



The Anchorage VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ANCHORAGE
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April 2022

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www.lwvalaska.org

Dear League Members:

Our Annual meeting is soon approaching.

This edition of The Voter contains:

- ♦ Proposed Program FY 2022-2023
- ♦ Proposed Dues FY 2022-2023
- ♦ Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors FY 2022-2023
- ♦ Proposed Budget FY 2023-2023
- ♦ Proposed By-Laws changes

MARK THE DATE!

WHAT: LWV Anchorage Annual Meeting

WHEN: Tuesday, May 17th

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The meeting will be conducted via Zoom. *A link to attend the meeting will be sent one week prior to the meeting.*

All members are encouraged to attend. Voice your opinion as we chart our direction for this coming year understanding new election procedures for both the State primary and State general election and a decennial ballot question asking if a Constitutional Convention should be held.

We need your INPUT, EXPERTISE and EXPERIENCE.

POINT OF INFORMATION

1950 League of Women Voters of Anchorage was founded on April 24, 1950. Our By-Laws have been amended twenty-nine times.

1975 In a special September election, the City of Anchorage and Greater Anchorage Area Borough are unified into the Municipality of Anchorage. Eagle River and Chugiak are both annexed at this time as well. The Municipality of Anchorage Charter has been amended thirty-eight times since 1975.



The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.
Any person 16 years of age and older, male or female, may become a League member.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2022

April is Autism Month - wear **Blue**

- | | | |
|------|----|---|
| Mon | 18 | Election Commission Meeting and Public Session of Canvass MOA Election Center, 619 Ship Creek Avenue, Door D (click here for more information) |
| Sat | 23 | LWV Alaska State Convention, by Zoom |
| Tues | 26 | Certification of Regular Municipal Election Results by Assembly |

May 2022

- | | | |
|------|----|--|
| Tues | 17 | LWV Anchorage Annual Meeting, 5 p.m. by Zoom |
| Sun | 22 | Last Day to Register for Municipal Special Election on June 21 |
| Mon | 30 | Memorial Day - Federal Holiday |
| Tues | 31 | Ballot Packages Mailed to Registered Voters in new Downtown Assembly Seat L, District 1 |

June 2022

- | | | |
|------|----|--|
| Sat | 11 | SPECIAL STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION for U.S. Representative — conducted Vote-By-Mail (to fill vacant seat for the remainder of the late U.S. Representative Don Young's term which expires on January 3, 2023) |
| Tues | 14 | Flag Day |
| Tues | 21 | MUNICIPAL SPECIAL ELECTION for new Downtown Assembly Seat L, District 1 — conducted Vote-By-Mail |
| Tues | 21 | LWV Anchorage Monthly Meeting, 7 p.m. by Zoom |
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LWV ALASKA STATE CONVENTION

Saturday, April 23, 2022

2022 State Convention via ZOOM. All League members are invited.

In order to receive a ZOOM invite, you will need to send the following information in an email to both Judy Andree (jagster42@gmail.com) and Cathleen Rolph (cathleenrolph@gmail.com) **Use the heading "Convention 2022."**

1. Your name
2. Your League (Tanana, Kenai, Anchorage, Juneau)
3. Your daytime phone AND your cell phone numbers
4. Your email

And indicate whether you are an official convention delegate (your local League has chosen you as a voting delegate) or you are a nonvoting member.

Materials such as agenda, etc are available at this website and can be downloaded and printed: www.lwvalaska.org. The "Convention" button is at the top of the home page.

There is no registration fee. We look forward to seeing you at Convention 2022!

Leah Edwards, Alaska's liaison with LWVUS, will join us for a report on the status of the ERA and voting rights bills supported by the League. Lauri Wilson, Region I Election Supervisor, will give a presentation on Election Security. There will also be a presentation on the pros/cons of holding a Constitutional Convention which comes up for a vote every 10 years.



LWV of Anchorage Member Involvement in the Municipal Election held on April 5th

Volunteering at the Loussac Library Vote Center on Election Day from 4-8pm by Barbara Derr

Both Blythe Campbell and I were happy to have the opportunity to volunteer with the Anchorage Municipal Election process. Its always fun to see everyone getting out to vote.

We were monitoring a ballot box in the lobby and helping people decide whether to go to the Assembly Chambers or the Wilda Marsten Theater. The ballot box allowed people with completed vote-by-mail ballots to vote without having to wait in line. Both the Assembly Chambers and the Wilda Marsten Theater allowed people to vote in person or resolve problems and ask questions of their vote-by-mail ballots or their voter registration status. It seemed that everyone left happy after visiting the Loussac Library Vote Center.

Two kind women brought snacks and a great card thanking Election workers and volunteers. A very brave woman with a big Alaska flag popped in periodically to warm up as it was very cold and windy that evening. A man was there with his podcasting equipment and wasn't too talkative, but we hope he followed requests from people when they said they didn't want their images/photos taken. We met briefly the braver woman who was outside all evening manning the drive-up ballot box. She looked cold!

Don't forget to visit the library! Such a nice lobby with a great coffee shop. And the Friends of the Library sometimes bring out a cart with free books!

(Sorry Blythe...probably shouldn't talk this one up so much as it'll be that much harder to grab this choice volunteering position next time.)

This was a plum assignment! Located in the lobby of the Loussac Library building where you get to choose whether to visit the Assembly Chambers, the Library or the Wilda Marsten Theater, the lobby is a warm sunny place with ample chairs and tables to hang out with a book and a coffee from the Library coffee shop.

Periodically, a volunteer from the Friends of the Anchorage Library rolls out a cart of free books. These are books that are either the last to sell at their book sale, or books of which they have too many. Everyone likes a free book!

The two of us were sworn in by the Election Official and promised to uphold the American and Alaskan constitutions and the Anchorage Municipal Charter. They needed two people as our main task was to monitor and guard the ballot box in the lobby. Always two people kept their eyes on the box to ensure it wasn't tampered with, but election officials were available to give us a break if we needed one.

We sat behind this ballot box and two VOTE HERE signs, one pointing towards the Wilda Marston theatre, and the other towards the Assembly chambers. Both locations were available for people to vote, and both offered the same services. Our task, while never leaving the ballot box alone, was to direct people to either side if they needed help voting for any reason, or to allow them to vote their completed vote-by-mail ballot into the ballot box that we were monitoring.

Vote Centers allowed people to vote in person, for any assistance voting, to replace lost or damaged ballots, if you didn't receive your ballot or if you wanted to vote your vote-by-mail ballot. Vote Centers for this election were located in the Anchorage City Hall, the Eagle River Town Center or the Loussac Library.



LWV of Anchorage Member Involvement in the Municipal Election held on April 5th

Answering Election Calls by Joyce Anderson

Over the course of one month, the League received forty-four calls asking for information about the Muni election. Calls included: didn't receive my ballot, moved since I last registered, how do I vote in person, lost my ballot, wanted a new voter card – she was instructed to call the State, why is there no assembly member race on my ballot, please send me another Ballot Review – either lost it or didn't receive one (3 calls), when do the Vote Centers open, thank you for the Ballot Review I look forward to receiving one every year because the information is so clear, where can I donate to the League, I want to become a member of the League, to name a few. One individual called three times asking for the latest totals on a particular proposition - didn't have internet access. I enjoyed answering these calls. Providing information on elections is very satisfying.

Assisting with a *Ballot Box Bash* to “Get Out The Vote”

by Jasmine Carter

We partnered with several organizations to co-host a Ballot Box Bash on Saturday, March 19th at the Fairview Recreation Center, a “Get Out the Vote” event. The Alaska Center Education Fund hosts this event every election to encourage voters to turn in their ballots. It was great to be back to in-person tabling to get out the vote in Anchorage! We recruited a few new members and talked to folks in the community. Looking forward to more events this summer!

Barbara Derr, Shirley Pittz, Schawna Thoma



Barbara Derr and Jasmine Carter



Thank you League members for assisting with the April 5th Municipal Election.

*We do **Make A Difference** through our education and advocacy.*



LWV of Anchorage Member Involvement in the Municipal Election held on April 5th

Conducting Muni Election Center Tours by Blythe Campbell

League members Joyce Anderson and Blythe Campbell participated in a “train the trainer” tour of the Municipality of Anchorage’s Election Central facility located at Ship Creek. With high public interest in Anchorage’s “Vote at Home” election, Municipal Clerk Barbara Jones called the League to assist in the tour process for observers, candidates and members of the public. Interested persons needed to preregister for a tour.

Joyce and Blythe followed the “yellow brick road,” a taped-off path through the election facility, which allows the public to view every step of the process of verifying ballots and counting votes – while ensuring that unauthorized people cannot access completed ballot envelopes and the ballots themselves. As tour guides, Joyce and Blythe explained each step of the election process. Many questions were answered. Most questions centered on the security of the ballots and assuring that every vote counted. At every step, Anchorage election officials were available to point out the many safeguards that keep Anchorage’s elections fair and secure.

Blythe conducted one tour and was scheduled to conduct another tour but the person did not show up. Joyce conducted two tours. One tour consisted of twelve people.

Municipal election staff had prepared a dialogue to be used by tour guides. Blythe and Joyce, based on their experience, updated the dialogue with additional information and clarification and forwarded the changes to Municipal Clerk Barbara Jones. The new dialogue was welcomed and is currently being used by tour guides.

IN MEMORIUM

Former Senator Arliss Sturgulewski passed away on April 7. Having put herself through the University of Washington she arrived in Anchorage in 1952. She became a single mother of a young son when her husband died in a plane crash. She began her career in public service with the League of Women Voters of which she became a life member. Beginning with the Greater Anchorage Area Planning Commission, she served on the Anchorage Charter Commission which was had been instrumental in the creation of the Municipality of Anchorage from several local governments and served on the Anchorage Assembly. She spent several years in the State Senate and ran unsuccessfully for governor twice. She also served on several boards throughout the state. Services are pending. Quite a record!

Wilda Marston passed away on April 14. She served as Chairman of the Library Advisory Board during the bonding, design and construction of the Loussac Library. She also served as a docent and chair of the Museum Commission and the Anchorage Museum Foundation. She served on numerous municipal, state, university and historical preservation committees. She had previously been a member of the League of Women Voters for many years.

Wilda was inducted into the first class of Alaska's Women's Hall of Fame and was recognized by the University of Alaska Anchorage for her service to the community.

PROPOSED PROGRAM – FY 2022-2023

As recommended by the Board of Directors

ANCHORAGE POSITIONS

Planning and Zoning:

Statement of Position: The LWV of Anchorage supports comprehensive planning and effective implementation of a plan aimed at quality growth and development. Recommendation: Retain.

Community Councils:

Statement of Position: The LWV of Anchorage supports the concept and purpose of Community Councils as a direct and continuing means of citizen participation in government and local affairs.

Recommendation: Retain.

Boards and Commissions:

Statement of Position: The LWV of Anchorage supports broad participation by all segments of the community on Municipal boards and commissions and the periodic review of the effectiveness of all boards and commissions.

Recommendation: Retain.

Election of School Board Members:

Statement of Position: The LWV of Anchorage supports a seven member school board whose members are elected at-large to serve in designated seats.

Recommendation: Retain.

PROGRAM EMPHASIS

- ⇒ Politicizing officials such as Municipal Clerk, Attorney-General
- ⇒ Notification of meeting dates and times
- ⇒ Charter Amendment – Vacancies in the Assembly, Mayor
- ⇒ Election Commission
- ⇒ Youth Vote Support
- ⇒ Ranked Choice Voting
- ⇒ Constitutional Convention – opposed
- ⇒ Civil Discourse

PROPOSED DUES

\$65.00	Individual membership
\$97.50	Household (\$65.00 for the 1 st member, \$32.50 for the 2 nd member at same address)
\$ 0	College Student membership*
\$ 0	Youth ages 16-18 membership* (*Based on current LWVAK and LWVUS policy)

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President:	Shirley Pittz	1 year term exp. 2023
Vice President:	Cari Zawodny	1 year term exp. 2023
Treasurer	Blythe Campbell	2 year term exp. 2024
Director	Schawna Thoma	2 year term exp. 2024
Director	Jasmine Carter	2 year term exp. 2024
Director	Tuan Graziano	1 year term exp. 2023

Nominating Committee for FY 2022-2023

Chair:	Cari Zawodny
Member:	Joan Stassel
3 rd Member:	Appointed by the Board

The following Board members have one year remaining on their terms:

Secretary	Carol Dickason	Term expires 2023
Director:	Beth Nordlund	Term expires 2023
Director:	Keri Clark	Term expires 2023
Director:	Barbara Derr	Term expires 2023

The elected members shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding six, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

	A	B
1	LWV Anchorage FY 2022-2023 Budget Proposal	
2	Approved 4/12/2022 by the Board of Directors	
3		
4	Income	2022/23 Budget
5	Dues	\$ 4,550
6	Contributions: Members & Friends	\$ 530
7	Dividend Earnings/Interest	\$ 10
8	MOA Ballot Review	\$ 58,000
9	Youth Vote Fundraising	\$ 6,000
10	Youth Vote from LWWAK Ed Fund	\$ 4,000
11	Restricted Grants - Youth Vote	\$ 30,000
12	Unrestricted Grants/Fee for Service Revenue	\$ 2,500
13	Other Income	
14	Total Income	\$105,590.00
15		
16	Expenses	2022/23 Budget
17	Board Operating Costs*	\$ 2,500
18	Board & Committee Supplies	\$ 150
19	General Membership Meetings	\$ 500
20	Voter Service	\$ 500
21	MOA Ballot Review	\$ 53,000
22	PMP LWWUS (\$32/\$16 per member)	\$ 2,240
23	PMP LWWAK (\$10/\$5 per member)	\$ 700
24	Youth Vote Coordinator	\$ 30,000
25	Youth Vote Operating Expenses	\$ 2,500
26	Youth Vote Travel	\$ 10,000
27	Conference Travel & Expenses for Two Delegates	\$ 3,500
28	Other Expenses	\$ -
29	Total Expenses	\$105,590.00
30		
31	Total Income	\$105,590.00
32	Total Expenses	\$105,590.00
33	Net Gain or (Loss)	\$0.00
34		
35	*PO box, insurance, telephone, PayPal fees, web hosting, Zoom subscriptions, website updates, etc.	

The Board is recommending the following changes be made to our By-Laws for approval at the Annual Meeting

(New language will be in “red” and “bold” type. Deleted language will be in “red” and “lined out.”)
The complete LWV Anchorage By-Laws can be accessed at: [LWVAnchByLaws](#)

Article IV - Officers.

Section 2. The President. The president shall preside at all meetings of the LWV Anch and of the board of directors. The president may, in the absence or disability of the treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes. The president or **appointed** designee shall sign all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the board. The president shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the nominating committee. The president shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as customarily pertain to the office of the president and perform such other duties as may be designated by the board.

Article IV - Officers.

Section 5. Treasurer. The treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due. The treasurer shall be the custodian of these moneys, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the board of directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the board. The treasurer shall prepare and present statements to the board at their regular meetings. The treasurer shall **annually** prepare ~~and present~~ a fiscal year report **for the period April 1st through March 30th to be presented to** the membership at the annual meeting.

The treasurer shall have charge of the preparation and filing of such financial statements, reports, and returns as may be required by law and shall keep all financial records in chronological order for a ten-year period in order to provide an accurate historical record.

Article IV - Financial Administration.

Section 5. Budget Committee. A budget committee comprised of a board member and a member shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. ~~The proposed budget shall be sent to all members 30 days before the annual meeting.~~ The treasurer shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the committee.

Article VII - Meetings.

Section 1. Membership Meeting. There shall be at least four meetings of the membership each year. Any meeting co-sponsored with other groups may be counted as one of the required meetings. Time and place shall be determined by the board of directors. **Members shall be notified of these meetings in a timely manner.**

Section 2. Annual Meeting. An annual meeting shall be held ~~by~~ **between April 1st and May 15th 20th** of each year, the exact date to be determined by the board of directors.

a. **Meeting Agenda:**

1. Adopt a local program for the ensuing year.
2. Elect officers and directors.
3. **Elect two members of to serve on** the nominating committee.
4. Review the previous fiscal year financial report.
5. Adopt an adequate budget.
6. Review of the annual audit, if applicable.
7. **Review and adoption of proposed amendments to the By-Laws, if applicable.**
8. **Adopt member dues for the current fiscal year.**
9. Transact such other business as may properly come before it.

b. **Notification of Membership**

1. **Members shall be notified at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting of the date, time and manner (i.e., in-person or Zoom) of conducting the annual meeting.**
 2. **All items on the Agenda which must be approved by the members shall be distributed to all members at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting.**
- c. **Quorum**: Ten percent (10%) of the membership, ~~other than~~ **excluding** the board of directors, as reported to the LWVUS in January of each year, shall constitute a quorum for all annual meetings of the LWV Anch.

Article VIII - Nominations and Elections.

Section 1. Nominating Committee. The nominating committee shall consist of three members. One shall be a member of the current board of directors, appointed by the board of directors. The remaining two nominating committee members shall be elected at the annual meeting, one shall serve as chair. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current nominating committee. Any vacancy on the nominating committee shall be filled by the board of directors. Any voting member may suggest nominees, with consent of the nominee, and ~~send them forward the names~~ to the Nominating Committee.

Article IX - Program.

Section 1. Authorization. The governmental principles adopted ~~by the national at the~~ **LWVUS** 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 LWV Anch shall consist of those governmental issues that the membership shall choose for action at the annual meeting, using the following procedures:

- a. **In January of each year, the membership shall be asked to submit recommendations for program ideas/issues to be acted upon in the coming fiscal year. These recommendations must be submitted to the board by January 31st for consideration.**
- b. The board of directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by voting members 60 days prior to the annual meeting. **The board and** shall **then** formulate a proposed program. The proposed program shall be sent to all members 30 days before the annual meeting.
- c. A majority vote of the voting members present at the annual meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the program as proposed by the board of directors.
- d. Any recommendations for the program submitted by voting members to the board of directors at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting, but not recommended by the board of directors, may be considered at the annual meeting provided that a two-thirds (2/3) vote shall be required for consideration and a majority vote shall be required for adoption.
- e. Additions to the program, in the case of altered conditions **(i.e, legislation, current events/situations, etc. that arise after the program has been adopted)**, may be made provided that the information concerning the proposed addition has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the addition is to be discussed. Such addition may be accomplished by a majority vote of the voting members present and voting at the same general membership meeting.