

★ ★ ★ ★ *The 69th Annual Report 2020–2021*
for the League of Women Voters
of Bowling Green

*The purpose of the
 League of Women Voters
 of Bowling Green shall
 be to promote political
 responsibility through informed
 and active participation of
 citizens in government, to
 increase understanding of major
 public policy issues and to
 influence public policy through
 education and advocacy.*



**League of Women Voters
 of Bowling Green**

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Annual Meeting Agenda

Welcome Lee Hakel, President

Introduction of our Scholarship Winners Randye Kreischer

Speaker Bill Emahiser, Unison Health

Business Meeting

Call to Order

Appointment of Parliamentarian Lee Hakel

Quorum Count Roger Anderson

Appointment: Minutes Review Committee Lee Hakel

Secretary’s Report Katelyn Elliott

Treasurer’s Report Barbara Moses

Budget Presentation Barbara Moses

Program Presentations as Printed Committee Chairs

Approval of Programs for 2021-2022 Anne Bullerjahn

Report from the LWVO Liaison Lee McLaird

By–Laws Revisions Janet Parks

Nominating Committee Report Maria Simon, Chair

Election of Officers and Directors Lee Hakel

Other Business

Past President’s Award Presentation Lee Hakel

Adjournment

The President’s Letter: Embrace the New Normal

It hasn’t been an easy year. On March 16, 2020, the Governor told all Ohioans to stay at home. So, unable to continue to meet and work as usual, our League’s task was to embrace the “New Normal” — *and we did!*

We needed to reinvent how to do things, and we did.

- ★ The Candidates’ Forum was live streamed on WBGU from the Lenhart Grand Ballroom at BGSU. There were 1,800 views: over 1,500 more than attended last year!
- ★ We produced our Voters’ Guide as usual, but it was available only online. But we also put that information and more on VOTE411, so even more people had access.
- ★ We urged people to vote early, and they did!
- ★ We displayed more than 60 signs plus messages on electronic signboards.
- ★ And we had a 44-vehicle car parade with vote early signs on many of them. The parade was featured on the WBGU Morning Show and had front page articles in both the Sentinel–Tribune and the BG Independent Media.
- ★ We needed to continue our usual work, and we did!
- ★ We had public meetings on mental health and on education.
- ★ We had consensus meetings on health equity and the arming of school personnel—*all on Zoom*.
- ★ We consistently observed BG School Board meetings and awarded two scholarships to graduating BGHS students. We actively supported the Fair School Funding bill, which passed the Ohio House in fall 2020 but was stopped in the Ohio Senate. We will continue to support the reintroduced bill in spring 2021.
- ★ We stepped outside of our comfort zone and had a pop–up protest at Wooster Green demanding that elected officials accept the will of the people regarding the election of President Biden. The media coverage amplified our message as did our own social media postings.
- ★ Now we face the culmination of 50 years of hard work to make redistricting a reality. We are working to inform the voters and to make sure that when new districts are devised, they will be fair and conform to the laws we worked to pass. The non-partisan voice of the League of Women Voters has never been more important, or more needed.
- ★ We will continue to focus on making democracy work just as we have for the last 101 years. But we will do things differently because the pandemic taught us to think flexibly and creatively—which we did and we will!

I thank every League member for making all this work possible, and I especially thank the very hard—working Board of Directors and Committee Chairs.

Lee Hakel

LWVBG President
2017-2021

League of Women Voters of Bowling Green 68th Annual Meeting Minutes

May 30, 2020 Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attendance:

Roger Anderson	Katelyn Elliott	Flo Klopfenstein	Char Scherer
Betty Jean Anderson	Martha Fether	Judy Knox	Ellen Scholl
Ruth Ann Beaverson	Jean Geist	Randy Kreischer	Kay Sergeant
Marilyn Bowlus	Paul Haas	Jeanne Langendorfer	Marilyn Shrude
Frances Brent	Lee Hakel	Neocles Leontis	Maria Simon
Anne Bullerjahn	Milt Hakel	Marilyn Levinson	Stephen Vessey
Joan Callecod	Sharon Hanna	Sharon Libby	Susan Winters
Bob Callecod	Leatra Harper	Lee McLaird	Denise Zephier
Todd Childers	Elayne Jacoby	Barbara Moses	
Sheilah Crowley	Jennifer Karches	Janet Parks	
Ellen Dalton	Joyce Kepke	Jane Robb	

President Lee Hakel welcomed members to the 68th annual meeting of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green and called the meeting to order at 9:31 am. She explained the voting procedures and thanked Char Scherer and Denise Zephier for setting up Zoom meetings. President Hakel also thanked Ellen Dalton for putting together the Annual Report and Todd Childers for designing it. President Hakel appointed Joyce Kepke as the Parliamentarian. Joyce then declared a quorum was present and the meeting could proceed.

Secretary’s Report:

President Hakel asked for three volunteers for the Minutes Review Committee. Janet Parks, Ellen Scholl, and Elayne Jacoby volunteered and were appointed to the committee. Katelyn Elliott moved to approve the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting taken by Randye Kreischer as printed in the Annual Report. Anne Bullerjahn seconded the motion and it was approved by a show of hands.

Treasurer’s Report:

Barbara Moses reviewed the proposed 2020–2021 operating budget with the members. She highlighted some new figures. At the April 2019 Board meeting, the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green Scholarship was increased from \$750.00 to \$1,000.00, and the Scholarship Fund is now getting low. She asked that those considering donating do so to the Scholarship Fund rather than (or in addition to) the Education Fund (write “LWVBG Scholarship in the memo line”). The current overall LWVBG balance is \$17,115.91. Barbara made a motion to accept the budget as written and it was seconded by Ruth Ann Beaverson. It was passed by a show of hands. President Hakel thanked the budget committee of Barbara Moses, Lee Hakel, and Joyce Kepke for their work.

Scholarship Committee Presentation:

Ruth Ann Beaverson thanked the board for the scholarship increase. The recipient is Hallie Webb from Bowling Green High School. She is going to attend Defiance College, majoring in Environmental Science.

Nominations:

Nominating Committee Members:

- Maria Simon Chair (elected)
- Sandy Rowland (elected member)
- Martha Fether (elected member)

Slate presented for two-year terms:

- Anne Bullerjahn VP Program
- Barbara Moses Treasurer
- Ellen Dalton Director
- Elayne Jacoby Director
- Joyce Kepke Director
- Flo Klopfenstein Director

President Hakel asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. Maria Simon made a motion to accept the slate of officers. Ruth Ann Beaverson seconded, and the slate was accepted by a show of hands.

Policies:

Joyce Kepke made a motion to readopt local programming statements on page 6 of the annual report, no changes from previous years. Ellen Scholl seconded, and it was approved by a show of hands. Ellen Dalton moved to readopt the Non-Partisan Policy and the Diversity Policy. Lee McLaird seconded. They were readopted by a show of hands.

Announcements:

President Lee Hakel encouraged everyone to check with family and friends about filling out the Census. She encouraged the use of Vote411.org. Due to the format, a raffle basket for the scholarship fund was not possible. Joy Potthoff will do a future basket. President Hakel read from the League of Women Voters of the United States message from the CEO, ‘Addressing police murder of George Floyd and police violence.’

The League of Women Voters grieves the murders of George Floyd and the countless other Black lives that have been tragically taken at the hands of rogue law enforcement officers who are rarely held fully accountable for their actions.

Adjournment:

President Hakel adjourned the meeting at 10:43 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katelyn Elliott, Secretary

Finance Drive 2020–2021 Joyce Kepke & Sheilah Fulton Crowley

Contributors to the League of Women Voters Operating Fund, Education Fund and Scholarship Fund were very generous this year. As our members know, their dues go directly to the Ohio and United States League of Women Voters. This means that our local activities are funded by contributions from members and non-members who support what we do in our community.

This year we received contributions from 74 donors with \$3620 for our operating fund, \$1760 for our education fund and \$790 for our scholarship fund.

The education fund dollars are used for purposes such as our Candidate Forum and our Guide to Public Officials, which inform the public. This year, using scholarship funds contributed over the past two years, two students received LWVBG \$1000 scholarships.

Finance Drive & Scholarship Contributors 2020–2021

Betty Jean & Roger Anderson	Peggy Giordano & Ted Groat	Marilyn Levinson	Barbara Rothrock
Evelyn & Jim Bachman	Paul Haas	Lee & Bob McLaird	Lacey Sales
Ruth Ann & Royce Beaverson	Lee & Milt Hakel	Bob & Becky McOmber	Marilyn Shrude & John Sampen
Jan & Carol Bell	Emmy Hann	Larry & Dianne Merschman	Barbara & Roger Sanchez
Becky Bhaer	Linda Hanna	Marge & Lee Meserve	Charlotte & Don Scherer
Dolores Black	Sharon Hanna	Tom & Jane Milbrodt	Ellen & Chris Scholl
Marilyn Bowlus	Douglas Hess	Judy Miller	Maria & Marc Simon
Anne & George Bullerjahn	Cindy Hofner	Barbara Moses & Tom Hudson	Colleen Smith
Joan & Bob Callecod	Elayne & Joe Jacoby	Joyce & Paul Mueller	Linda & Bob Spittler
Norma & Michael Christen	Jennifer Karches & Todd Childers	Eric & Linda Myers	Marcy St. John
Sheilah Fulton Crowley	Joyce Kepke	Joanne & Leo Navin	Norma & John Stickler
Ellen & Chris Dalton	Dianne Klein	Paula Nelson	Elizabeth Uhlman
Janet DeLong	Flo Klopfenstein	Megan & Andy Newlove	Cheryl Windisch
Sandy Earle	Pamela & Robert Krebs	Laurie & Dick Newlove	Susan & George Winters
Katelyn Elliott	Randy & D.M. Kreischer	Janet Parks	Joan & David Woessner
John Fawcett	Jeanne & Steve Langendorfer	Gaynelle Predmore	Karen Wood
Rebecca Ferguson	Betty Laukhuf	Diane & Scott Regan	Bonnie Woods
Christen Giblin	Amy Laukhuf-Fitch	Beth & Steve Ricard	

Local Program: LWVBG 2020–2021

Education (updated 2013)

The League supports:

- ★ *High standards of education at all levels, including: adequate and appropriate programs for the gifted and for students with special needs.*
- ★ *Adequate and appropriate use of technology within all content areas at all levels.*
- ★ *The provision of vocational and technical education.*
- ★ *And promotes a balanced program of extracurricular activities at all levels.*
- ★ *Sufficient funding for and accountability of programs and facilities at all levels.*

Mental Health (updated 2016)

In order to maintain and enhance the quality of life in Bowling Green and Wood County, our League supports:

- ★ *The continuing availability of mental health and substance abuse/addiction services for all.*
- ★ *We also support sufficient funding of mental health services, acknowledging the increasing influence of substance abuse addictions on an individual’s mental health.*

To achieve the above our League supports

- ★ *Providing a wide range of effective services across the life span that employs practices informed by research, with flexibility to address changing needs; continuing the involvement of persons with mental illness and their family members in shaping services and policies; continuing collaboration among agencies including program- ming and funding; increasing public understanding of the impact of mental illness and substance abuse/addictions on the individual and the community.*

Land Use (updated 2005-2006)

In order to maintain the quality of life in our small city, our League continues to support careful long-range planning Because change is occurring rapidly, we believe that the Bowling Green Comprehensive Plan needs to be kept current.

In addition, the League supports:

- ★ *Top priority for the acquisition and maintenance of open space for publicause.*
- ★ *Cooperation between governmental agents of the city of Bowling Green and the trustees of adjacent townships.*

- ★ *Public accessibility of the most recent version of the Comprehensive Plan, with any revisions dated and made evident.*
- ★ *Support of a precautionary moratorium on all new Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that produce untreated animal waste. Support of improved and similar waste water transportation and treatment systems on each (CAFO) site within Wood County as required by the State of Ohio of municipalities producing the same volume of waste, with safe nutrient management practices and disposal of sludge, in order to maintain adequate water quality standards in our aquifers, ground and surface waters.*

Senior Concerns (updated 2005–2006)

League supports efforts to maintain or improve the quality of life of the elderly population in Wood County.

The needs of the elderly population in Wood County steadily increase due to longevity and the problems of health, finance and other difficulties that accompany longevity. On the other hand, financial support for services to the elderly by federal and state governments is not keeping up with inflation.

Policies

Nonpartisan Statement (Adopted February 2000; re-adopted 2020)

The Board of Directors of League of Women Voters Bowling Green may take action on governmental measures and policies in the public interest. However, it shall not support or oppose any party or candidate.

Board members shall not run for or hold partisan elective office. If a Board member declares for a partisan elective office, the member shall resign from the Board. Public notices released by the League announcing the resignation of a Board member to run for political office shall be carefully worded to avoid the appearance of endorsing the resigning Board member’s candidacy.

Board members’ activities must be limited to preserve the League’s non-partisan position. The President and the Voter Service Chair shall not participate in any partisan way at any level.

A Board member may serve on any public board, commission, committee, or coalition. However that Board member does not represent the League unless officially designated as a League representative by the LWVBG Board.

A Board member may not speak or work against a League position in any way.

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

Diversity Policy (Adopted May 1998; Re-adopted 2020)

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green affirms its belief in, and commitment to, reflecting the diversity of the community in its membership, leadership, and programs.

By–Laws: LWVBG (as last amended 2019)

Article I Name

Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green, hereinafter referred to in these By–laws as LWVBG 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 these By–laws as LWVUS, and of the League of Women Voters of Ohio.

Article II Purpose & Policy

The policies of the LWVUS are:

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of the League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

Section 2. Political Policy

The League shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

Article III Membership

Section 1. Eligibility

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

Section 2. Types of Membership

A. Voting Members

Citizens at least 18 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local and state Leagues of their place of joining and of LWVUS. 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, without voting privileges.

Article IV Board of Directors

Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection, & Term of Office

Manner of Selection & Term of Office The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League, eight elected directors and not more than four appointed directors. Four of the elected directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The Board of Directors shall appoint one of the elected Directors to be the Development Director. The elected members shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding four, 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 June 30 following the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Qualifications

Only voting members shall serve as officers or directors of this organization.

Section 3. Vacancies

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

Section 4. Powers and Duties

The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the prosperity 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.

Section 5. Meetings

There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President may call special meeting of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board.

Section 6. Quorum

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

Article V The Officers

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers
The officers of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall be a President, a Membership Vice President, a Program Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting and take office July 1. The President, the Membership Vice President, and the Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The Program Vice President and the Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years.

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; and shall have such usual powers 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.

Section 3. The Vice Presidents
The Vice Presidents shall be responsible for membership and program, respectively, and other duties as assigned by the President or Board. At the first board meeting following the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors shall designate the Program Vice President to serve as President if that office becomes vacant. If the Program Vice President is unable to serve, the Board shall designate the Membership Vice President. If the Membership Vice President is unable to serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of its elected Members, if possible, to fill

the vacancy. If no current Board member is able to fulfill the position, a member shall be appointed provided that person has served at least one term on the Board. Unable to serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of its elected Members, if possible, to fill the vacancy. If no current Board member is able to fulfill the position, a member shall be appointed provided that person has served at least one term on the Board.

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

Section 5. The Treasurer
The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all monies; shall be the custodian of these monies deposited in the bank designated by the Board of Directors; shall identify type of income deposited per the approved budget and pay and record budget expenses upon receipt of signed receipts or invoices; shall obtain approval from the Board of Directors prior to paying expenses not included in the adopted budget; shall complete a monthly reconciliation of all bank accounts and present monthly financial statements to the Board of Directors and an annual report to the Annual Meeting.

Section 5. Financial Review Committee
The Board of Directors shall appoint a committee to review the prior year financial records no later than 60 days following the close of the fiscal year.

Section 6. Disbandment
In case of disbandment of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green, all monies and securities shall be transferred to the Wood County District Public Library Foundation to be used for the purpose of promoting democracy. Should the WCDPL Foundation not accept the funds, they shall be transferred to the League Of Women Voters of Perrysburg Area. All other property or whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed, which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall be disposed of by any officer of the organization, or corporation for such public, charitable, or educational uses and purposes as may be designated by the Board of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green.

The Annual Meeting shall:

- a. adopt a local program for the ensuing year;
- b. elect officers, directors, and three member of the nominating committee;
- c. adopt an adequate budget;
- d. transact such other business as may properly come before it;

Section 3. Quorum
Twenty percent of the members of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings when a vote is taken.

Article VIII Nominations & Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee
The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members: the chairman and two members elected at the Annual Meeting, and two board members appointed by a newly elected Board of Directors.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor
The report of the Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the report of the Nominating Committee at the Annual Meeting, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee has been secured.

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 of Bowling Green shall consist of:

- a. Action to implement the principles of the League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters of Ohio and
 - b. Those local issues chosen for concerted study and action.
- Section 2. Current Agenda & Continuing Responsibilities**
These categories of program are defined as follows:
- a. The current agenda shall consist of those local governmental issues that the membership shall choose for sustained attention and concerted action.
 - b. The continuing responsibilities shall consist of positions on local governmental issues to which the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act.

Section 3. Action by 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.

Section 3. continued...

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 the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green under the provisions of the By-laws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

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 the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green under the provisions of the By-laws of the League of Women Voters of Ohio.

Article XI Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the most recent edition of Robert's 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 By-laws.

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. The majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the appropriate Board of Directors.

- b. The proposed program shall be sent to all members one month 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 a majority vote and
 - 2. The Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a majority vote.
- e. Changes in the program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made, provided that 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 final action taken.

Section 4. Member Action

Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the appropriate Board of Directors.

Section 3. State Council

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 council in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green under the provisions of the By-laws of the League of Women Voters of Ohio.

Article XII Amendments

Section 1. Amendments

These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.



View



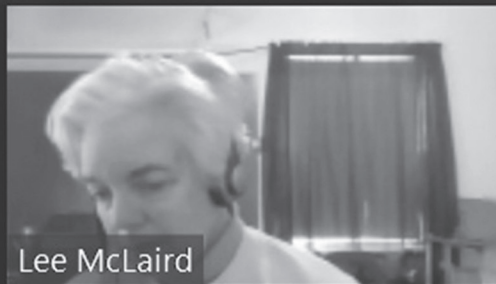
Meetings LWVBG



mlevins



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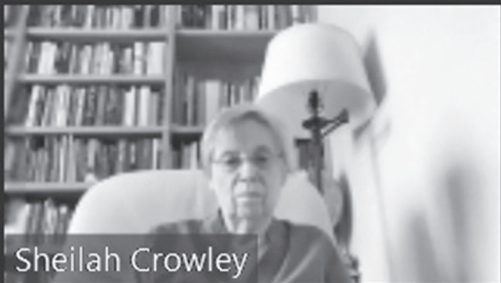
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Anne Bullerjahn



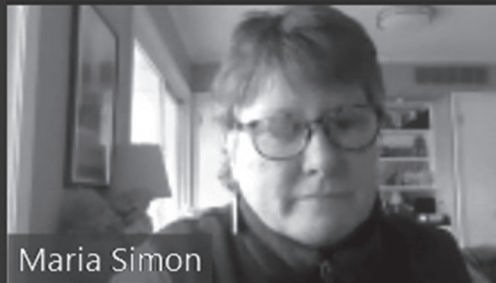
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Sheilah Crowley



Stephen Vessey



Maria Simon



SharonSteve Libby



janerobb



Ruth Babel-Smith



Ellen Dalton



The Elliots



Joan Callegod



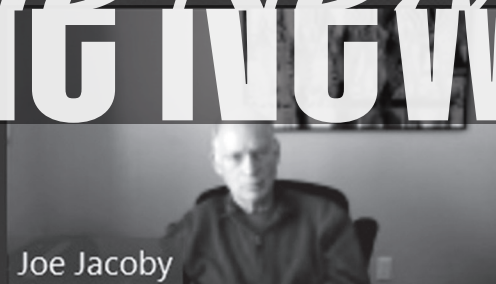
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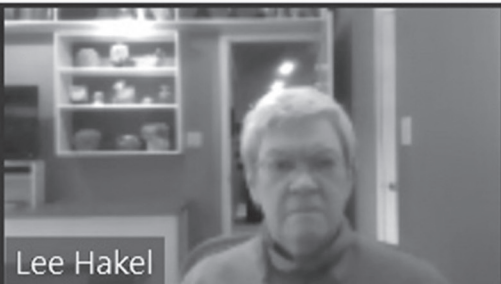
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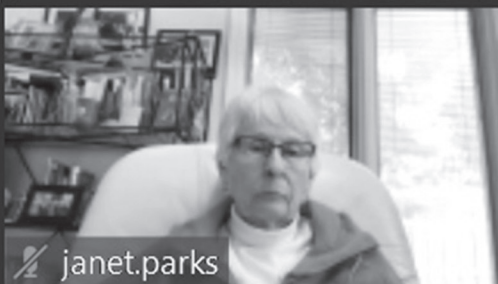
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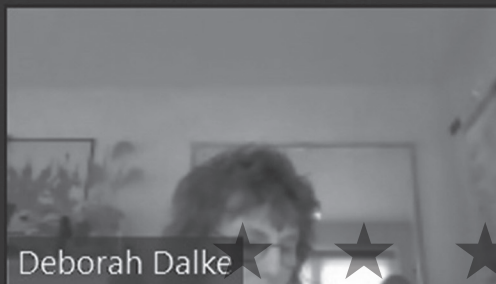
Jennifer Karches



Lee Hakel



janet.parks



Deborah Dalke



Roger Anderson

10

11

1/2

1/2

Embrace the New Normal

Unmute

Stop Video

Participants 26

Chat 7

Share Screen

Record

Reactions

Leave

Activities for 2020–2021: Reports

Voter Services Committee

<i>Ellen Dalton, Chair</i>	<i>Barbara Moses</i>
<i>Anne Bullerjahn</i>	<i>Joanne Navin</i>
<i>Sheilah Crowley</i>	<i>Jane Robb</i>
<i>Lee Hakel</i>	<i>Char Scherer</i>
<i>Sharon Hanna</i>	<i>Paul Valdez (BGSU Votes)</i>
<i>Joyce Kepke</i>	<i>Debra Gorman (LWV Perrysburg)</i>
<i>Lee McLaird</i>	

2020 was a challenging year to hold a Candidates Forum with the coronavirus pandemic still going strong! This is a year when we partnered with LWV Perrysburg so Debra Gorman was a key collaborator. The model we finally settled on, facilitated by Paul Valdez, was to use the BGSU Student Union Ballroom. BGSU Votes was the contracting group and paid the campus rate for use of the room. WBGU-TV live- streamed on their YouTube channel and recorded the event for later posting on the LWVBG and LWV Perrysburg web sites for \$1500—this cost was shared with LWV Perrysburg. Face masks and social distancing were required and strictly enforced by BGSU. Audience was limited to 100. Paul Valdez set up an Event Brite site for attendees to register so we could cut off at 100—we actually had about 40 attendees. We solicited questions for the candidates ahead of time from our members via email and from the public via social media. The screeners met via

Education Committee

<i>Sharon Libby, Chair</i>	<i>Lee McLaird</i>
<i>Frances Brent</i>	<i>Barbara Moses</i>
<i>Ellen Dalton</i>	<i>Brenda Pike</i>
<i>Lee Hakel</i>	<i>Sandy Rowland</i>
<i>Kristie Herringshaw</i>	<i>Peggy Thompson</i>
<i>Amy Laukhuf-Fitch</i>	

In keeping with the COVID virus mandates our meeting were exclusively by Zoom. We worked over the early summer to prepare and mail informational letters to voters living in areas outside the Bowling Green city limits who were voting on August 4 whether to leave the Bowling Green school district in favor of other school districts. Because this was a special election, we wanted to make sure registered voters had the facts as they decided how to vote. (Some of the districts voted to leave, others voted to stay, but ultimately a US District Court decision invalidated the law that allowed the vote to take place.)

Committee On Senior Concerns

<i>Jeanne Langendorfer, Chair</i>	
<i>Roger Anderson</i>	<i>Flo Klopfenstein</i>
<i>Paul Haas</i>	<i>Janet Parks</i>

The Committee met via Zoom several times to begin review of its Program statement and discussed topics for future programs.

Land Use Committee

The Committee has been on hiatus this year.

Zoom the day before the Forum and selected the questions. Ellen Dalton wrote out a script for the moderator Lee McLaird which included the questions. Lee Hakel did the welcome. Barbara Moses and Sharon Hanna were the timers, and Barbara found and purchased clever timing lights which made their job much easier. All candidates except one participated. Each sat at a separate table with their own microphone and wore a mask the whole time. WBGU-TV did a great job with the live streaming, and recording. We reached many more people this way than usually attended, but many of the usual attendees, including most of our members, were not prepared to come in person this year.

We prepared questions for VOTE411 and the Voters Guide in the Sentinel-Tribune. This year the Sentinel-Tribune chose to “publish” the Voters Guide in their Monday edition which is on-line only. We later learned that they can no longer afford to print the Voters Guide as they have for so many years as a public service. Char Scherer and Joyce Kepke did yeoman’s work with VOTE411, with the able guidance of Debra Gorman.

We published the Guide to Public Officials, completely redesigned this year by Todd Childers to present the information in a much more readable and attractive form. Joanne Navin and Jane Robb helped with the research. Fewer copies were printed as many of the venues where we place them are still not available due to the pandemic, or groups such as Kiwanis are not meeting in person.

We spent the remainder of the year focused on the Culp-Patterson Fair School Funding initiative in Columbus. Each meeting reviewed the status of the bill, its inclusion in the Budget Bill and contacting representatives about the importance of the Fair Funding initiative. We invited Susan Kaeser, LWVO specialist on education, to speak to both the Perrysburg and Bowling Green Leagues via Zoom on February 9, 2021.

We will continue our focus on the Fair School Funding budget issues as long as it is necessary and will then move our focus to diversity, equity, and inclusion in education.

Scholarship Committee

<i>Ruth Ann Beaverson Chair</i>	<i>Janet Parks</i>
<i>Randye Kreischer</i>	<i>Marcia Suter</i>

During the summer of 2020, the Committee proposed revisions to the scholarship documents and procedures, all of which were approved at the Oct. 28, 2020 meeting of the Board of Directors. In addition, the Committee created a binder to contain documents related to the scholarship so that future committees would have a roadmap for their duties. Subsequently, the Board of Directors approved the awarding of two 2021 scholarships rather than the traditional single scholarship.

The scholarship recipients selected were Elise Boyle and Elijah Poetzinger. Randye Kreischer presented the scholarships to the recipients at the Senior Scholarship Awards Program held on Thursday, May 6, 2021 in the BG Schools Performing Arts Center.

Voters’ Rights Committee

<i>Joan Callecod, Chair</i>	<i>Joe Jacoby</i>
<i>Roger Anderson</i>	<i>Jeanne Langendorfer</i>
<i>Marilyn Bowlus</i>	<i>Stephen Langendorfer</i>
<i>Bob Callecod</i>	<i>Lee McLaird</i>
<i>Sharon Hanna</i>	<i>Judy Miller</i>
<i>Deb Hazard</i>	<i>Joanne Navin</i>
<i>Elayne Jacoby</i>	<i>Marilyn Shrude</i>

The focus of the Committee this year was on voter registration, election procedures and redistricting.

On July 22, 2020, Carol DeJong, Co-Director of the Wood County Board of Elections (BOE) was the speaker at a virtual meeting of the Committee to inform members about how the procedures for registering to vote and voting were impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. She was very thorough in sharing the revised procedures with the committee. Many thanks to Char Scherer for facilitating this Zoom meeting as well as future Zoom meetings on behalf of the Voters’ Rights Committee.

In conjunction with other LWVBG members, Joan Callecod prepared a one page description of ‘Information on Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Requests’. This information was shared with all members of the LWVBG as well as:

- ★ The Cocoon – including the special procedures for their clients developed by the State of Ohio called, ‘Safe At Home’.
- ★ The BG Ecumenical Association for inclusion in church bulletins.
- ★ The BG Chamber of Commerce member briefs.
- ★ Local Nursing Homes.

On September 10, with the help of Emily Dunipace, Joan Callecod gave a virtual presentation to VERY enthusiastic members of the WCDD adults ‘People First of Wood County’ regarding registering to vote and voting options. Most of them were already registered to vote and eager to cast their ballot.

In January 2021, attention turned to redistricting and the issue with data delayed by the Census Bureau due to the pandemic, as well as implementing the two redistricting reforms approved by 70+ percent of Ohio voters in 2015 and 2018. The LWVO offered many virtual programs on the challenges of redistricting in 2021.

Deb Dalke, a new member of LWVBG, attended many of those LWVOH programs on redistricting. Deb gave virtual presentations to not only the LWV BG members but also to members of the Perrysburg and Greater Toledo and Lucas County Leagues. There was excellent attendance and interest at Deb’s two programs on March 27 and April 7, 2021.

All LWVBG members are encouraged to follow the developments of Redistricting 2021 by reading the LWVO messages and contacting their Ohio legislators about the importance of implementing non-partisan US Congressional districts and Ohio Senate and House districts.

LWVBG Mental Health Committee

<i>Charlotte Scherer, Chair</i>	<i>Jane Robb</i>
<i>Judy Knox</i>	<i>Martha Fether</i>
<i>Brenda Pike</i>	<i>Judy Wilbarger</i>

Since Covid made it necessary to cancel our planned public meeting in March of 2020, the Mental Health Committee worked with the scheduled speaker, Aimee Coe from the ADAMHS Board, to schedule a Zoom meeting for the league membership Oct. 21, 2020 from 7:00pm – 8:30pm. Thanks to Todd Childers for updating our flier. Aimee Coe presented a power point regarding the good things Wood County is doing in response to Mental Health issues and the emergency call procedures for mental health crises. She educated us about the ADAMHS Board and how it works with the various agencies to provide mental health services to Wood County. She provided us with information about the many services and programs that have continued during the pandemic as well as some new initiatives to address specific issues resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic. Isolation, depression, anxiety, suicides have all increased since the pandemic started. We also heard about the Protocol approach to answering phone and text messages calls for help as well as the 211 number anyone can quickly use to get the right service that is needed for their particular situation. 12 League members, 2 guests and 2 media persons attended this Zoom meeting.

Two articles appeared following this meeting, one in the BG Sentinel-Tribune written by Roger LaPointe, and the other in Independent News media written by Jan McLaughlin. We hoped this helped get the word out. The meeting was recorded and Jennifer Karches put the video up on our LWV BG YouTube channel.

We mourned the passing of Judy Knox. She was a dedicated servant to her community and a valuable member of our committee. She has been missed greatly.

Our next meeting was held virtually on 1-12-21 to plan for new directions. We discussed learning more about the impact of Covid in Wood County on front line workers, people who have been isolated, and on education. We decided to find a speaker for our group on these topics. Brenda Pike resigned at the beginning of the year.

We met virtually on 2-17-21 with Bill Emahiser from Unison Health. The best part of the presentation was that it gave us an even better understanding of how the pandemic has affected all of us in ways we tend to want to not admit. We thought it was important to share this information, proposed it to the Board who suggested Bill could be our speaker at our Annual Meeting on June 12. He has agreed to come and present early in the meeting before the business meeting.

Jane and I have also attended Parts 1 and 2 of the CASA/ NAMI training which is on Teen Mental Health. I also attend a presentation to University Women by Dr. Brenda Cole from Psychological Resources in Toledo. She addressed Pandemic effects on people personally and also explained how to deal with re-entry into society. She especially emphasized the challenges of returning to “normal” after it is safe to do so. We generally won’t be able to just start doing everything as before, because there will be anxiety. We need to recognize that the pandemic experience included trauma. She recommended a slow start and giving ourselves time for continued self-care.

Martha Fether’s scheduling conflicts have caused her to resign from the committee, but she will still be a resource to us. Now we are three and really need some new members.

Embrace the New Normal

Articles Featuring League of Women Voters of Bowling Green

- [1] **'Affirm Will of the People.' Women voters league rallies in BG**
Sentinel-Tribune, January 6, 2021
- [2] **Voter Registration Eligibility Explained**
Sentinel-Tribune, September 14, 2020
- [3] **Early Voting Starts October 6**
Sentinel-Tribune, September 15, 2020
- [4] **Election Day Information – 2020**
Sentinel-Tribune, September 21, 2020
- [5] **Candidates Forum Scheduled for October 4**
— **Public May Submit Questions**
BG Independent News, September 24, 2020
- [6] **League Hosts Candidates Forum on Sunday**
Sentinel-Tribune, September 30, 2020
- [7] **Parade Opens 'Election Season': League Urges Everyone to Vote Early**
Sentinel-Tribune, September 30, 2020
- [8] **Parade Through BG to Urge Citizens to Vote Early**
BG Independent News, September 30, 2020
- [9] **Candidates Face Questions from the Public at Forum**
BG Independent News, October 5, 2021
- [10] **Candidates Take Center Stage**
Sentinel-Tribune, October 6, 2020

Letters to the Editor

- [A] **League of Women Voters Urges People To Cast Informed and Early Votes**
BG Independent News, October 19, 2020
- [B] **Get Informed Before November 3**
Sentinel-Tribune, October 22, 2020
- [C] **League of Women Voters Supports Revamp of State School Funding**
BG Independent News, November 11, 2020
- [D] **Legislation Could Change School Funding**
Sentinel-Tribune, November 17, 2020
- [E] **League of Women Voters Supports Fair School Funding Plan**
BG Independent News, December 2, 2020
- [F] **Fair Funding Plan Has Leagues' Support**
Sentinel-Tribune, December 9, 2020
- [G] **League of Women Voters Says Congress Needs to Accept Outcome of Election**
BG Independent News, January 4, 2021
- [H] **Avoid Theater That Mocks Voting Process**
Sentinel-Tribune, January 7, 2021
- [I] **League of Women Voters President Urges Support For School Funding Reform And Fair Redistricting**
BG Independent News, February 15, 2021
- [J] **Redistricting, School Funding Issues Loom**
Sentinel-Tribune, February 17, 2021



LWVBG *in the Media*

Member Roster: LWVBG 2020–2021

Membership

Jennifer Karches, Membership Vice President

We now have 91 members; 8 new members since June 2020. Please save the enclosed membership list for future reference. And when you come to future League events please bring a friend (or two!) who may be interested in joining. In the pages of this annual report you will find descriptions of the many committees our members are involved in.

Reach out to the committee chairs if you share an interest and attend a meeting. There is no pressure... get involved a little or a lot with League activities. You may find you have a lot to contribute, and you are sure to enjoy the friendship and camaraderie of your fellow League members!

The following are members for 2020–21. New members welcomed this year are in bold with an asterisk.

Lynn Ackerson	Martha Fether	Stephen Langendorfer	Barbara Sanchez
Betty Jean Anderson	Michael Fether	Betty Laukhuf	Char Scherer
Roger Anderson	Judy Gardner	Amy Laukhuf-Fitch*	Ellen Scholl
Julieanna Armstrong	Jean Geist	Marilyn Levinson	Nancy Seifert
Vickie Askins	Peggy Giordano*	Sharon Libby	Kay Sergeant
Ruth Babel-Smith	Anne Graves	Jocelyn Liberatore*	Vijaya Shrestha
Evelyn Bachman	Paul Haas	Lyn Long	Marilyn Shrude
Ruth Ann Beaverson	Lee Hakel	Fiona MacKinnon	Maria Simon
Dolores Black	Milt Hakel	Lee McLaird	Kacee Snyder
Marilyn Bowlus	Sharon Hanna	Judy Miller	Jane Spoerl
Anne Bullerjahn	Leatra Harper	Jan Morse	Marcia Suter
Joan Callecod	Kristie Reichert Herringshaw	Barbara Moses	Gale Swanka*
Bob Callecod	Shirley Hoemann	Joanne Navin	Peggy Thompson
Todd Childers	Darlene Householder	Paula Nelson	Alyssa Tomins
Sheilah Crowley	Elayne Jacoby	Debbie Newlove	Jo Tutolo
Debbie Dalke*	Joseph Jacoby	Denise Niese	Steve Vessey
Ellen Dalton	Jennifer Karches	Janet Parks	Judy Wilbarger
Janet DeLong	Joyce Kepke	Rachel Phipps	Susan Winters
Dave Donley*	Dianne Klein*	Gaynelle Predmore	Karen Wood
Sandra Earle*	Flo Klopfenstein	Michele Raine	Bonnie Woods
Tonya Eiden	Pamela Krebs	Mary Lou Riday	Betty Yarris
Katelyn Elliott	Randy Kreischer	Jane Robb	Denise Zephier
Hilda Farrow	Jeanne Langendorfer	Sandy Rowland	

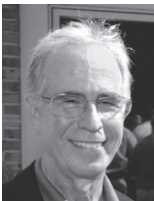
In Memoriam

Sadly, we have lost 3 valued members this year.

Judy Knox led the Voter Service Committee for many years and served on the Board for many years. She was the public face of LWVBG for many Candidate Forums and organized the Voter Guide and Guide to Public Officials. She was also an active member of and valuable resource for the Mental Health Committee. In the future, look for a sundial at Simpson Garden Park to memorialize her friendship and her faithful service to the league.



Neocles Leontis was a sitting city councilman and member since 2017, working tirelessly for positive change in our community. Upon joining he immediately dove in to hold an event “Shared Prosperity: Eliminating Waste in BG” to brainstorm solutions to address issues in BG. Neocles also served on the nominating committee and participated in meetings. He is greatly missed.



Wanda Rich was a long-time member, joining in 1969. She served as Secretary from 1985 -1988, one year as editor of The Voter and on the membership and nominating committees. She was an active member of the Land Use Committee starting in 1974.



Board of Directors: LWVBG 2020–2021

Past President’s Award

This award, presented by the outgoing president, is given to a deserving League member who has exemplified League principles with their time and talents.

Ann Baty	1983
Marlene Purdy	1985
Marilyn Singleton	1986
Jean Romans	1987
Ruth “Connie” Varney	1987
Kay Sergeant	1989
Rose Clements	1991
Anne Graves	1993
Barbara Lee	1997
Kristin Vessey	1999
Cathy Marcson	2001
Wanda Rich	2003
Kim Layden	2005
Joan Gordon	2007
Joyce Kepke	2011
Roger Anderson	2013
Julieanna Armstrong & Char Scherer }	2017
Judy Knox	2019

Elected Officers of the Board of Directors: (2– year term)

President:			
Lee Hakel	(term ends 2021)	lhakel@gmail.com	419 352 0983

Past President:			
Lee McLaird		lmclair2000@yahoo.com	419 354 6618

Membership VP:			
Jennifer Karches	(term ends 2021)	memphis81@gmail.com	419 378 2036

Program VP:			
Anne Bullerjahn	(term ends 2022)	annebullerjahn@gmail.com	419 352 7230

Secretary:			
Katelyn Elliott	(term ends 2021)	moweryke@gmail.com	330 461 2603

Treasurer:			
Barbara Moses	(term ends 2022)	bmoses@bgsu.edu	419 352 7979

Board of Directors: (4 elected annually, 2– year term)

Sheila Fulton Crowley	(term ends 2021)	pepperful@aol.com	419 378 2036
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Ellen Dalton	(term ends 2022)	edalton@bgsu.edu	419 352 7230
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Elayne Jacoby	(term ends 2022)	ejacoby@bgsu.edu	419 352 8809
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Joyce Kepke	(term ends 2022)	kepkejm@dacor.net	419 353 2061
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Flo Klopfenstein	(term ends 2022)	florenk@bgsu.edu	419 308 9525
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Randy Kreischer	(term ends 2021)	randye.kreischer@woh.rr.com	419 352 3124
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Janet Parks	(term ends 2021)	janetparks987@gmail.com	419 352 0516
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Ellen Scholl	(term ends 2021)	cescholl6@msn.com	419 308 5260
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Nominating Committee: (1– year term ending in 2021)

Maria Simon, chair	(elected)	mariareads@gmail.com	419 494 2168
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Anne Bullerjahn	(appointed member)	annebullerjahn@gmail.com	419 353 5831
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Martha Fether	(elected member)	mstfether@gmail.com	419 330 9697
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Janet Parks	(appointed member)	janetparks987@gmail.com	419 352 0516
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Sandy Rowland	(elected member)	sandyrowland1@gmail.com	419 308 2339
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LWVBG Proposed Operating Budget for 2021–2022

July 2020-May 2021 July 2020-June 2021 July 2021-June 2022			
INCOME		Actual	Budget
	Candidate Forum Revenue	678.45	
	Finance Drive Revenue	3,878.02	3,500.00
	Interest income	78.96	100.00
	Meeting revenue		
	Annual meeting	0.00	525.00
	Fall brunch	0.00	525.00
	Total Meeting revenue	0.00	1,050.00
	Member Dues		
	Renewed members		
	Renewed members via Paypal	1,228.78	700.00
	Renewed members by check	2,280.00	3,800.00
	Total Renewed members	3,508.78	4,500.00
	New members		
	New Member via Paypal	149.86	90.00
	New member dues by check	60.00	210.00
	Total New members	209.86	300.00
	Student members	4.99	25.00
	Total Member Dues	3,723.63	4,825.00
	Memorial/Honors Donations	1,287.33	
	Miscellaneous revenue	918.34	500.00
	Pol Party contrib for Guide	100.00	200.00
	Scholarship contributions	784.32	500.00
	Total Income	11,449.05	10,175.00
EXPENSES			
	Communication		
	Annual Report	0.00	300.00
	Mailing for Aug 4 ballot issue	1,505.46	
	Total Communication	1,505.46	300.00
	Delegate National Convention	0.00	1,500.00
	Delegate State Convention	0.00	400.00
	Dues & Subscriptions	150.00	150.00
	Education		
	Public programs		
	Room rental	0.00	300.00
	Other--printing, etc.	0.00	200.00
	Total Public programs	0.00	500.00
	Voter Service		
	Car Parade	582.47	
	Publicity (ads)	400.00	500.00
	Candidates Forum	1,814.92	300.00
	Guide to Public Officials	395.00	900.00
	Total Voter Service	3,192.39	6,980.00
	Total Education	3,192.39	7,580.00
	Finance Drive Expense		
	Finance Drive Expense-Printing	101.60	150.00
	Finance Drive Expense-Stamps	249.46	250.00
	Finance Drive Expense - Other	0.00	300.00
	Total Finance Drive Expense	351.06	550.00
	Meeting Expenses		
	Annual Meeting	0.00	525.00
	Fall Brunch	0.00	525.00
	Total Meeting Expenses	0.00	1,050.00
	Miscellaneous expenses	400.00	
	Membership drive	0.00	100.00
	Office Expense		
	Postage/PO Box	64.00	64.00
	Website	310.58	280.00
	Zoom account	0.00	165.00
	Total Office Expense	374.58	344.00
	PMP National (50%)	1,192.00	2,040.00
	PMP State (75%)	1,327.04	1,657.50
	Scholarship Award	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Total Expense	9,492.53	10,171.50
	Net Income	1,956.52	3.50

LWVBG Balance Sheet

as of May 3, 2021	
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
First Federal Bank	
Memorial/Honor contrib...	1,337.33
LWVBG Scholarship	3,040.54
First Federal Unrestricted	10,125.39
Total First Federal Bank	14,503.26
First Federal CD	6,838.90
Total Checking/Savings	21,342.16
Total Current Assets	21,342.16
TOTAL ASSETS	21,342.16
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Accumulated Income Prior ...	5,568.79
Opening Balance 7/1/2018	13,891.85
Net Income	1,881.52
Total Equity	21,342.16
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	21,342.16

