

the VOTER

April 2019
Volume 50, Issue 10

LWV LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
of Greater Las Cruces

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SECTION ONE

A Look Back at Our League's Year

2018/2019 PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Dear LWVGLC Members:

2018 was an historic year for LWVGLC. Besides our usual busy schedule with candidate forums, voter services publications, etc., the 50th Anniversary Committee worked hard to create many activities that brought the League into the spotlight.



Pres. Kim Sorensen

The 50th anniversary and inception of the LWVGLC was celebrated through a number of activities including: two proclamations (one by the City Council and the other by the County Commission) designating 2018 as the Year of the League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces, three issues forums, a roving history panel, an anniversary picnic, a history booklet, and a Tea featuring speakers New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver and US Representative Xochil Torres Small. All of which made 2018 truly a year of celebration.

The Youth Engagement Committee, chaired by Erika Graf-Webster, made lots of progress in advancing Civic Engagement in the LCPS. A team of teachers and YEC members are working together on a Civic Engagement Project that will ultimately be introduced from Kindergarten through High Schools. The October 9, Celebrate Democracy in Dona Ana County Event, co-chaired by Erika and Barb Reynolds was a huge success in getting LCPHS students to the County Government Building for a day of learning, and interacting with local candidates.

This Month's Voter

The month of April is a special time for the League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces. It's a culmination of the year's activities and it's a transition to a new year.

In this month's issue of "the Voter" there is information related to our regular monthly business — **SECTION ONE**. Observer reports will continue in the May issue.

You'll also read the bios of those members who have been nominated to serve on the Board and who will be ratified at the Business Meeting.

In **SECTION TWO**, beginning on page 7, there are items that will be discussed at the League's **Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, April 13 at the Sunset Grill on Golf Club Road**. Please be sure to review the Business Meeting documents in advance of the meeting. **Print the Annual Meeting documents and bring them, along with the Membership Directory, to the meeting.**

—continued on page 3

Summary of Annual Business Meeting Agenda

**LOCATION OF MEETING:
Sunset Grill, 1274 Golf Club Road.**

For those who will be unable to attend the Annual Business Meeting at the Sunset Grill, the summarized agenda for the meeting is listed here, with more detailed information on page 7:

1. Welcome
2. Meeting Administration
3. Changes to the Agenda
4. Approval of the 2018 Annual Mtg. Minutes
5. Report from the President
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Activities & Committee Reports
8. Acknowledgements
9. Annual Business Meeting Action Items
10. Other Annual Meeting Business
11. Adjournment

Bonnie Burn Scholarship Reminder

As a reminder, donations are graciously accepted for the **League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces Education Scholarship** in honor of Bonnie Burn. The scholarship is administered by the Las Cruces Public Schools Foundation, Inc. In order to sustain this scholarship **additional contributions are needed.**

Criteria for this scholarship was established by our League, and includes the following:

- The funds will provide one \$1,000 (non-renewable) scholarship each year;
- The scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior from the Las Cruces district;
- The senior must plan to major in education at NMSU in the College of Education; and
- The award will be given annually during the Fall.

All donations are to be made directly to the LCPS Foundation, Inc. with a designation in the memo line of your check. This designation **must name the Bonnie Burn Scholarship** in order to be credited to that scholarship fund, otherwise the donation will be credited to the general fund of the Foundation.

Send your tax-deductible contribution to:

Betsy A. Geery, Executive Director
Las Cruces Public Schools Foundation
P.O. Box 16214 • Las Cruces, NM 88004

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

April 4: LWVGLC Board Meeting, 10 a.m.-noon,
Branigan Library Board Room
April 13: LWVGLC Annual Meeting, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.,
Sunset Grill, 1274 Golf Club Rd. [\[click here for a map\]](#)

MAY

May 2: LWVGLC Board Meeting, 10 a.m.-noon,
Branigan Library Board Room

BOOK CLUB NOTICE

The League's Book Club will read "The Line Becomes A River: Dispatches from the Border" by Francisco Cantu on Thursday, April 25, 2:00 p.m.

The location will be emailed to everyone.

All members are invited.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER LAS CRUCES BOARD:

Kim Sorenson – President
Cindy Murrell – Vice President, Events & Speakers
Ashley Beyer – Secretary
William Little – Treasurer
Vicki Simons & Dale Yeo – Voter Services
MaryEllen Kebbel & Caprice Benoit – Membership Co-Directors
Erika Graf-Webster – Youth Engagement Director
Jane Asche & Judith LaPointe – Nominating Committee
Bonnie Votaw & Jo Galván Nash – Editors, the Voter

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2018/2019 President's Annual Report (cont. from page 1)

Other Notable LWVGLC events and activities for 2018 include:

- Voter Impediment Study of 18- to 24-Year-old voters
- Ongoing work and advocacy for Affordable Housing in Doña Ana County;
- Ongoing Voter Registration Drives;
- Production and Distribution of the Voter's Guide for 2018 elections in both English and Spanish. Also available on our website;
- Updating of the 2018-2019 Who's Who Directory of elected officials. Also available on our website;
- Successful Legislative Dinner with seven of the 14 Doña Ana County legislators and over 70 attendees;
- Implementation of four Candidates Forums with KRWG-TV and two nights worth of forums for the DAC Municipal and County Elections;
- Implementation of two Special Interest Forums; Education and Access to Affordable Health Care, in collaboration with KRWG-TV;
- Three letters to the editor;
- Participation in numerous Voter Registration Events;
- Participation in the Education Advisory Council;
- Legislative Advocacy by members;
- Participation at League Day by seven members;
- Observer Corp; County Commissioners, City Council, School Board, Public Housing Authority, Public Waste and Recycling.

Speakers at Membership Dinners/lunches:

- Dr. Jim Peach, retired Economics Professor; Alex Luna, CaFé; Scott Krahling, former DAC Clerk; Barbara Calef, Transfer of Public Lands State Study Consensus Meeting; Dick Mason, LWVNM Legislative Advocate State Priorities Meeting; Dr. Bill Spatz, Wolf-Pac, campaign finance reform
- Honors and Awards to members; Dale Yeo, Girl Scouts, Outstanding Women Award; Jane Asche, City Council Citizenship Award; Marjorie Burr, LWVGLC Outstanding Lifetime Member Award
- Membership: 103 members

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as President of this outstanding organization. I appreciate the trust you placed in me to help you to continue carrying out the League's mission. Your dedication to creating a more just world is what attracted me to the League and my admiration for this group has only gotten greater as I have worked with you these past two years. I leave this presidency as your biggest cheerleader and I am looking forward to continuing my involvement in the great things you do.

With Warm Regards,

Kim Sorensen
President LWVGLC

Board Meeting Minutes • March 7, 2019



League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces Board Meeting Thursday, March 7, 2019 Branigan Library 10:00 a.m. To 12:15 p.m.

In Attendance: Kim Sorenson (President), Cindy Murrell (Vice President and Program), Dale Yeo (Minute-taker, Voter Service), William Little (Treasurer), Maryellen Kebbel (Membership), Caprice Benoit (Membership), Vicki Simons (Voter Service), Jane Asche (Nominating Chair), Erika Graf-Webster (Youth Engagement), Bonnie Votaw (The Voter), Tom Hanson (Budget), Ellen Van Wie (100th Anniversary), Sharon Thomas (New Nominating Committee Chair).

Agenda Changes: Addition of Sharon Thomas

January 9, 2019 Minutes: *Approved*

Reports

Treasurer (William Little)

Expenses for the last 10 months were \$7,130.20 for the General Fund and \$3,163.11 for the Education Fund. *Approved.*

Budget (Tom Hanson and William Little)

The 2020 budget was presented and discussed. Converting to a 501(c)3 organization will entail extra costs. Support for the LWVNM Convention in Los Alamos was discussed. *Tom moved and Erika seconded* that we provide \$1,000 for NM Convention expenses in the 2020 budget as well as \$600 for National Convention Registration. *Approved.* Then *the 2020 budget was adopted.*

Voter Services (Dale Yeo and Vicki Simons)

Dale contacted CAFé about translating the Who's Who into Spanish. Johanna Bencomo will respond after receiving a formal e-mail from the League. Two hundred copies were recommended. A current Who's Who in English will be printed soon (500) after Dale formats it into the correct version.

Youth Engagement (Erika Graf-Wester)

LCPS has committed to doing a large October Celebration of Democracy event every year. LCPS will include local government functions in its summer training for teachers. Youth Engagement is hoping to collaborate with other groups. (CAFé and the Empowerment Congress are interested.) It would be good to hold community forums to find out about other youth-related programs, nonprofits and governmental agencies.

100th Anniversary (Eileen Van Wie)

Eileen reported on the Santa Fe meeting about preparations for this important celebration. It was decided to emphasize voting as an inclusive issue, collaboration with other groups and provision by the State League (LWVNM) of markers honoring local "suffragettes" for each area covered by a local League. If we want one we would need to find such a suffragette to honor, provide a place for the marker and take care of it. *Dale moved and Cindy seconded that we request a marker and care for it. Approved.* We also should prepare to request governmental proclamations about our 100th anniversary.

Board Nominees to be Elected at the Annual Meeting

Kathy Brook – Co-President; Term: April 2019 to April 2021

Kathy Brook moved to Las Cruces in 1980 as a faculty member in economics at NMSU and has been the academic associate dean in the College of Business for many years. Her first involvement with the League was as a resource for a local league in Massachusetts which was studying tax issues. After joining the Las Cruces League in 1982, she served as president 1984-87 and 1990-91 and as vice president of the state League. Her policy interests include education and health care.



Eileen Van Wie – Co-President; Term: April 2019 to April 2021

Eileen Kalberg VanWie has been an educator most of her adult life, with 26 years in teacher education. Having a passion for life-long learning for others and herself, she values how the League advocates for major public policy issues and supports women in shared leadership roles. Eileen is studying and writing about the struggles endured in organized activism by suffragists for at least 72 years before women gained the right to vote with the 19th Amendment to the Constitution on August 26, 1920. In the 1970s as a League of Women Voters (LWV) member in Minnesota, she worked to support efforts to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in three more needed states and is glad the National LWV has renewed efforts to get it ratified to become a new amendment. Eileen and her husband Joe are proud of their two strong daughters and their families.



Reed Robert Burn – Treasurer; Term: April 2019 to April 2021

Bob Burn graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1961 and served in conventional and nuclear submarines for ten years. After leaving the Navy, he received a research faculty appointment at the University of Michigan. He retired in 1996 after 22 years, later moved to Florida with his wife, Bonnie, for eight years, and moved to Las Cruces in 2006. His education includes a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the Naval Academy, MS in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Michigan, and an MS in Electrical Engineering and PhD in Naval Architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Bob's membership and engagement in the League carries on the tradition of commitment of his deceased wife Bonnie Burn who served as President of LWVGLC from 2009 to 2013.



Sharon Thomas–Nominating Committee Chair; Term: April 2019 to April 2020

Sharon Thomas is a retired professor from Michigan State University. She started coming to Las Cruces in the early 1990s when her son was studying Anthropology at NMSU. Later, her daughter joined her son and they opened Red Mountain Café. In 2003, Sharon and her husband, Dick, retired full time to Las Cruces. In 2007, she was elected to the Las Cruces City Council, where she later served as Mayor Pro Tem. Since leaving the council, she has continued to work on various projects including the Doña Ana County comprehensive plan and the South Central Regional Transit District. She is currently chair of the Las Cruces Planning and Zoning Commission and chair of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee for the Las Cruces comprehensive plan project Elevate Las Cruces.



Board Nominees (continued from p.5)

Judith La Pointe – Elected Member of Nominating Committee; Term: April 2019 to April 2020

Judith La Pointe has lived in Las Cruces since 1968 when she first joined the LWVGLC. She worked for the NM Department of Labor from 1982-1999 as a Deputy Labor Commissioner for the southwestern part of NM where she represented employees with claims for wages, unemployment claims, child labor issues, workers' compensation, etc. After her retirement, Judith volunteered for the next 15 years at Southern NM Legal Aid, helping their clients with a variety of issues. She enjoyed working with Jane Asche and Maryellen Kebbel on the Nominating Committee this year and would like to do it again in the 2019-2020 program year.



Treasurer's Report

Provided by William Little, Treasurer

2 March 2019

For 7 March 2019 Board Meeting

Activity since last Board Meeting

Expenses:

Consumer Cellular:	\$ 19.38	[League cell phone]
50 th Anniversary tea	\$ 66.98	[net for Feb 23 tea]
History Booklet	\$479.12	
P.O. Box rental fee	<u>\$102.00</u>	
TOTAL:	\$667.48	

Income:

No activity

28 February 2019 Checkbook Balance: \$5,377.72

[Including \$65 membership payment for the coming year.]

Education Fund

No activity

DISCUSSION

Budget committee will be presenting a draft 2019-2020 budget for Board approval.

At the last luncheon, someone gave me a 1-peso piece, thinking it was a quarter. That person might want to rethink that transaction.

There is \$188.43 in the League PayPal account, representing three membership payments for the coming year.

SECTION TWO

LWVGLC 2019 Annual Business Meeting

Saturday April 13, 2019
9:00 a.m. — Breakfast Meeting
Sunset Grill, 1274 Golf Club Road

AGENDA

- A. Welcome Kim Sorensen
- B. Meeting Administration Kim Sorensen
 - 1. Appoint Minute-Takers and Readers (2 each)
 - 2. Appoint Parliamentarian
 - 3. Adopt Business Rules
- C. Changes to the Agenda Membership
- D. Approval of the 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes [p. 8-12] Membership
- E. Report from the President [p. 1] Kim Sorensen
- F. Treasurer's 2018/2019 Report William Little
- G. 2018/2019 Activity and Committee Reports Membership
 - 1. Youth Engagement Committee Erika Graf-Webster
 - 2. Voter Services Dale Yeo and Vicki Simons
 - 3. Affordable Housing Committee [p. 13] Chris Little
 - 4. Observer Corps [p. 14] Susan Schmugge
- H. Acknowledgements Kim Sorensen
- I. Annual Meeting Business:
 - 1. Adoption of the Nonpartisan Policy [p. 20 Membership Directory)..... Kim Sorensen
 - 2. Approval of Annual Membership Dues William Little
 - 3. Adoption of the 2019-2020 Operating Budget [p. 15-16] Tom Hanson
 - 4. Adoption of the League Name Change [p. 17] Kim Sorensen
 - 5. Adoption of Changing Legal Status to 501c3 [p. 17-18] Kim Sorensen
 - 6. Adoption of the Bylaws [p. 19-23] Kim Sorensen
 - 7. Adoption of the Revision to the Election Procedures Position Cindy Murrell
 - 8. Adoption of the Revision of the County Government Position Erika Graf-Webster
 - 9. Adoption of Current Statement of Positions [p. 30 Membership Directory] Kim Sorensen
 - 10. Adoption of Recommended Program for Study and Action [p. 24] Kim Sorensen
 - 11. LWVNM Convention Delegates Kim Sorensen
 - 12. Report of Nominating Committee and Election [p. 25-26] Jane Asche
- J. Other Annual Meeting Business
 - 1. Announcements
- K. Adjournment

Approval of the 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER LAS CRUCES 2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2018, 9:00 am – 11:25 am
Good Samaritan Social Center, Creative Arts Room

Welcome and Introduction: The meeting began with a buffet breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and President Kim Sorensen welcomed attendees at 9:25 a.m. and asked each person to briefly share their name and why they were attracted to joining the League. She then called the official annual business meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

MEETING ADMINISTRATION

- **Appoint Minute Takers and Readers:** Jane Asche and Christine Sorg were appointed to be the note takers for the meeting and Erika Graf-Webster and Johnnie Aldrich were appointed to be the final readers for accuracy of the minutes.
- **Appoint Parliamentarian:** Christina Little was appointed to serve as Parliamentarian and Dale Yeo as the time keeper and prompter to keep the business moving forward expeditiously.
- **Adopt Business Rules:** A **motion** was made by Johnnie Aldrich and seconded by Sue Lashley to adopt the published Business Meeting Rules as printed on page 2-3 of the April 2018 VOTER. Motion passed unanimously.

Changes to the Agenda: No changes were requested.

Approval of the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes: A **motion** was made by Susan Schmutge and was seconded by Vicki Simons to accept the minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer William Little provided a spreadsheet of all expenses to date for the 2017-2018 fiscal year which ends on April 30, 2018. He reported that expenses for this year so far come to a total of \$5,818.52 for general operating and that the current bank balance is \$6,852.14. He also reported that the balance in the Education Fund stands at \$3,536.08, which is an entirely separate account from the general fund that comes from the local organization but flows through the National LWVUS 501c3 incorporated branch of the organization. [See attached Treasurer's Report in Appendix A]

Report from the President: President Sorensen summarized the amazing results of this year's work by so many generous volunteer hours from the members and included the following items:

- Voter Impediment Study of 18-24-year-old voters,
- Major Civic Engagement Project with the Las Cruces Public Schools that is projected over the long term to affect curriculum and civic engagement among students in all grades K to 12th,
- Ongoing work and advocacy for Affordable Housing in Doña Ana County,
- Ongoing Voter Registration Drives,
- Production and Distribution of the Voter's Guide for 2017 elections,
- Updating of the 2017-2018 Who's Who Directory of elected officials which is now available electronically on the LWVGLC website,

2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (cont.)

- Very successful Legislative Dinner with 7 of the 14 Doña Ana County legislators,
- Implementation of three successful 2017 Candidate Forums in partnership with KRWG,
- Implementation of a Bond Issue Forum for the Las Cruces Public Schools,
- Implementation of a Candidates Forum for the Town of Mesilla,
- Development of a major 50th Anniversary Celebration plan for the League that by the time the year is over will include: 1) four major issues forums open to the public, 2) a Reunion Picnic and planting of a tree in Pioneer Women's Park, 3) a LWVGLC display at the Branigan Cultural Center, and 4) a Gala Banquet in February of 2019.

Acknowledgements: President Sorensen passed out certificates of appreciation and paid tribute to the many people who had taken on an especially enormous work load to make all these accomplishments elaborated above happen. Listed below are those members who received certificates:

- Susan Schmutge and Mary Ellen Knapp for their work with the Observer Corp,
- Bonnie Votaw for her work as publisher of the Voter,
- Erika Graf-Webster for her work as chair of the Youth Engagement Committee and the 18- to 24-Year-Old Voter Study,
- Marjorie Burr for heading up the 50th Anniversary Committee,
- Dale Yeo for the preparation of the Voter's Guide, the Who's Who Directory of Elected Officials and her work as Web-Master
- William Little for volunteering to redo the Membership Directory,
- Gwen Hanson for her six years of dedication on the board and mentorship role.

Kim finished by expressing her great gratitude to all the board members this year whose wisdom she turned to in making all important decisions jointly as a team, including past president, Gwen Hanson, who has served as her mentor in taking on the role as president.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING:

- **Adoption of the Nonpartisan Policy:** A motion was made by Gwen Hanson and seconded by Sue Lashley to adopt the Nonpartisan Policy (on page 20 of the Membership Directory) for the 2018-2019 program year. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of Annual Membership Dues:** Erika Graf-Webster, Chair of the Budget Committee, who has been working with William Little on budget preparation, made a compelling case for raising membership dues to \$65. The dues have been at \$60 dollars since the time when the National League of Women Voters' part of that assessment was \$23. The National dues assessment per member has now climbed to \$32 and the LVWNM state dues assessment per member is \$13. This means that only \$15 remains with the local League for financing all the work we do as an organization.

William Little explained that those members who have already paid the 2018 dues will not be charged the extra \$5 retroactively if the proposed change passes. However, others commented that if these people would like to make an extra donation to the League it would be greatly appreciated.

A motion was made by Sue Cain and seconded by Cindy Murrell to raise the annual membership dues of LWVGLC to \$65. Motion passed unanimously.

2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (cont.)

- **Adoption of 2018-2019 Operations Budget:** Erika Graf-Webster presented the proposed operations budget for fiscal year 2018-2019, including the budget proposed for the Education Fund as well. She explained that the proposed general operations budget is a little more ambitious (\$8,666) this year because there is a lot of ambitious program work being done. It is projected to be slightly less than \$3,000 more than was spent during FY 2017-2018, keeping in mind that the current bank balance is at \$6,852.14 near the beginning of new fiscal year. Still, there will be a need for some special fundraising activities to provide for this level of expenses.

A Motion was made by Dale Yeo and seconded by Erika Graf-Webster to adopt the proposed operations budget for FY 2018-19 as submitted. [*See attached Proposed Budget in Appendix B.*] Motion passed unanimously.

- **Adoption of Current Statement of Positions:** President Sorensen explained that there had been no work during the year on revising any of the current position statements although at the 2018 Annual Program Planning Meeting in February recommendations were made to revise two positions in the upcoming program year: 1) the County Government Position and 2) the Election Procedures Position. These would then be voted on at the 2019 Annual Business Meeting.

A Motion was made by Gwen Hanson and seconded by Johnnie Aldrich to approve adoption of the current statement of positions (on pages 27 to 34 of the 2017-2018 Membership Directory) for the upcoming program year.

- **Adoption of Recommended Program for Study and Action:** Since the recommended program for study and action was voted on at the Annual Planning Meeting in February, 2018, President Sorensen explained that the membership did not need to vote to approve this work at today's annual meeting. This was on the agenda for the purpose of providing any needed clarification on the program plan by members who might have questions.
- **Report of Nominating Committee and Election:** The proposed slate of new officers was presented by Nominating Committee Chair, Jane Asche, as follows:
 - Cindy Murrell, Vice-President 2018-2020
 - Ashley Beyer, Secretary 2018-2020
 - Maryellen Kebbel and Caprice Benoit, Co-Membership Directors 2018-2020
 - Dale Yeo and Vicki Simons, Co-Voter Services Directors 2018-2020
 - Jane Asche, Chair of Nominating Committee 2018-2019
 - Judith La Pointe, Elected Member of the Nominating Committee 2018-2019

The President then called for nominations from the floor. As there were no nominations, she asked for a motion to approve the slate in its entirety.

A motion was made by Johnnie Aldrich and seconded by Christine Sorg to accept the entire slate of officers as submitted by the Nominating Committee. Motion was approved unanimously.

OTHER ANNUAL MEETING BUSINESS

- **LWVNM Council Delegates:** This year the LWVNM will hold its State Council Meeting on May 19th since Conventions are held only in odd years and Council Meetings in the even years. LWVGLC has two votes on the Council. The delegates appointed by the board this year are Gwen Hanson and Kim Sorensen.

2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (cont.)

- **LWVUS Convention Delegates:** The National Convention will take place in Chicago this year from June 28 to July 1. LWVGLC has two voting delegates and the Board has appointed Gwen Hanson and Dale Yeo to attend as our voting delegates. President Sorensen noted that the \$3,000 in the budget for the National Convention of LWVUS is to pay the travel and lodging of our delegates who cover all other expenses on their own.
- **Direction to the Board from Members:** The following directions were given to the Board of Directors by the Members:

1. Vicki Simons asked the Board to develop a plan to keep our local League members better informed on the legislative action items that the LWVNM Action Committee tracks in order for the League registered lobbyists to do advocacy work with the legislators during the legislative session. She points out that in this way we will all know when to do advocacy with our own local senators and representatives on issues for which the League has an official position.

Action: Vicki agreed to work with Kim Sorensen on this plan and Kim will contact Dick Mason to see how interested members can sign up for the Yahoo Group to receive the information on conference calls and action alerts put out by the LWVNM Action Committee.

2. Erika Graf-Webster asked that official action be taken by the Board to waive the membership fee for students to join the LWVGLC such as has been done by LWVUS.
3. William Little asked that the Board come up with a “serious plan” to do fundraising soon. He cautioned that the Education Fund is in danger of being exhausted.
4. Someone asked that there be a check-in with Bonnie Votaw and Dale Yeo who are looking into grant funds available for some of the League work and especially the work of the Education Fund that provides the revenue to pay for the Voter’s Guide.
5. Marjorie Burr asked that the delegates to the National Convention ask the National LWVUS not to raise the dues assessment on local members again anytime in the near future. She stated that the LWVUS raises money to fund its operation by having the local members send money up to the top (national level) unlike many organizations like Common Cause who raise membership money at the top and send a portion of it down to the state and local organizations.
6. Erika asked that the Board be sure to establish an ad hoc committee to review and revise the LWVGLC positions on County Government and Election Procedures, an item in the 2018 Annual Program Plan of Work from the February 2018 Annual Program Planning session.

Action: Erika volunteered to work on this committee.

- **Announcements:** A number of announcements were made during the meeting which have been incorporated in the list of announcements below that were made at the end of this meeting:
 1. League Book Club meets every 4th Tuesday of the month and has great discussions. The monthly Voter Newsletter always lists the time, place, and the book being discussed. The Book for the May Meeting is “How Democracies Die.”

2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (cont.)

2. Board Meetings are held every month on the 1st Thursday and they are open to anyone who wants to attend.
3. 50th Anniversary Picnic will be Saturday, May 5 at Pioneer Women's Park. Box lunches will be served for \$20. This pays for the lunch and the rented chairs. Be sure to RSVP and bring friends and family for the tree planting in the park and the celebration.
4. 50th Anniversary LWVGLC Display at the Branigan Cultural Center in July.
5. 50th Anniversary Forum on Mental Health to be held July 18th at Branigan Cultural Center.
6. 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner & Fundraiser to be held in February of 2019 to celebrate the date when the LWVGLC received its official charter.
7. 50th Anniversary Movie Viewing sometime in the summer that will be focused on local politics.
8. 50th Anniversary Forum on Early Childhood Education and the Community School Movement in the early fall at Lynn Middle School.
9. New Member Orientation Sessions will be held 7:00 to 8:30 pm, May 17th at Gwen Hanson's house and 11:30 to 1:00 pm, May 31st at the home of Kim Sorensen.
10. DAC Elections Advisory Council Meetings are held at 4:00 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month and are open to the public to attend.
11. DAC Elections Advisory Council has started a Youth Elections Advisory Council at NMSU and the LWVGLC is a part of it.
12. New NMSU Intern will start working with the LWVGLC on May 23rd.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Dale Yeo to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 am. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Asche	Meeting Recorder
Christine Sorg	Meeting Recorder
Erika Graf-Webster	Reader
Johnnie Aldrich	Reader

Affordable Housing Committee

Annual Meeting – April 2019

The Affordable Housing Committee has slowed down, but the City of Las Cruces had made progress this past year in addressing affordable housing issues.

As reported in the March Voter, the City Council has promised significant financial support for two tax credit proposals. In addition, the City Council has created an Affordable Housing Strategic Planning Committee (chaired by Councilor Kasandra Gandara), and is planning an affordable housing development next to Sierra Middle School. A citizen's committee has been appointed to assist the City in making policy and recommendations for both the Trust Fund and Land Bank.

The Affordable Housing Committee (Jane Carter, Christina Little, Vicki Simons, Christie Sorg) could use new members and energy. Contact Chris (christina.s.little@gmail.com or 373-1882 if you are interested.

Report of Observer Corps

PLANNING REPORT

Feb. 11, 2019

Summary: We have one new observer and lost one observer. Jo Galván Nash has taken on the Doña Ana County Commission meetings while Mary Ellen Knapp gave up the Las Cruces City Council meetings.

Goal: To recruit more observers.

Discussion:

The League has done an admirable job of getting out the vote and using community liaisons to help achieve our goals there. However, the League could also look at the job of how the elected are doing their jobs on local commissions and boards through observing board and commission meetings. We could also help recruit new candidates for offices locally by our own observing and understandings of the working of each board, committee, and/or council. We can achieve this higher goal through observation.

Specifics: We need observers at the School Board and City Council meetings. When an observer cannot attend a meeting, we need a roster of people willing to attend in the observer's place.

Susan Schmugge

Co-chair

2019/2020 Operating Budget

Shown here is the Board-proposed budget for the coming League fiscal year. Highlights are:

1. The budget is based on a stable membership.
2. Planned expenditures presuppose a certain amount of fundraising to avoid further depletion of the carryover funds.
3. Funding is provided to support conversion to a 501(c)(3) status (Discussed separately).
4. The planned Education Fund budget is presented for information, only. It contains funding for a Voters' Guide for the November 2019 (fall) combined election.

Budget Committee: Tom Hanson, chair; Leslie Bezner; and Cindy Murrell

Proposed FY 19-20 General Fund				SUBMITTED TO ANNUAL MEETING	
as of 11 Feb	FY 18-19 Budget	Est. FY19	Proposed FY20	Assumptions	
Carryover Operating Funds	\$ 5,600.00			\$ 4,650.00	
Income					
Member Dues	\$ 5,135.00	\$ -	\$ 6,077.50	85 + 17 @ \$65	
Voter Subscription	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Contributions Op Fund					
Members	\$ 1,250.00	\$ -			
Community	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
NEEDED Fund Raising	\$ 2,281.00	\$ -	\$ 1,567.00		
Meeting Meals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Total Income	\$ 8,666.00	\$ -	\$ 7,644.50		
Expenses					
Per Member Dues Payment				for 85 members, 17 additional	
LWVUS	\$ 2,176.00	\$ 2,176.00	\$ 2,992.00	@ \$32	
LWVNM	\$ 884.00	\$ 884.00	\$ 1,215.50	@ \$13	
Membership		\$ -			
Renewal support			\$ 82.00		
Misc membership printing & mtl's			\$ 48.00		
New Member Brochure	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -		
LWV Pins	\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ -		
Membership Directory Printing	\$ 200.00	\$ 243.69	\$ 250.00		
Membership Directory Postage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125.00		
Meeting & Conventions					
LWVUS Convention	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,767.00	\$ 600.00	2020 Registration (2)	
LWVUS Council	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
LWVNM Council	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -		
LWVNM Convention	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	2019 expenses	
Legislative Day Materials/Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Local Annual Meeting Printing	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		
Legislative Breakfast Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Meeting Meal Charges	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00		
Study Group Expenses					
Materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Youth Engagement	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00		
Board Expenses		\$ -			
Telephone	\$ 280.00	\$ 312.38	\$ 240.00		
P.O. Box	\$ 86.00	\$ 102.00	\$ 102.00		
Office Supplies(Include Postage)	\$ -	\$ 49.00	\$ -		
New bank checks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30.00		
Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
PayPal Expense	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ -		
50th Anniversary Celebration	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,051.77	\$ -		
Bond/Liability Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
501(c)(3) Conversion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00		
Web Site Domain		\$ -			
Web Site Annual Fee	\$ 110.00	\$ 102.36	\$ 110.00		
Misc Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Member Service Support					
Voter Printing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Voter Postage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Total Expenses	\$8,666.00	\$ 8,538.20	\$7,644.50	\$ -	remainder

Education Fund				
Voter Service Support(Ed Fund)	\$ 1,800.00		\$ 2,688.00	Starting Balance
Voter's Guide	\$ 900.00	\$ 2,951.90	\$ 3,000.00	
Voter Brochures & Voter Cards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Candidates Forum	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Who' Who	\$ 900.00	\$ 211.21	\$ 500.00	
50th Anniversary Celebration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Public Issues Forum	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Retained for Voter Services	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Ed Fund Expenses	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,163.11	\$ 3,500.00	
NEEDED Fund Raising			\$ 812.00	

I-4

Rationale for Name Change

Rationale for Changing the Name to “League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico”

The Board of Directors is recommending the LWVGLC change its name to the League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico (LWVSNM) in order to expand the League’s outreach. We are seeing a growing number of people in communities such as Ruidoso, Alamogordo, Deming and Silver City who have approached us interested in becoming members and providing the kinds of voter information, education, and advocacy to their own communities that LWVGLC provides. Our hope is to start by mentoring new members in the surrounding communities so they can develop Voter Guides and offer Candidate Forums in their own communities.

I-5

Rationale for Changing Legal Status

Rationale for Changing to 501c3 Status

All the New Mexico Leagues have changed to 501c3 status except us. The Board’s primary reason for wanting to change status is that it will help in our fundraising efforts. Many grants we have found are only available to 501c3 organizations. All donations including dues would be tax deductible under the 501c3 status. Tom Carson, LWVUS Consultant, has been working with us in this process. Below is a document created by LWVUS of FAQs.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS **§501(c)(3) OR (c)(4): WHICH TO BE, OR BOTH?**

Frequently Asked Questions

What does it mean that a League is “tax exempt”?

Being “tax exempt” under either §501(c)(4) or (c)(3) (and the applicable state tax provisions) means that a League organization is exempt from federal and state income taxes. However, they typically are still subject to other kinds of taxes, such as payroll taxes, personal property taxes, sales or use taxes, etc., unless the applicable taxing jurisdictions provide an exemption.

What is the traditional League’s tax exempt status?

Historically, Leagues have qualified as tax exempt under §501(c)(4) as a “social welfare” organization. Over the years, LWVUS, most state Leagues and larger local Leagues have formed a “sister” Education Fund entity which is qualified as tax exempt under §501(c)(3).

What are the basic tax differences between §501(c)(3) and (c)(4)?

There are only a few significant differences between the two subsections, not all of which have relevance for Leagues considering a change in tax status:

1. A §501(c)(4) organization can support or oppose candidates for elected office and political parties, while a §501(c)(3) organization cannot. However, this difference is irrelevant for League organizations, as our own internal LWV rules prohibit this kind of political activity.
2. There is no limit on the lobbying activities of a §501(c)(4) organization, whereas a §501(c)(3) organization’s lobbying activities cannot constitute a “substantial part” of its overall activities. As further discussed below, the latter limitation should not impact in any way the operations of a typical League which converts to §501(c)(3) status.
3. Contributions and member dues are deductible for donors and members of a §501(c)(3)

organization, provided that the contributor/member does not receive anything of value in return and the contribution or dues are not specifically designated for use by the recipient for lobbying expenditures. Neither contributions nor dues are deductible for donors and members of a §501(c)(4) organization.

In summary, conversion to §501(c)(3) status provides a significant tax benefit for donors and members without imposing any practical restrictions or limitations on a League's typical operations.

What benefits can result from conversion to §501(c)(3)?

Clearly the most certain long-term benefit is that donors and members who itemize deductions for tax purposes will achieve a tax benefit from donations and member dues. This can include in-kind contribution such as occurs when members attend the LWVUS or state League conventions or councils and absorb some or all of the cost of attendance

June 2016 Making Democracy Work for All

It is also certain that if a League is a dual-entity organization, conversion into a single §501(c)(3) organization will materially reduce administrative work and expenses. If a League is currently a single organization, it will have reduced administrative work from not having to maintain an Ed Fund account at its state League or LWVUS.

It is expected that donations in general should increase, although this may be difficult to measure because of all of the things which can impact donation levels. Also, League advocacy efforts might be more easily supportable by tax deductible donations or possibly grant funding.

What might be the impact of a conversion on a League's advocacy activities?

With respect to a League's general advocacy activities, where there is no reference to specific legislation or ballot measure and thus no "lobbying," there is no limitation at all under §501(c)(3). "Lobbying" for tax purposes is closer to the League concept of "action" rather than "advocacy." Activities are classified as lobbying if they are related to acts, bills, resolutions, or similar items (a) at the federal, state or local legislative level, or (b) in ballot measures, e.g., a referendum, initiative, constitutional amendment, etc. They must involve communication with a member or employee of a legislative body, or with any other government official or employee who may participate in the formulation of the legislation. It also includes "grass roots" lobbying, or communication with members of the organization or members of the public to urge them to contact their legislator, etc., or to vote for or against a ballot proposition, etc. With respect to ballot measures, communications to voters would qualify as lobbying.

A §501(c)(3) League organization really should elect under §501(h) to measure its lobbying by dollars spent rather than time spent. In the state or local League context, "action" or lobbying normally involves members' time rather than much staff time, and little or no out of pocket expenditures. So with the §501(h) election in place, Leagues will almost never realize any restrictions on their activities in the broad field of advocacy/lobbying.

Are there possible disadvantages or costs to a League converting to being tax exempt under §501(c)(3)?

There is an intangible "cost" of achieving this change due to (a) the time necessary to make the required analysis and planning, and then (b) to actually implement the conversion, but all of this time should be easily manageable with the resources available from LWVUS. If a League has to apply to the IRS as part of the conversion process, there is a \$400 application fee.

It is possible that annually a League will have a few additional tax forms to be filed, but overall the incremental work is very minimal.

Does LWVUS recommend that Leagues convert to §501(c)(3)?

LWVUS does not "recommend" that a League pursue this conversion because it has concern that a League could have very specific individual factors which might make such a conversion impractical. However, LWVUS is providing substantial support to all Leagues wishing to consider this change through the services of LWVUS consultants Tom Carson (tpcarson@outlook.com) and Toni Larson (tonilarson@gmail.com), and **highly recommends** that all leagues consult with them in their planning and before making a final decision.

Explanation of Bylaw Changes

Explanation of Bylaw Changes

Changes are underlined. Please refer to the 2018-2019 Membership Directory for comparison.

Article 1. Language about the name change. See the rationale on page 16.

Article 2. Explanation of 501(C)(3). Language as required by law. See rationale for change in status on page 16. Note that we are applying for 501c3 status, so we are putting it in the Bylaws before the actual approval. The reason is that the IRS will not consider an application to convert to 501(c)(3) unless the applicant has already amended its “organizing documents” (articles of incorporation and/or bylaws) to include the language set forth by the IRS for such organizations—they will not grant conditional approval subject to a later amendment.

The language in question does not change the legal status of the League, as the League cannot by itself realize a 501(c)(3) status—only the IRS can do that. It only says that is organized and operated in a way which is consistent with the standards set forth in 501(c)(3), including that section’s limitations. And the fact of the matter is that essentially any League in existence meets that standard even all those still qualified under 501(c)(4). That is confirmed by the fact that over 100 Leagues have converted from 501(c)(4) to 501(c)(3) without making any changes in the way they operate.

Article IV Section 1 and Article V Section 1. The board felt that this section needed more clarification.

Article V Sections 6 and 7. Added descriptions of the duties of the elected directors.

Article VI Section V. Dissolution Clause as required by law.

Article VII Section 3. Change in quorum recommended by Tom Larson, LWVUS consultant, to ensure the membership is appropriately represented.

BYLAWS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO (Adopted April 13, 2019)

MISSION

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

ARTICLE I Name

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as “LWVSNM.” This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States (hereinafter referred to as “LWVUS”) and the League of Women Voters of New Mexico (hereinafter referred to as “LWVNM”).

ARTICLE II

Purpose and Policy

Section 1. Purpose. LWVSNM 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. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, LWVSNM 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 LWVSNM shall be attempting to influence legislation.

The purposes of LWVSNM are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. Policy. LWVSNM is a nonpartisan political organization which may take action on local governmental measures and policies in the public interest in conformity with the principles of LWVUS. It shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Sec. 2. Types of Membership.

A. Voting Members. Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local Leagues, state Leagues and of the LWVUS.

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

C. Those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be honorary life members excused from payment of dues.

ARTICLE IV

Board of Directors

Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office. The Board of Directors shall consist of officers and directors who are elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting for a two-year term and directors who are appointed by the board for a one-year term. Board Members elected for a two-year term include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Membership, and Director of Voter Services. The President, Treasurer, and Director of Membership shall be elected in odd numbered years. The Vice President, Secretary, and Voter Services Director will be elected in even numbered years. No more than four Directors will be appointed by the board (as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League). Appointed Directors shall serve for a one-year term expiring at the conclusion of the next LWVSNM Annual Meeting. In addition, in odd-numbered years when a new President is elected, the retiring President will sit on the Board as a member-at-large for a one-year term.

Section 2. Qualifications. Only a voting member of LWVSNM shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization.

Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of resignation, death, or disqualification of any officer or any elected member may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Three consecutive absences from a Board meeting without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation.

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 LWVUS Convention, the LWVNM Convention, and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary. In the absence of a President and Vice President, the Board of Directors shall conduct all business of the organization. In such cases, there shall be a minimum of six

Directors.

Section 5. Meetings. There shall be at least eight regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of four members of the Board.

Section 6. Quorum. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V

Officers and Elected Directors

Section 1. Enumeration and Election. The officers of LWVSNM shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The elected Directors shall be a Director of Membership and a Director of Voter Services. Officers and Elected Directors can be held by more than one person concurrently; are elected by the general membership at an Annual Meeting; and take office immediately.

Section 2. The President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization 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 shall (a) be, ex-officio, a member of all committees except the Nomination Committee; (b) have such usual powers of supervision and management as shall pertain to the office of the President; and (c) perform such other duties as the President and the Board may designate.

Section 3. The Vice-President. The Vice-President shall, in the event of absence, resignation, disability, or death of the president, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office until such time as the Board of Directors shall select one of its members to fill the vacancy. The Vice-President shall perform such other duties as the President and the Board may designate.

Section 4. The Secretary. The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings of the League and of all meetings of the Board of Directors; shall notify all Officers and Directors of their election; shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments, when so authorized by the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 5. The Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the Board. The Treasurer shall present statements to the Board at their regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting. The records of the treasurer shall be reviewed annually at the end of the fiscal year.

Section 6. The Membership Director. The Membership Director shall maintain all records and publications related to membership including processing new members, publishing and disbursing an annual membership directory, and updating the LWVUS data base. In addition, the Membership Director will be responsible for New Member Orientations.

Section 7. The Director of Voter Services. The Director of Voter Services shall be responsible for organizing Voter Registration events, Candidate Forums, and publishing all voter information materials including the Voter Guides and Who's Who.

Section 6. Alternate Governing Structure. When a President is not selected and the Vice President is unable to assume the duties of President, the Board shall govern the organization as a committee.

ARTICLE VI

Financial Administration

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of LWVSNM shall commence on the first day of May each year.

Section 2. Dues. Dues, as recommended by the Budget Committee and approved by the Board of Directors and by the general membership at the Annual Meeting, shall be payable annually from the first day of May. Dues for new members joining after November 1 will be assessed at half the annual amount.

Section 3. Budget. The budget shall be for the fiscal year and shall include support for the total program of the League. The proposed budget as approved by the Board of Directors shall be sent to all members two weeks

before the Annual Meeting and shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting for adoption.

Section 4. Budget Committee. A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting. The Budget Committee shall prepare a budget for the ensuing year and submit it for review and approval by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as chairperson of the Budget Committee.

Section 5. Dissolution Clause. In the event of the merger or dissolution of the League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico for any reason, all money and securities or other property of whatsoever nature which at the time be owned or under the absolute control of LWVSNM shall be distributed at the discretion of the Board, or such other persons as shall be charged by law with the liquidation or winding up of LWVSNM and its affairs, to any member organization of the League of Women Voters national organization which 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.

ARTICLE VII

Meetings

Section 1. Membership Meetings. There shall be at least three meetings of the membership each year. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section. 2. Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting shall be held between April 1 and April 25, 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, directors, and two members of the Nominating Committee;
- c. Adopt an adequate budget, and
- d. Transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. Quorum. Ten percent of the voting members as of January 31 of the current year shall represent a quorum at all meetings of the LWVSNM.

ARTICLE VIII

Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members, one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The Chairperson and one member, who shall not be members of the Board, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

Nominations for these offices shall be made by the Nominating Committee. The other member shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Suggestions for nominations for officers and directors may be sent to this Committee by any voting member.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor. The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for officers, directors and the members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members two weeks before the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to 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 have been secured.

Section 3. Elections. The election shall be by ballot, provided that when there is but one nominee for each office, the Secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot for every nominee. A majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE IX

Program

Section 1. Authorization. The governmental principles adopted by 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 LWVSNM shall consist of: action to implement their principles and such national, state, and local governmental issues as the membership shall choose for concerted study and action.

Section 3. Action on Program by the Annual Meeting.

- a. The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations of 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 two weeks before the Annual Meeting.
- c. A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.
- d. Recommendations for Program submitted by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by the Annual Meeting provided that:
 1. The Annual Meeting shall order consideration by majority vote, and
 2. The Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.
- e. Changes in the adopted Program may be made provided that:
 1. Information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed, and
 2. Final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Section 4. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when they have been authorized to do so by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X

National Convention, State Convention and Council

Section 1. National Convention. The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the national office, shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted to LWVSNM under the provisions of the Bylaws of LWVUS.

Section 2. State Convention. The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office, shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted to LWVSNM under the provisions of the Bylaws of LWVNM.

Section 3. State Council. The Board of Directors shall select delegates to that council in the number allotted to LWVSNM under the provisions of the Bylaws of LWVNM.

ARTICLE XI

Amendments

Section 1. Amendments. Proposed amendments to these bylaws shall be submitted to the membership in writing at least two weeks in advance of the Annual Meeting. Amendments shall be effective immediately upon receipt of affirmative votes from two-thirds of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting.

Recommended Study for Program and Action for 2019/2020

The following recommendations for 2019-2020 were proposed by the membership at the Feb. 12, 2019 Program Planning Meeting:

1. No additional studies recommended for LWVNM
2. No additional studies recommended for LWVGLC
3. Completion of Voter Impediments Study
4. Recommend LWVGLC revive the Immigration Committee
5. Recommend begin research of functions of County Government starting with Mental Health

Report of Nominating Committee and Election

2018-2019 Nominating Committee Report

Presented to LWVGLC Board of Directors

March 7, 2019

Proposed Slate of Candidates		
Office	Candidate	Term of Office
Co-President	Kathy Brook	April 2019 to April 2021
Co-President	Eileen Van Wie	April 2019 to April 2021
Treasurer	Bob Burn	April 2019 to April 2021
Chair of Nominating Committee	Sharon Thomas	April 2019 to April 2020
Elected Member of Nominating Committee	Judith La Pointe	April 2019 to April 2020

Bio for Candidates

Kathy Brook – Co-President; Term: April 2019 to April 2021

Kathy Brook moved to Las Cruces in 1980 as a faculty member in economics at NMSU and has been the academic associate dean in the College of Business for many years. Her first involvement with the League was as a resource for a local league in Massachusetts which was studying tax issues. After joining the Las Cruces League in 1982, she served as president 1984-87 and 1990-91 and as vice president of the state League. Her policy interests include education and health care.

Eileen Van Wie – Co-President; Term: April 2019 to April 2021

Eileen Kalberg VanWie has been an educator most of her adult life, with 26 years in teacher education. Having a passion for life-long learning for others and herself, she values how the League advocates for major public policy issues and supports women in shared leadership roles. Eileen is studying and writing about the struggles endured in organized activism by suffragists for at least 72 years before women gained the right to vote with the 19th Amendment to the Constitution on August 26, 1920. In the 1970s as a League of Women Voters (LWV) member in Minnesota, she worked to support efforts to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in three more needed states and is glad the National LWV has renewed efforts to get it ratified to become a new amendment. Eileen and her husband Joe are proud of their two strong daughters and their families.

Reed Robert Burn – Treasurer; Term: April 2019 to April 2021

Bob Burn graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1961 and served in conventional and nuclear submarines for ten years. After leaving the Navy, he received a research faculty appointment at the University of Michigan. He retired in 1996 after 22 years, later moved to Florida with his wife, Bonnie, for eight years, and moved to Las Cruces in 2006. His education includes a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the Naval Academy, MS in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Michigan, and an MS in Electrical Engineering and PhD in Naval Architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Bob's membership and engagement in the League carries on the tradition of commitment of his deceased wife Bonnie Burn who served as President of LWVGLC from 2009 to 2013.

Sharon Thomas–Nominating Committee Chair; Term: April 2019 to April 2020

Sharon Thomas is a retired professor from Michigan State University. She started coming to Las Cruces in the early 1990s when her son was studying Anthropology at NMSU. Later, her daughter joined her son and they opened Red Mountain Café. In 2003, Sharon and her husband, Dick, retired full time to Las Cruces. In 2007, she was elected to the Las Cruces City Council, where she later served as Mayor Pro Tem. Since leaving the council, she has continued to work on various projects including the Doña Ana County comprehensive plan and the South Central Regional Transit District. She is currently chair of the Las Cruces Planning and Zoning Commission and chair of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee for the Las Cruces comprehensive plan project Elevate Las Cruces.

Judith La Pointe – Elected Member of Nominating Committee; Term: April 2019 to April 2020

Judith La Pointe has lived in Las Cruces since 1968 when she first joined the LWVGLC. She worked for the NM Department of Labor from 1982-1999 as a Deputy Labor Commissioner for the southwestern part of NM where she represented employees with claims for wages, unemployment claims, child labor issues, workers' compensation, etc. After her retirement, Judith volunteered for the next 15 years at Southern NM Legal Aid, helping their clients with a variety of issues. She enjoyed working with Jane Asche and Maryellen Kebbel on the Nominating Committee this year and would like to do it again in the 2019-2020 program year.