

NEWS RELEASE



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LOCAL LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ELECTS NEW BOARD, OFFICERS

LAS CRUCES---The League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico (LWVSNM) elected several new members to its Board of Directors for fiscal year 2021/2022, announced Co-Presidents Kathy Brook and Eileen VanWie.

At its annual business meeting on April 10, 2021, Brook and VanWie each were re-elected to another two-year term for the 52-year-old organization. They are both retired from higher education. Elected to a one-year term and filling a vacancy as Vice President was Laura Castille, a local attorney who is the Executive Director of the NMSU Office of Institutional Equity. A two-year term will be served by Mary Flynn as League Treasurer; she is a relatively new resident of Las Cruces from Chico, CA where she taught mathematics and served as the Mayor and a City Council member.

Elected to a two-year term was Erika Graf-Webster as Director of Youth Engagement; she is a past president of the Board and has worked with school district teachers and students in various projects. Elected for one-year terms were Marjorie Burr as Chair of the League's Nominating Committee, a founding member of the League and a past president, and Priscilla Parrish as Nominating Committee member, known in the community for serving in several women's organizations.

Also elected during the League's state convention on April 25 were Las Cruces Kathy Brook as state Program Director and Johnnie Aldrich, the LWVSNM Secretary, as a state Nomination Committee member. Eileen VanWie is also a state Board member.

In 2021, the 107 female and male members of LWVSNM adopted the



Eileen VanWie

philosophy known as JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion). VanWie said “JEDI will be the foundation of all League activities, ranging from voter services to supporting education and youth engagement. The LWVSNM studies and advocates for selected issues that expand voting rights for all citizens and social justice for all residents,” VanWie said.

“In the coming year, we also hope to encourage more area residents to join our organization which serves to promote and protect our Democracy,” Brook added.



Kathy Brook

Beginning in August 2021, the League will initiate hybrid meetings. Members can choose to meet in person at the Good Samaritan Creative Arts Room or continue to meet via Zoom. Members should notify Co-President Eileen VanWie which they prefer.

Yearly dues are \$65 per person and \$32.50 for each additional household member. Students who are 16 or older can join for free. A registration form is online at www.lwvsnm.org/join/. Dues and contributions to the League can also be paid online, via PayPal or credit card at www.lwvsnm.org/donate/, or checks can be mailed to LWVSNM, P.O. Box 15142, Las Cruces, NM 88004.

For more information, contact VanWie or Brook at lwvsnm@gmail.com.

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