rosewood Park
- CAKE Festival – Givens Recreation Center
- Back To School Bash – Palmer Auditorium
- City Council candidate forums
- Austin Council of PTA’s Annual Meeting
- Texas Gun Sense event
- LifeWorks (Jacklyn Williams)
- Nat'l Federation Of The Blind - Criss Cole Center on Nat’l Voter Registration Day
- Huston-Tillotson on National Voter Registration Day
- Rosewood Courts
- Foundation Communities (Lea Masiello)
- National Federation of The Blind - Lighthouse
- Peoples Community Clinic Grand Opening
- Any Baby Can Graduation Ceremony
- Presidential Debate at Alamo Drafthouse Cinemas on S. Lamar and The Village
- AISD Custodial Event (Cinde Weatherby)
- On Last Day To Register: ThunderCloud Subs, S. Lamar; DMV Office, Pflugerville
- Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church (Jacklyn Williams)
- All City of Austin Candidate Forums (June Conway)
- AISD High Schools First Vote Events (9)

Total known voter registrations: 772

There was an overwhelming desire by citizens to begin civic engagement activities as a result of the November 2016 Presidential election. We received 27 new members interested in voters service work. We offered three meetings at different days and times to inform the new members of the opportunities available.

Members were invited to serve on the following committees and Chairs were identified:
First Vote - JoAnn Furner; Voter Education - Elizabeth Ackley; Voter Registration - JoAnn McKenzie; Get Out The Vote - Mollie Snow.

June Conway did an outstanding job identifying events and scheduling volunteers.
Youth Voter Projects

We have maintained an outstanding relationship with our partner, the Travis County Tax Office and the Travis County Clerk’s Office. We developed new relationships with the Austin Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Austin Community College, the Austin Independent School District and other school districts in Travis County and the Texas Charter School Association. In an effort to get more youth and their families involved, we partnered with several of these organizations to create and implement a program in the high schools.

“First Vote” was launched at Travis High School in March 2016 where we engaged with the senior class to register them and to provide information on voting rights and voter education in an assembly. High schools throughout Travis County are participating in the program including the charter and private schools. Nine schools were visited this year. Last fall, we conducted a Mock Presidential Election in schools throughout the County on October 4, 2016. Students from 91 schools participated in the Mock Election and it was broadcast on the AISD channel.

“YouthCam - Student PSA Contest”

This public service announcement (PSA) video contest is for high school students and is designed to promote voter registration and voter turnout at the polls, especially among young voters, in Travis County. The contest theme was “Register. Be Counted. Vote!” Entrants used the already developed logo (either the square or horizontal version) in their productions. YouthCam – Student PSA Contest is a collaboration of the Travis County Tax Office Voter Registration Division; Travis County Clerk Office Elections Division; League of Women Voters Austin Area; Univision; Alamo Drafthouse Cinemas; and KVUE-TV. The Austin League has contributed $1,500 for this program.

Candidate Forums

Candidate forums were organized this past year under the transitional leadership of Frances McIntyre and Carole Eckelkamp. Additional details are provided in McIntyre’s Advocacy Report

Jacklyn Williams, 4th VP - Voters Service
ADVOCACY
There were a number of Action Alerts that were passed through from LWVUS and LWV-TX regarding the Affordable Care Act and Online Voter Registration. The Statesman printed an editorial the day after the November 2016 election on the League’s position on the Electoral College (LWV has opposed the Electoral College since the ‘70’s). There has been continuing conversation about that since then. The Austin League pushed through an update to the State League’s redistricting position at the LWV-TX Lobby Day meeting. We now support taking the redistricting out of the hands of the Legislature and sending it to an Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission similar to Austin’s experience when we changed to a 10-1 district governance.

City advocacy at the City Council continued to stress transparency, even on the City Manager evaluation. We worked for new rules for lobbyists and spoke to the Audit and Finance Committee as well as the whole Council. The measure was passed and much more information was made available to citizens’ research. Another measure passed on campaign finance that the League advanced; making changes that removed the “dark” or undisclosed sources of campaign contributions. We also supported having the Uber/Lyft rules measure on the May 2016 ballot. Most recently we sent out an “Action Memo” providing information to encourage members to participate in the political process, in these days when we need action to protect our rights and privileges.

VOTERS GUIDES
Our very finely tuned Voters Guide committee (Jaci Collins, Donna Pauler, and myself) produced two large Voter Guides in 2016. They were the Primary election in March and the General Election (Presidential) in November. We have many volunteers including Barbara Werth who headed up the distribution of the Guides. We could not do it without their help. Both Guides were printed by the Austin American-Statesman, sent to more than 160,000 subscribers in the five counties we cover in our Voter Guides (Travis, Williamson, Hays, Bastrop, and Caldwell). The Voter Guides were also translated into Spanish. The online Voters Guides continues to have dramatically increasing hits.

CANDIDATE FORUMS
Carol Eckelkamp headed up a full schedule of candidate forums in both the Primary and General 2016 elections. Austin City Council elections had four places up for election and ended up with several runoff elections. We also did candidate forums for ACC, AISD, and helped with the Kyle City Council candidates. We exceeded 22 candidate forums for these elections. One of the many aspects of these forums is forming the questions to ask the candidates. Many volunteers helped and Carol did an excellent job of keeping it all organized. Thanks to all who participated.

Frances McIntyre, Advocacy Chair and Voters Guide Editor
LWVAA NONPARTISAN POLICY STATEMENT
(Adopted May 1996; updated 2002 to reflect board position; revised 2009, 2012.)

The League of Women Voters Austin Area endorses the position on nonpartisanship held by the League of Women Voters of the United States which states: The League may take action on governmental measures and policies in the public interest. It shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

**Board of Directors:** League board members and spokespersons shall refrain from conspicuous partisan political activities during their term of office. Conspicuous partisan activities are those which would affect the community's perception of the League's nonpartisanship. If in doubt, board members and spokespersons should consult with the board.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a board member shall be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of the Board member.

Should a Board member wish to become a candidate for public office, she/he shall submit a written resignation in sufficient time to allow the League to publicly announce the change in status. Resignation from the board does not mean resignation from the League.

**All League Members:**

**League Positions** - Once League (local, state or national) takes a position on an issue, members may not identify themselves as League members in publicly expressing an opinion that is in opposition to a League position.

**Representing the League** – Members representing the League in the community should be sensitive to their responsibilities. When acting in the public as League representatives, members must not allow partisanship to be discernible. These members should be fully aware of League positions.

**Serving on Commissions** – Members may serve on governmental commissions at their own discretion. If the appointee represents the League, then the appointee should be fully aware of the League positions in relation to the commission’s responsibilities.

**League Meetings** – Members in the leadership roles at unit and other public meetings have the responsibility to ensure the nonpartisanship of the meeting and its environment.

**League Roster** – The League of Women Voters Austin Area roster shall not be made available for non-League use without Board permission.

**Board Direction** – If a Board member, off-board chair, or member becomes involved in a situation in which the nonpartisan policy of the League may be jeopardized, such member shall ask for a Board decision on appropriate action.
POSITION STATEMENTS,
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AUSTIN AREA

EDUCATION
(Program positions were revised and amended at the 2007 Annual Meeting, based on the 2005-2007 update study and consensus; and at the 2008 Annual Meeting, based on the tax abatement consensus.)

   - The Austin Independent School District (AISD) should have as its goal to meet, if not exceed, the state and federal accountability standards for achievement, attendance, dropout rates, and completion rates in each school in the district, and to reduce the disparity in performance among schools.
   - To achieve this goal, the schools must have fully certified teachers in all areas, adequate resources and support systems, and community involvement in the schools.

2. Support of strong education in AISD through the following goals at all grade levels, from prekindergarten and kindergarten, through elementary, middle, and high schools:
   - Varied curriculum.
   - Flexibility for teachers within defined curriculum.
   - Providing teachers with the necessary preparation and encouragement to improve student achievement through relevant professional development (for example, to strengthen subject-matter knowledge, classroom-management skills, use of technology); adequate planning time; mentoring for new teachers and stipends for mentors; consideration of input from teachers in policy and administrative decisions; and encouragement of two-way communication between teachers and principals.
   - An incentive-based compensation plan for all teachers and campus administrators who qualify.
   - Provision of appropriate textbooks, technology, and/or materials.
   - Full-time librarians in each school.
   - Promotion of active parental involvement.
   - Offering year-round schools with shorter vacation breaks and/or summer school.
   - Flexible learning environments, as in nontraditional schools and alternative learning centers within AISD, and flexible learning environments extending into traditional secondary schools, as well.
   - Programs for English Language Learners (ELL) to improve achievement among non-English speaking students and to support the goal of AISD in having every student speak English fluently, along with support services for the parents of non-English speaking AISD students.
   - Addressing the health care needs of the student population by providing full-time health care team coverage for every school.

3. Support of strong elementary education in AISD through grouping of mixed academic ability within a classroom, and utilizing ability groupings in math and reading with frequent re-evaluation.

4. Support of strong middle school education in AISD through: initiatives to improve student transition from 5th to 6th grade and from 8th to 9th grade; student visits to feeder schools; parent orientations and campus visits; opportunities for planning and coordination between elementary, middle, and high school principals; summer transition programs for incoming 6th graders and incoming 9th graders; a rigorous summer school program for identified incoming 9th graders; and life-skills programs in middle schools.
5. Support for strong AISD secondary education (middle and high school) through:
   - Initiatives to ensure a rigorous academic environment in middle and high schools; emphasis on critical thinking skills; advanced classes (for example, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, dual enrollment in college); early intervention for academically at-risk students; tutoring for students who fail a section or sections of the standardized test; rigorous summer school for students who fail one or more courses; Saturday school as an option; extended day as an option; extended school year as an option; after-school programs; night courses in high school; and support services for families of students.
   - An honors program with weighted grades for those students who participate in it.
   - Challenging academic courses that equip students to succeed in college.
   - Initiatives to improve relationships between teachers, between teachers and students, and among students; lower pupil-teacher ratios; smaller learning communities (for example, 9th grade academies); coordinated planning time for teachers and team teaching; advisories; and study groups.
   - Development of curriculum to include courses geared to current workforce needs.
   - Use of demonstrated competencies and skills to help assess student progress with documents such as certificates or portfolios.
   - Academies or magnet programs with flexible eligibility criteria.
   - More efficient use of counselor skills, with focus on academic and career counseling, as well as adjustment counseling.
   - Scheduling of co- and extra-curricular activities during non-school hours as much as possible.
   - A tech-prep system that allows students either to enter the workforce upon graduation or seek post-secondary education.
   - Job training courses for students who want to graduate with marketable skills.
   - Apprenticeship-type programs, cooperative education, or internships to ease the transition from school to work.

6. Support for educational programs in Austin Community College and in AISD designed to prepare students for employment with marketable skills by:
   - Having curriculum relevant to the work world with career awareness infused throughout the system.
   - Developing curriculum to include courses geared to current workforce needs.
   - Having students apply problem-solving.
   - Providing career exploration by the 8th grade and administering occupational assessment tests, followed by counseling with students and parents, prior to high school enrollment.
   - Conducting staff development to assist teachers in making the curriculum relevant, learning new teaching techniques, and operating equipment.
   - Establishing a centrally located career planning and placement center.
   - Supporting employer involvement in curricular and workforce training issues.
   - Assigning staff to seek outside funding sources, shared use of facilities or equipment, internship or apprenticeship positions, and mentors for students.
   - Securing adequate funding, including increased taxes, as state support declines.

7. Support for career preparation in Austin Community College through:
   - Coordinated education paths between high school and college-level work.
   - Education and employer-supervised apprenticeships and internship opportunities.
   - Access to state-of-the-art technology for technical programs.
   - Communication of changing workforce needs to instructional staff, counselors, and students.

8. Support for strengthened adult education programs in Austin Community College and in AISD
Community Schools.

9. Opposition to AISD’s participation in any tax rebates or abatements for businesses to locate or expand in the Austin area.

**AUSTIN: ITS PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT**

1. Support of equality of opportunity in employment and housing.

2. Support for well-run community development programs with frequent administrative reviews by city government.

3. Support of preservation and development of open space and parks.

**CITY GOVERNMENT**


1. Form of government: Support of council-manager form of government with the City Charter as its document.

2. Council and Elections
   - Support for direct election of the mayor.
   - For council member elections, support for the following structures, provided that under these structures, there are enough equal-sized geographic districts drawn to support minority opportunity districts:
     - geographic-district representatives plus at-large representatives, or
     - geographic-district representatives plus super geographic-district representatives, or
     - geographic-district representatives only.
   - Support of a campaign spending ordinance to be mandated in the City Charter.
   - Support of an Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission.

3. Personnel, General Provisions, and Ethics
   - Support of an impartial board of ethics with an independent staff.
   - Support of a financial disclosure ordinance to be mandated in the City Charter.

4. Planning and City Services
   - Support for a commission in the City Charter to plan for human resources.
   - Support for independent neighborhood groups.

5. Financial
   - Support for the early setting of budget priorities by Council.
   - Electric Utility and Electric Utility Transfer:
     - Support for an *electric utility transfer* based primarily on the needs of the utility, including its bonded indebtedness, rather than on the needs of the City budget.
     - Support for an *electric rate policy* that is based on the cost of service for each class of user and that strives for a goal of 100% relative rate of return for all customer classes.
6. Annexation
- Support for full consideration of an annexation’s fiscal impact on the City before City Council action.
- Support for flexibility in the timing of annexation based on fiscal, planning, environmental, and social factors.
- Support for the continued use of fees to cover the cost of utility extensions and other capital improvements necessary for new development.
- Support for homeowners in municipal utility districts’ continuing to pay off the district’s debt after annexation.
- Support for a strengthened subdivision ordinance covering the City’s entire extraterritorial jurisdiction.

7. Planning and Growth Management
- Support for cost benefit analysis as an integral part of the planning process.
- Support for ongoing public input into long-range planning with coordination and communication between City departments, boards, and commissions.
- Support for a balanced representation of diverse interests on the Planning Commission.
- Support for a standardized, streamlined, and understandable development process with proper regard for public notification from developer application to Council decision.
- Support for City involvement with private and other governmental entities in the selective recruitment of businesses. Environmental concerns should be taken into consideration, as should employment of Austin’s citizens.
- Support for tax abatements and/or tax rebates as an incentive to encourage economic development in the city. Among the criteria that should be considered by the county when determining which businesses receive tax abatements or rebates are:
  - Amount of total investment in Austin.
  - Location in the Desired Development zone.
  - Length of commitment for company to stay in Austin.
  - Demand on the community’s infrastructure.
  - Competition with existing local businesses.
  - Alignment with the city’s long-term economic development.
  - Environmental concerns.
  - Number of new jobs for Austin citizens.
  - Certain criteria for the newly created jobs, i.e.,
    - Health insurance
    - Diversity in hiring and promotion
    - Employee training programs
    - Livable wage
- Support for an accounting of the tax abatement/rebate incentives and their associated cost which is presented once a year, along with the Budget public hearings.

8. Drinking Water Supply
(Adopted at the 1998 Annual Meeting.)
- Support for use of factors that should be included in regional planning for: population, supply, water conservation, needs of sustainable industry, fishermen and agriculture, flood control and flood plain preservation, reservation and/or purchase of water (including water rights and interbasin transfers), privatization as an alternative, impacts on water quality, drought planning, governance, water and sewer treatment capacity, and the economic impact on the region as a whole.
Support of a voluntary, aggressive treated water conservation plan that should become mandatory only under drought conditions.

Support of utility-provided educational programs, water-wise programs, a system-wide water leak detection program for utility-owned pipes, residential block pricing, programs to repair leaks for low-income housing, and development of incentives for conservation, where possible.

Support for the following factors in evaluating future funding proposals for water treatment facilities: cost of maintenance, need to respond to immediate crisis, need to meet federal requirement, existence of a master plan, environmental impact, cost effectiveness, privatization as an alternative, and currency of technology.

9. Electric Deregulation
(Adopted at the 1998 Annual Meeting.)

Support for the City Council consideration of all of its options regarding the future of the electric utility, including sale of part or all of the utility and/or merger with other entities. Factors that should be considered include: impact on rates for the various classes of consumers; maintenance of a “lifeline” rate for low-income consumers; the impact on the funding of city services (i.e. the transfer to the general fund and compensating fees and taxes); the competitive position of Austin Energy; environmental impacts; stranded debt and the ability to pay off electric utility revenue bonds; the level of local control that would exist; responsiveness and quality of customer service; and electric service reliability.

Support for continued energy conservation programs, but they should be modified to be more cost effective and to have customers share more in the responsibility for programs from which they will benefit. Continue to provide:
- Energy audits.
- Rebates for low-income customers.
- Rebates to encourage new or more efficient technology.
- Lists of contractors.
- Inspection of rehab jobs.
- Weatherization of homes for low-income residents.
- Consultation on new construction.

Support for more operating independence for the Utility. Responsibility for purchasing, hiring, and other administrative functions should lie with Utility management. Establishment of an oversight board for the Utility, which would assume many of the policy-making powers currently held by the City Council, but would leave the powers of eminent domain, rate-making, and bond issuance with the City Council. Members of the oversight board should be selected on the basis of designated areas of expertise and should include at least one member representing the public. Change the City Charter to allow purchases without City Council (or oversight board) approval to a level commensurate with the expenditures of the Utility.

TRAVIS COUNTY GOVERNMENT
(Updated in 2007.)

1. County Budget
- Support for one budget officer, a performance/program budget prepared and made available to the public before public hearings.
- Support for budget approval before the adoption of the tax rate and before the beginning of the fiscal year.
2. Law Enforcement
   - Support for increased cooperation between Austin and Travis County law enforcement officers.
   - Support for increased use of interlocal contracts between the county and incorporated governmental units for effective law enforcement.

3. Wastewater Management
   - Support for improved cooperation among the City, County, LCRA, and the TCEQ in the enforcement of wastewater regulations.

4. County Parks
   - Support for a unified county park system organized and maintained by a master plan.

5. Tax Assessment
   - Support for fair and equitable appraisal of all real property in Travis County.

6. Planning and Growth Management
   - Support for tax abatements and/or tax rebates as an incentive to encourage economic development in the county. Among the criteria that should be considered by the county when determining which businesses receive tax abatements or rebates are:
     o Amount of total investment in Travis County.
     o Location in the Desired Development zone.
     o Length of commitment for company to stay in Travis County.
     o Demand on the community’s infrastructure.
     o Competition with existing local businesses.
     o Alignment with the county’s long-term economic development.
     o Environmental concerns.
     o Number of new jobs for Travis County citizens.
     o Certain criteria for the newly created jobs, i.e.,
       - Health insurance
       - Diversity in hiring and promotion
       - Employee training programs
       - Livable wage
   - Support for an accounting of the tax abatement/rebate incentives and their associated cost, which is presented once a year, along with the Budget public hearings.

LIBRARY
(Adopted in 1995.)

1. Support of a library system for Austin and the surrounding area, which includes both traditional library services and modern information management.

2. Support of a library system that includes:
   - Adequate funding, even if it means a tax increase.
   - The traditional role of lending books and other material.
   - A reference library with modern information technology, including CD-ROM and access to the Internet information services available in the library, by phone, and online.
- Programs and informal education for adults and especially for children.
- Homework centers and tutoring.
- Outreach to encourage reading and library use.
- Community activities and meeting rooms.
- An adequate book/materials security system

3. Support for building more library branches, first in underserved areas, and secondly, in newly developed areas or as larger regional libraries.

4. Support for bond issues that include funding for new technology and replacing rented facilities.

5. Support for the use of the Austin library by people who do not live in Austin. However, those individuals or their communities should pay to help support the library.

6. Support for greater communication and cooperation between schools and libraries.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Support for a community-wide system that serves the population as a whole; is publicly owned, efficient, and economical; and informs and educates the public on its use.

2. Support for the establishment and the sustainment of a permanent mass transit authority (MTA).

3. Support for the continued use of a one-cent sales tax to support the MTA.

4. Support for increased opportunities for meaningful citizen participation in the transportation planning process; and optimum cooperation and coordination in the administration, planning, and delivery of services among agencies that provide transportation.

5. Support for a balanced, intermodal Metropolitan transportation system that coordinates the use of:
   - Automobiles.
   - Buses.
   - A fixed guide-way system (regional light rail).
   - Park-and-ride facilities.
   - Pedestrian and bicycle routes.
   - Shuttles (or jitneys).
   - Special transit services for the disabled and elderly.

6. Support for transportation-related measures that will keep the Austin Metropolitan Area in attainment of federal air quality standards (see Air Quality statement under Environmental Quality position), including:
   - Carpools.
   - Van pools.
   - Buses.
   - High-occupancy vehicle lanes
   - Bicycles.
   - Trip reduction.
- Walking.
- Conversion to natural gas, with more refueling centers.
- Recharge centers for (future) electric cars.
- A fixed guide-way system (light rail).
- Telecommuting.
- Home employment.
- Motor vehicle inspection.

7. Support for the following methods of transportation funding: governmental gasoline tax, the Austin Transportation Fee, and revenue from toll roads. Revenues from these sources will go toward improving city, county, and regional roads, and other transportation projects.

8. Support for multiple funding sources for the construction and operation of a fixed guide-way transportation system, including the use of bonds, federal funds, sales taxes, and user fees like gasoline taxes and fares.

9. Support for the integration of land-use planning and transportation planning in the Austin Metropolitan Area.

10. Support for the revision of local governments’ development regulations, to include site design criteria that would encourage intermodal planning, including accommodations for pedestrians, bicycle trails, and transit.

11. Support for mixed-use development to help achieve the Austin Metropolitan Area’s transportation goals.

12. Support for the encouragement of the Austin Transportation Study (ATS) to maintain ongoing, independent performance reviews of the governments and agencies that provide transportation services to the ATS area to provide accountability to the citizens of the Austin Metropolitan Area.

13. Support for the use of the following criteria to assess the suitability of specific funding proposals:
   - Allows for faster project completion; a project cannot be completed without it.
   - Local dollars are used to leverage state and federal dollars.
   - An undue burden is not placed on any socio-economic group.
   - Funds are raised efficiently.
   - Funds are not reallocated without the consent of the funding body.
   - Balance of transportation modes is improved; the overall efficiency of the transportation system is enhanced.
   - The burden is placed on those that create the most wear and tear.
   - The cost of additional use of facilities is appropriately distributed.

**HEALTH**
(2003; in 2014, updated, added to, and absorbed old “Mental Health Services” section, which was adopted in 2008.)

**Health Care**
We support public funding to create, expand, and/or educate about:
1. Community-based, integrated health care services, where patients can receive primary and preventive physical and behavioral health services in the same place.

2. The use of the Medical Access Program (MAP) to pay for the health care of those who are not eligible for other forms of insurance, and a sliding-scale fee schedule for the near poor.

3. Maximizing all available state and local financing mechanisms to leverage as much federal money as possible to fund local health care services.

4. Contractual agreements with cities, counties, and other governmental entities for payment of health care delivered to non-Travis County residents.

5. Recruitment, education, and training of professional staff (i.e., physicians, nurses, social workers, case managers, outreach workers, etc.) to implement health and social service programs based on best practices.

6. A single county or multicounty health care district (hospital district) in Austin and/or Travis County with an appointed or elected board.

**Behavioral Health Care**

We support public funding to create, expand, and/or educate about:

7. Specialized, community-based behavioral health and substance abuse treatment services that can respond to patients at whatever their level of need (e.g., hotlines, information and referral, outpatient, crisis intervention, in-patient, long-term care/residential treatment, sobriety centers, and telemedicine), regardless of ability to pay.

8. Additional in-patient behavioral health beds in a health care facility or local hospital for crisis intervention and stabilization.

9. Programs/services (e.g., housing, transportation, employment, and other basic needs) to assist those with severe behavioral and/or physical health issues to live successfully in the community.

10. Mobile crisis outreach teams and hospital and jail-diversion projects to redirect individuals into behavioral health services and away from unnecessary incarceration or hospitalization.

11. An emphasis on preventive behavioral health programs and services.

**Wellness and Health Promotion**

We support public funding to create, expand, and/or educate about:

12. A system of public health and strong public health policy as a sound strategy for preventing disease, promoting health, and driving down health care costs.


15. Promotion and protection of women's access to health care, including all aspects of reproductive health. 
(LWV-Texas statement)

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
(Reviewed in 1996; updated at the 1997 and 2009 Annual Meetings.)

1. Solid Waste
(Reaffirmed in 1996.)
- Support for recycling, reuse, and other methods of reducing the volume of waste.
- Support for long-range planning.
- Support for the improvement of our present sanitary landfill operation.

2. Support for Energy Conservation
(Reaffirmed in 1996.)

3. Water/Wastewater
(Adopted with recommended review changes in 1996; last two bullets adopted in 2009.)
- Continued support for the Barton Springs-Edwards Aquifer Conservation District and support for an underground water district for the northern Edwards Aquifer.
- To protect our water supplies, support use of: properly maintained and enforced structural controls, such as water quality ponds; properly maintained and enforced nonstructural controls, such as impervious cover limits, natural vegetation or vegetative filter strips; and best management practices.
- Support of vigorous enforcement of water quality ordinances and laws by City and County officials.
- Support of regular, formal communication between the TCEQ and the City of Austin.
- Support of regional sewage treatment plants rather than numerous small package plants.
- Support of the prohibition of sewage discharge or land treatment over aquifer recharge areas.
- Support of advanced wastewater treatment after cost benefit analysis has been done.
- Support for future development, to be addressed with more extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) control; fees should reflect the services; City should take into account the water usage of new development, i.e., high-rise condos, and assess charges accordingly.
- Support of planning for infrastructure of water and wastewater (drinking water, sewage, and storm water), to include all funding streams.
  o Have scheduled repairs as needed to avoid crisis management.
  o Include recurring maintenance costs in annual budgets.
  o Reduce usage or implement other conservation programs.
  o Budget for recurring maintenance costs for new facilities.
  o Create separate budget items for emergencies and capital expenditures.
  o Schedule ongoing tests for water and wastewater leakage.

4. Municipal utility district (MUD)
(Adopted as reviewed in 1997.)
- Support of the start of the 120-day MUD review process after full documentation is received by the City.
- Support for utility line extension financing through revenue bonds rather than contract bonds.
5. Air Quality
A 1987-1988 study of Austin’s air quality indicated that at present the City complies with federal air quality standards. While no consensus was taken on the report, should Austin’s air quality deteriorate in the future, further study may be recommended. In 1996, Austin does not exceed federal clean air standards, but the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has designated it as a near non-attainment area. (See the 1996 Transportation positions.)

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

1. Support of adequate counsel for indigents at all court levels.

2. Support of improved training and selection standards for the local law enforcement personnel.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING
(Adopted at the 2001 Annual Meeting.)

Local governments have a responsibility to help assure a supply of affordable housing to their residents. Responsibility should be exercised in the areas of ordinance making, policy making, and public education.

1. The LWVAA believes that local governmental bodies should consider the impact on the cost of housing when writing ordinances and developing policy.

2. The City should do more to educate neighborhoods about the advantages of mixed-income housing.

3. The LWVAA supports the waiver of development fees, expedited permit processing, and other incentives to developers to encourage the construction of affordable housing, but there should be strict monitoring and ready access of information to the public.

4. The LWVAA supports the concept of leasing surplus city/county property for affordable housing projects.

5. The City of Austin and Travis County should cooperate wherever possible on affordable housing and should try to work with adjoining counties and municipalities.

6. There should be more flexibility in the building and zoning codes of the City—particularly in allowing multifamily uses in commercial districts—but there should not be a wholesale move toward cumulative zoning. There could be increased residential densities along transit corridors and around the edges of single-family neighborhoods, but existing single-family neighborhoods should not be required to have increased density.
League of Women Voters Austin Area
Proposed Bylaws

May 20, 2017
# League of Women Voters Austin Area Bylaws

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ARTICLE I: NAME
Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters Austin Area, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWV–Austin Area LWV-AA or as the League. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States, hereinafter referred to in the bylaws as LWVUS, and the League of Women Voters of Texas, hereinafter referred to in the bylaws as LWV-TX.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES AND POLITICAL POLICY
Section 1. Purposes. The purposes of the League are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. Political Policy. The League shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIPS
Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership.
A. Voting members. Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of the local and state Leagues of their place of joining and of the LWVUS.
   (1) those who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League;
   (2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state members-at-large; and
   (3) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues.

B. Associate members. All others who join the League shall be associate members.

ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection, and Term of Office. The board of directors shall consist of the officers of the League of Women Voters Austin Area LWV-AA, enumerated in Article V, Section 1, and six (6) elected directors, and not more than six (6)

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2 The membership age changed from 18 to 16 at the LWVUS Convention in 2016, requiring LWV-AA Board conformance taken September 5, 2016
directors appointed by the board. Six (6) directors shall be elected by the general membership at each annual meeting and shall serve for a term of one year, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The President with the advice and consent of the elected members of the board shall appoint additional directors, not exceeding six (6), as is deemed necessary to carry on the work of the League. Appointed directors shall serve from the time of appointment until the next annual meeting.

Section 2. Qualifications. No person shall be appointed or elected or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless that person is a voting member of the League of Women Voters Austin Area LWV-AA.

Section 3. Vacancies. In the event of the absence, disability, disqualification, or death of the president, the nominating committee shall be directed to find a candidate and submit the name to the board for election by a majority vote of the board. All other vacancies occurring in the board of directors may be filled by presidential appointment for the remaining portion of the year with a majority vote of the remaining members of the board of directors. Any board member who is absent from three consecutive board meetings without valid reason shall be considered to have resigned.

Section 4. Powers and Duties. The board of directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct same, subject to the instructions of the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program as adopted by the national convention, the state convention, and the annual meeting. The board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary. Any committee with the authority to carry out the powers exclusive to the Board in the management of the League must have at least two committee members and a majority of those members must be Directors.

Section 5. Meetings. There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the board annually. The president may call special meetings of the board and shall call a special meeting upon written request of five (5) members of the board.

Section 6. Quorum. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum. Any one or more members of the Board may participate in a Special Meeting by means of electronic communication. Participation by such means shall constitute presence at said meeting—All votes taken at such Special Meetings shall be ratified at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Section 7. Executive Committee. The board may appoint an executive committee consisting of the president, vice presidents, treasurer and secretary, consisting of no fewer than five members of the board. The executive committee may transact emergency business between meetings of the Board of Directors. The proceedings of the executive committee shall be reported to the Board at its next meeting for ratification. It shall exercise such power and authority as may be delegated to it and shall report on all actions taken by it to the board between regular meetings of the board.
Section 8. Actions Without a Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting, if a quorum majority of all Directors individually and collectively consent in writing, or e-mail or facsimile, setting forth the action to be taken. Written consents must be dated and signed by each Director and must state the action to be taken. Such written consents shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote of the Board. Prompt follow-up notice of the action consented to must be given to each Director who did not provide consent in writing. Such actions approved by written consent shall be ratified at the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 9. Participation in Meetings. Any one or more members of the Board may participate in a meeting by means of electronic communications equipment, so long as all participants in the meeting can simultaneously hear each other. Participation by such means shall constitute presence at said meeting.

Section 10. Proxy. Proxies shall not be allowed.

Section 11. Removal of Board Members. Any Board Member may be removed with cause, at any time by a majority of the entire Board of Directors, at a regular or special meeting called for that purpose. Any Board member under consideration for removal must first be notified about the consideration by written notice at least five days prior to the meeting at which the vote takes place.

Section 12. Compensation. Directors and Officers shall not receive any salaries or other compensation for their services as Board members or Officers. The League shall not loan money or property to, or guarantee the obligation of any Director or Officer. Board members may however, be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in fulfilling their Board responsibilities.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The officers of the League of Women Voters Austin Area LWV-AA shall be a president, a first vice president, a second vice president, a third vice president, a fourth vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer who shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting. The president, the first vice president, the fourth vice president, and the secretary shall be elected in even-numbered years. The second vice president, the third vice president, and the treasurer shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The same person may not hold both the offices of President and Secretary.

Section 2. The President. The president shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the board of directors; may, in the absence or disability of the treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes; shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the nominating committee; shall have such usual power 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. The president or other officers when so authorized by the board may sign contracts and other instruments.

Section 3. Vice Presidents. The vice presidents shall perform such duties as the president and board may designate. It shall be the duty of each vice president to supervise and coordinate the activities of the chairs assigned to her/his jurisdiction.

3 Provision for co-presidents was removed at the 2016 annual meeting.
Section 4. The Secretary. The secretary shall keep the minutes of the annual meetings of the League and all other meetings of the directors; notify all officers and directors of their election; and perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 5. The Treasurer. The treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due; be custodian of the monies and deposit them in a bank designated by the directors; present statements to the board at its regular meetings, and an annual report to the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI: FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters Austin Area LWV-AA shall begin on the first day of June, ending on May 31 of the following year.

Section 2. Dues. Annual dues shall be determined by the board of directors and approved as part of the budget adopted by the members attending the annual meeting. Dues shall be payable on the anniversary of the month the member joins. Any continuing member who fails to pay her/his dues within three months of the first of the anniversary month shall be dropped from the membership rolls. All dues paid paid to the LWV-AA will be deposited in the paid to and maintained by the LWV-AA member organization 501(c)(3) fund recognized as tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

Section 3. Budget. A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the board of directors to the annual meeting for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.

Section 4. Budget Committee. A budget committee shall be appointed by the board of directors at least two months prior to the annual meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members one month before the annual meeting. The committee must have at least two committee members and a majority of those members must be Directors. The treasurer shall be, ex officio, a member of the budget committee, but shall not be eligible to serve as chairman.

Section 5. Education Fund. The League of Women Voters Austin Area board members serve as fiduciary managers for the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area Education Fund.

Section 5. Tax Exemption. The League is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code and the Texas Tax Code, Section 11.18. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the League shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under such provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. No substantial part of the activities of the League shall be attempting to influence legislation.

4Section 5 was added at the 2016 annual meeting.
ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Membership Meetings. There shall be at least four meetings of the general membership each year. The time and place shall be determined by the board of directors.

Section 2. Annual Meeting. An annual meeting shall be held during May, the exact date to be determined by the board of directors. The annual meeting shall:
   A. adopt a local program for the ensuing year;
   B. elect officers and directors and a nominating committee chair;
   C. adopt a budget;
   D. transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of ten percent (10%) of the members eligible to vote as of January 1 of the current year.

Section 4. Voting. Each member shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the members. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted. The Board may, in its discretion, facilitate a vote of the members via mail, fax, email, or any combination of those methods. Unless otherwise specifically provided in these bylaws, the affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of members shall pass an action voted upon.

ARTICLE VIII: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominating Committee. The nominating committee shall consist of a chair, two members from the board, and two non-board members. The chair, who shall not be a member of the board and the two non-board members shall be elected at the annual meeting; the board shall appoint the members from the board. Vacancies on the committee during the year shall be filled in the same manner. Nominations for officers, directors and nominating committee chair may be sent to this committee by any voting member.

Section 2. Office Sharing. Two members may be nominated and elected to share a single office. They will divide the duties of the office by mutual agreement. Each member shall have a vote on the board.

Section 3. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor. The report of the nominating committee of its nominations for officers and directors shall be sent to all members at least one month before the date of the annual meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee shall be secured.

Section 4. Elections. The election shall be by secret ballot, except when there is only one nominee the election may be by voice vote. The election of co-nominees for a single office shall be considered a single nomination. A majority of those qualified members present and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted. The new board members shall assume their duties June 1.

ARTICLE IX: 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 League of Women Voters Austin Area \textit{LWV- AA} shall be chosen for study or action at the annual meeting and may include action to implement the principles of the League of Women Voters.

Section 3. The Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall act upon the program using the following procedures:

A. The board of directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members two months prior to the annual meeting and shall formulate a proposed program.

B. The proposed program shall be sent to all members one month before the annual meeting, together with not-recommended items and reasons for their rejection by the board.

C. A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the annual meeting shall be required for adoption of items in the proposed program as presented to the annual meeting by the board.

D. Any not-recommended program item(s) may be moved for consideration following the presentation of the recommended program. A majority vote shall place a not-recommended item before the annual meeting. Adoption of a not-recommended item requires a two-thirds vote. The program votes shall take place in the order in which items were considered.

E. Suggestions for program at the annual meeting from the floor must meet the following criteria:
   1. the suggestion must have been presented to and approved by the president at least 24 hours prior to the annual meeting.
   2. the annual meeting shall order consideration by a two-thirds vote.
   3. the annual meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.

F. Changes in the program, not considered at the annual meeting, may be made provided that:
   1. information concerning the proposed change has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed.
   2. final action by the membership is taken at the succeeding meeting.

Section 4. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so under the policy established by the board of directors. They act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the League of Women Voters Austin Area \textit{LWV- AA}, the League of Women Voters of Texas \textit{LWV-TX}, and the League of Women Voters of the United States \textit{LWVUS}.

\textbf{ARTICLE X: VOTER SERVICE}

Section 1. Voter Service. Activities of the League of Women Voters Austin Area \textit{LWV- AA} shall include making available to the citizens in the community information on elections and other democratic processes.

\textbf{ARTICLE XI: NATIONAL CONVENTION, STATE CONVENTION AND COUNCIL}

Section 1. National Convention. Delegates from the League of Women Voters Austin Area \textit{LWV- AA} shall be selected by the board of directors under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States \textit{LWVUS}. 
Section 2. State Convention/Council. Delegates from the League of Women Voters Austin Area LWV-AA shall be selected by the Board of Directors under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Texas LWV-TX.

ARTICLE XII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. Parliamentary Authority. The rules in “Roberts Rules of Order Newly 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

Section 1. Amendments. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at the annual meeting or a membership meeting, provided that the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

ARTICLE XIV: INDEMNIFICATION

Section 1. Indemnification. The League is empowered to indemnify the officers, Directors, and agents to the extent provided and within the limitations imposed by law.

ARTICLE XV: REGISTERED OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT

Section 1. Registered Office and Registered Agent. The League shall maintain a registered office and registered agent in Texas. The registered office may, but need not, be identical with the principal office in Texas. The Board of Directors may change the registered office and the registered agent as needed.

ARTICLE XVI: DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Dissolution. In the event of the dissolution of the LWV-AA all monies and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the LWV-AA shall be paid to the Texas member organization of the League of Women Voters that is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code; or if none of these organizations are then in existence or exempt under those tax provisions, then, at the discretion of the Board, to another organization which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under such designated tax provisions.