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LWV-RMA January Membership Meetings Focus On State and Local Priorities & Program

LWVNYS Legislative Priorities and Bi-Annual Program Planning Saturday, January 9, 2021, 10:00-11:30 A.M., via Zoom

LWV-RMA Annual Local Position Review and 2021-2022 Program Planning Tuesday, January 26, 2021, 7:00-8:30 P.M., via Zoom

Your opportunity for input. *More information on page 3*. Register at lwv-rma.org for each virtual meeting.

Inside this issue:LWV-RMA January Membership Meetings.1Sunshine Corner.7-10President's Corner.2Committee Reports.10LWV-RMA January Membership Meetings.3LWV-RMA Book Club.11Seeking Concurrence: Updating Our Healthcare Positions.4Calendar.12Election Forum.5First Fridays.12Vote411 Broke Records for 2020 Election.6Leadership.13





President's Corner

What an unprecedented 2020 Election Year we have been through! But despite the pandemic and the barrage of challenges against the nation's electoral system, it has prevailed, and President-elect Joseph Biden, Jr. remains on course to be inaugurated as our 46th President on January 20, 2021. A very deep thank you to all League members and friends who worked in various capacities throughout this election season to encourage voter turnout and assist in the election process. You are the grassroots sustainers and protectors of democracy. And a special thank you to our Voter Services Director, Barbara Grosh, for the herculean job she undertook and saw through.

After reflections on our 2020 Voter Services year, including lessons learned and inspirations for 2021, LWV-RMA attention shifts to another arena – Advocacy and its underpinnings. Members are welcomed into the work of examining and weighing in on League Positions, Legislative Priorities and Program Planning. This is the perfect time for our newer members, the more than 70 who have joined over the past 18 months, to learn more about this side of the League – how decisions are made, how public policy positions are adopted and modified, how lobbying and advocacy actions (based on League positions) are prioritized. (See details for the January Membership Meetings on page 3.)

Furthermore, in February there will be a special membership meeting to consider two proposed LWVNYS position updates on Healthcare and Healthcare Financing. It is the results of the responses from local Leagues submitted back to the LWVNYS Board that will determine if those updates will become incorporated into our state positions. (See page 4 for more information on the February meeting.)

In League, **Judith Sternberg** *President, LWV-RMA*

Whenever you attend a League event, take pictures & email them to the Voter editor at judithw@frontiernet.net so we can make sure that all our good works get the recognition they deserve.

SOME SUGGESTED ON-LINE READING WHILE WAITING FOR NORMAL SCHEDULES TO RETURN

- * <u>www.lwv.org</u> Explore the LWVUS website, particularly the League Management section.
- * https://my.lwv.org/new-york-state Explore all its features and the latest legislative advocacy.

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LWV-RMA January Membership Meetings Focus On State and Local Priorities & Program via Zoom

SATURDAY JANUARY 9, 10:00 A.M.

LWVNYS LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Every two years in June our state League, LWVNYS, holds a biennial convention where a Program, the basis for prioritized advocacy in the following two years, is voted on and adopted by delegates. Local Leagues meet in January to consider recommendations from the state Board for that Program. LWV-RMA members will look at these and provide feedback on them. We can put forward recommendations of our own. We will also review and make recommendations around the proposed LWVNYS Legislative Priorities for 2021.

TUESDAY JANUARY 26, 7:00 P.M.

LWV-RMA LOCAL POSITION REVIEW AND PROGRAM PLANNING

This year LWV-RMA will do a deeper review of our local Positions, looking at expanded versions, including background materials and past actions based on them. Recommendations for retaining, updating or deleting each position will be presented by our Local Position Review Group, and attendees will discuss and decide on those. Studies for possible new positions or updates can be recommended by members at the meeting. Program Planning suggestions from members for the 2021-2022 year will be considered and those with substantial support will be submitted to the LWV-RMA Board. Ideas and issues brought up at this time often become topics of future forums.

Come participate and add your voice.

Come gain insight into League decision making.

Register at <u>lwv-rma.org</u> for each virtual meeting.











Seeking Concurrence

UPDATING OUR HEALTHCARE POSITIONS THROUGH CONCURRENCE

It is an understatement to say that the issue of healthcare has been around for a very long time. We have a National League position as well as one at the NY State League level. To see the current positions, click on "Links and Positions" on the menu on our website, www.lwv-rma.org.

The 2019 NYS League Convention voted to update the NYS position on Financing Healthcare (originally developed in 1985 and updated in 1991), with particular consideration of the manner in which single-payer legislation such as the NY Health Act could be fiscally viable; that is, the financial criteria we believe a single-payer system should meet, including the feasibility of implementing single-payer at the NYS level and consideration of how it might impact Medicare. A committee of members from around the state was appointed to carry out this charge.

This Committee has proposed two new sections to the Position on Financing Healthcare:

- feasibility criteria for single-payer financing in NYS and
- favored Cost-Control Methods that would be appropriate to guide any healthcare reform.

After review, the Committee found that the overall LWVNYS position on Healthcare itself needed to be amended as well. These updates reflect the changes in medical practice and healthcare that have occurred in the 30 years since the positions were first adopted.

In February, we will be meeting by Zoom to discuss these proposed amendments and additions to the current NYS Healthcare positions. Your February Voter will have the exact wording for your approval as well as the pros and cons related to the areas for discussion. Put us on your calendar for 7:00 P.M. on February 22nd. We look forward to "seeing" you.

LWV-RMA Healthcare Committee

Sarah Liebschutz sliebschutz48@gmail.com Georgia DeGregorio georgiatd1@gmail.com







Election Forum

On November 30, the LWV-RMA sponsored a forum dealing with 2020 Election Results and Political Trends. The Zoom discussion, which was led by Timothy Kneeland, Ph.D. and Jarred Jones, attracted 42 participants.

Dr. Kneeland focused on the presidential election while Mr. Jones reported on state and local elections. Among their comments were the following:

- The 2020 election involved the highest voter turnout in a century.
- Women dominated campaigns and made key differences in outcomes.
- Our nation has deep, unresolved divisions. Both major political parties have grown more ideological and less moderate.
- The pandemic and how it has been handled was a major factor in the election outcome.
- Protests over civil rights, climate, and other issues involved voter registration drives.
- Conservatives do not trust nor watch the same news sources as liberals.
- Attempts by social media to stop disinformation failed; fact checking does not work because conservatives don't trust the fact checkers.
- Polling doesn't provide accurate predictions of outcomes.
- Early voting was significant—in-person and by absentee ballot.
- Donald Trump is likely to seek re-election in 2024.
- Joe Biden will be expected to "heal the nation, cure the pandemic, grow the economy, create a just society, stop climate change, and make the world like us again."
- Biden's cabinet picks reflect the diversity of our nation's population.
- Progressive Democrats and moderate Democrats are likely to clash on many issues.
- Diversity and progressives won the day locally.
- Democrats won all local Assembly and State Senate races, putting our representatives in a better position to bring state support to Monroe County.
- Newcomers representing us in Albany are more diverse than ever.
- Rochester and Monroe County suburbs, as a whole, supported progressives.
- Monroe County voters are registered as follows: 42.3% Democrats, 26.6% Republican, and 24.3 Nonaffiliated.
- In 2020, there were 383,499 votes cast, a 79.6% turnout.

LVW-RMA President Judy Sternberg, seen at the top, welcomed viewers and introduced the program. Program Chairperson Elaine Schmidt introduced the presenters and moderated the Q&A portion of the forum.





VOTE411 Broke Records for 2020 Election

This article is based on a report from Meghan Brown, Vote411 Manager of LWVUS. The next issue of The Voter will include statistics for local usage of VOTE411.

This year VOTE411 had over 7.7 million sessions from Jan 1 through Election Day, and nearly 6.7 million of those sessions included the online voters' guides! That represents a 141% increase in sessions nationwide to voters' guides on VOTE411 as compared to the 2016 cycle (technically the most comparable election cycle), and a 20% increase over the 2018 election cycle (the previous year with the most sessions). These are amazing numbers and show just how much the voters turn to the League to find the information they need on Election Day.

By November 3, VOTE411 had detailed candidate information on over 41,000 candidates from 22,000 races in all 50 states and DC. That means that there were nearly 20,000 MORE candidates on VOTE411 than in the 2018 cycle, and 28,000 MORE candidates than the 2016 Presidential election. This growth on the site is thanks to the increased number of state and local Leagues in the VOTE411 voters' guide program. Over 450 Leagues from 44 states (including DC) participated in the voters' guide program this cycle. LWV-RMA has participated for several years.

In July 2020 the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) launched the complete <u>VOTE411.org/es</u> Spanish website. Since its launch, over 110,000 users access the Spanish language content. LWV-RMA will look into having our content published in Spanish in the 2021 election cycle.

This year was not typical in terms of when voters turned to VOTE411 for their information. Typically, we see increases on big primary days, then a small but steady stream of users through September/October, with a big increase starting the Friday before the General Election and then a surge on Election Day. This year, however, we saw the usual surges on Primary dates, but for the General Election we saw a surge in September, a sustained higher level of users through September and October and then a much smaller surge on Election Day. This change in usage was caused by COVID-19 and the change in how voters participated in the process this year. Large numbers of people voted absentee and early instead of on Election Day. To show just how different this September was as compared to a previous cycle, we saw a 200% increase in sessions this September as compared to September 2018!

Although more Leagues from more states participated in the 2020 VOTE411 voters' guide program than any other election cycle, there were still gaps in coverage in many areas. These gaps hurt the League's brand in these communities AND hinder LWVEF's ability to help the participating Leagues with nationwide publicity for the site. Therefore, LWVEF provided candidate information for all races down through State House (Federal/Statewide/State Legislative) and for down ballot races in the 200 most populous cities/counties. This candidate information is in addition to what local Leagues like LWV-RMA and state Leagues like LWVNYS provide. Due to this more comprehensive model, LWVEF increased publicity for the website and helped spread the word about the program to new audiences and enter new partnerships which helped reach our target communities.

LWVEF partners for VOTE411 included Target, World Market, Seventh Generation, PayPal, SweetGreen, Cabot Cheese, the National Association of Broadcasters, ProPublica, Radio.com, Power the Polls, National Voter Registration Day, Vote Early Day, HBCU, Med Out the VOTE and the National Partnership for New Americans. These partnerships resulted in over 7,100 websites linking to VOTE411. Even Amazon Alexa helped promote VOTE411! Asking Alexa questions like "do I need an ID to vote?" or "can I vote early?" prompted the device to answer using VOTE411's data, as well as to send a link to VOTE411 to the user's Alexa app if they wanted additional information. With these LWVEF efforts (plus our own Get Out The Vote efforts that promoted VOTE411 such as e-blasts, social media posts, text messaging, postcards to new voters, and door knockers) it's not surprising that so many voters found their way to VOTE411.

Judy Weinstein, VOTE411 chair vote411@lwv-rma.org







POLICE ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS

OBSERVED BY DEBORAH RICE GORDON <u>bflogal304@gmail.com</u>

OCTOBER 29

The PAB passed a resolution to join the task force working on the response to Executive Order 203 (NYS Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative).

The URL <u>PAB@cityofrochester.gov</u> has been established as a means for the public to communicate with PAB. Office space has been secured.

Academic partners will include SUNY Buffalo and Yale Law School clinics sending 4-6 students for the Spring semester. These clinics and other colleges may provide support over the summer. Students will work on policy and procedure review, researching other PABs, working with community, etc.

An Executive Session was held to discuss pending litigation against the Board and security updates.

NOVEMBER 5

Videos of PAB meetings can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYoOssoQH74. The Director's email address is: conor.reynolds@cityofrochester.gov

A Vote of Confidence for Chair Shani Wilson and Executive Director Reynolds was given by the Board, prompted by a meeting with City Council. City Council sees the PAB as subordinate. However, PAB interprets the founding legislation as establishing an autonomous office requiring funding to respond to complaints within 90 days. Council reacted negatively to an internal PAB memo outlining the Director's legal analysis which was meant to begin internal PAB discussions rather than set policy.

N.B.: On November 10, the appointment of Mr. Reynolds was unanimously approved by City Council.

Director Revnolds will meet with RPD Interim Chief Herriott-Sullivan as will the whole Board at a later date.

The Director suggested the following approach to PAB's task force work: (1) prioritize questions PAB wants to answer; (2) obtain community feedback on big picture questions that can shape proposals; (3) identify subgroups who are not at the table and work with partners to get their input; (4) publicize PAB efforts and prepare staff. The PAB needs to establish an account with the city to make expenditures and get training from the Finance Department before it can deal with language access issues.

NOVEMBER 12

An initial list of communities and groups to contact has been created. The initial set of questions should be available on November 15 for Board consideration. Plans were made for gathering testimony and answers to questions to be approved at the December 3 meeting. There is currently no city contract in place for language access support. However, contracts for a duration of less than a 1 year and less than \$10,000 do not need city approval. The Board voted to proceed with the director's framework if language resources can be secured.

NOVEMBER 19

The new Executive Director, Connor Reynolds, was sworn in.

Three Committees are required by law. A Rules Committee needs to be established to define rules for work expectations, including anti-bias/recusal elements. An initial set of rules is needed relatively soon. The Education Committee is already established to define what education is needed/wanted. A Public Engagement Committee is also needed. Since the PAB has only 8-9 members, the Board voted to have all members serve on each committee.

A Spanish version of the community survey is being prepared by resources provided through the city. Additional services will be needed to handle survey responses and future work.

The Chair has requested that PAB work with City Council to provide comments on the proposed RPD contract; a response has not been received.

(To find out more about Rochester Police Accountability Board, please click here: https://www.cityofrochester.gov/PAB/)







COMMISSION ON RACIAL AND STRUCTURAL EQUITY (RASE) COMMUNITY FORUM - REIMAGING THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

NOVEMBER 12, 2020 VIA ZOOM CONSTANCE FLAHIVE Constan548@gmail.com

This RASE listening session, a Zoom forum open to the public, allowed give and take with 10-15 people listening.

Much of the open conversation consisted of experiences the community had during the Daniel Prude protests and the treatment received. Several respondents talked about the inconsistencies and different experiences of black and brown community members. Parts of the Criminal Justice System beyond law enforcement and arrests were also discussed. Comments identified problems with the parole system and rehabilitation expectations.

In response to the question, "How would the Criminal Justice System look if reimagined?", the conversation turned to funding. There was also a discussion of teams being used to respond to mental health calls with a focus on training and gaining a clear picture of the roles of police officers and mental health experts. Some of the ideas mentioned were:

- Developing a Citizen Observer program to increase transparency
- Funding advocacy groups
- Understanding and supporting the language and culture of minorities
- Including Restorative Practices for all
- Making the 911 system and resulting policing more efficient to free up more funds for other programs
- Giving more power to people who will lead with understanding and empathy
- Holding those with minor offenses accountable through a community giveback program versus punishment.

Surveys on other topics and registration are available at https://www.rocrase.com.

RCSD STATE MONITOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ACADEMIC AND FINANCES OF THE ROCHESTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT NOVEMBER 18, 2020 OBSERVED BY CONSTANCE FLAHIVE Constan548@gmail.com

The State Monitor, Dr. Shelley Jallow, provided an overview of her report to be submitted to the NYSDOE by December 1, 2020 for review and approval. During BoE meetings in October and November, Dr. Jallow reviewed her findings and this hearing was an opportunity for community input. In addition to Dr. Jallow, Superintendent Lesli Myers-Small and a moderator were present.

Five community members—parents, teachers and a community member—raised these issues:

- Chronic underfunding with respondents advocating for a county solution and considering a moratorium on Charter Schools to stop the siphoning of funds from public schools,
- Structural racism,
- Need for information regarding a return to in-person learning especially in special education,
- Need for new board leadership to provide new ideas and energy.

Slides from the presentation are available at https://www.rcsdk12.org/statemonitorhearings.

(To view the full minutes from this and other meetings, please click here: http://www.rcsdk12.org)

RCSD BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

NOVEMBER 19, 2020 OBSERVED BY CONSTANCE FLAHIVE Constan548@gmail.com

Newly appointed Commissioner, William Clark, was in attendance but abstained from voting on resolutions due to the lack of time for him to review the relevant documents.

Reports provided included Board committee reports, Student Leadership, Parent Council and the Bilingual Education Council reports. The President's report referred to the work the Board is doing on restorative practices, conversation with the Big Five Schools regarding Charter Schools, and the value in the Student Leadership Wellness Check-in where students connected with each other to be sure they were well.







RCSD (continued)

Superintendent Lesli Myers-Small presented her initial plan for reopening schools in the winter of 2021. There are three phases s uggested in the framework:

- K–12 Specialized Programs starting January 4, 2021
- Pre-K–6 Regular Education and Special Education
- 7–12 Regular Education and Special Education. The current thinking is to have Phases 2 and 3 start in February or March but dates are open for now. All parents will have the option of continuing remote learning. Parents will be asked to decide soon if their children will be returning to school once they are reopened to make appropriate plans which are dependent on the numbers of students.

(See the RCSD website https://www.rcsdk12.org/reopens for more information.

Resolution 500: Resolved that upon recommendation of the Superintendent this district adopts the hybrid instruction of students utilizing the phased model outlined in the presentation recorded earlier during this meeting subject to further considerations as its implementation progresses. After discussion, the resolution was approved 4 to 2 with the two opposed votes due to a wariness over COVID.

(To view the full minutes from this and other meetings, please click here: http://www.rcsdk12.org)

COMIDA MEETING NOVEMBER 17 DEBORAH RICE GORDON Bflogal304@gmail.com

PROJECT REVIEW

MAGNA REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION CO LLC requested sales and mortgage recording tax exemptions and a partial real property tax abatement for expansion of its facility at 55 Vanguard Parkway, Rochester. The benefit to incentive ratio is 42:1. No local labor exemptions are anticipated

HOWITT-PAUL ROAD, LLC requested sales and mortgage recording tax exemptions for construction of three buildings housing about 92 residential units and related amenities, at 751 Paul Road, Chili. Eight of the units will be senior living units offered at market rates. The request was approved unanimously.

NORTHERN SOY INC (SoyBoy) requested a sales tax exemption for construction of an addition to their plant at 345 Paul Road, Chili. The request was approved unanimously.

AMS SENSORS USA INC. requested a sales tax exemption for construction of its first US location at the Riverwood Tech Campus, 4545 E River Rd, West Henrietta. AMS manufactures digital imaging sensors. Twenty-five FTEs are planned and prospective employees will be recruited from RIT, U of R and UB engineering programs. The benefit to incentive ratio is 116:1. The request was approved unanimously.

BUTLER/TILL MEDIA SERVICES, INC, an employee -owned, women-lead company, requested a sales tax exemption for expansion of a building at 260 East Broad Street, Rochester. In addition to office space, the expansion will include 28 apartment units and some retail space. Sixty FTEs are anticipated over the next 3-year period. The benefit to incentive ratio is 23:1. The request was approved unanimously.

SOUTH PARK DEVELOPMENT LLC requested sales and mortgage recording tax exemptions and a real property tax abatement for an e-commerce distribution facility in Greece for Amazon. A local labor exemption may be needed for the installation of propriety systems. Seventy-five 75 FTEs are expected over the next 3 years. The benefit to incentive ratio is 4:1. The request was approved unanimously.

PROJECT MODIFICATIONS

Sales tax exemptions were sought due to construction and pandemic-related delays by Ambassador Homes Inc., 390 East CBM LLC, and 525 East Broad LLC. The extensions were approved.

LOCAL LABOR MONITORING REPORT

The Ring Concierge project, which was reviewed in October, was completed in August. A request was made for clarification of project timing and to confirm that benefits are not needed. A response has not been received.

A local labor exemption was granted to Li-Cycle Inc. for the installation of specialty flooring system at 100 Latona Road. A certified installer had to be used under the conditions of the flooring warranty.

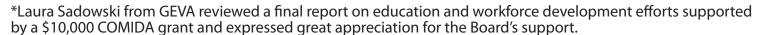




COMIDA (continued)

FINANCIAL REPORT





*The final year of a 4-year contract with Loewke Brill Consulting Group for labor monitoring was approved.

(To find out more about COMIDA, please click here: https://monroecountyida.org/)

MONROE COUNTY LEGISLATURE NOVEMBER 10, 2020

OBSERVED BY ELAINE SCHMIDT e.schmidt8@frontier.com

During the Public Forum, many citizens expressed opposition to COVID-19 testing of school children.

La Bella Associates D.P.C. was authorized to design the Jail Mainframe Reconstruction Project for \$217,795.

\$1,300,000 in County Bonds were authorized to finance the cost of MCC combined heat and power plant improvements.

The County Executive was authorized to execute a 5-year contract with Reliant Staffing Systems, Inc., D.B.A. as Career Start, to provide nursing and public health care provider services for the Monroe County Department of Health.

Phoenix Business Consulting has been authorized to conduct a SAP upgrade. The County uses SAP to pay its employees.

Allyssa N. Tallo was confirmed as Executive Health Director at Monroe Community Hospital.

Goodwill of the Finger Lakes was contracted for a COVID-19 Call Center and phone triage database support services for the Monroe County Department of Public Health.

The resolutions were approved unanimously for the most part. However, the conflict over the position of Minority Leader continues.

(To view the full minutes from this and other meetings, please click here: http://www2.monroecounty.gov)

Committee Reports

Election Services

By the time you read this, election results should be certified, hopefully. On November 16, the opening of the absentee ballots began here in Monroe County. The League did not participate in the opening process this year. The Monroe County Board of Elections decided that it had an abundance of team members and did not need our assistance.

Sheila Abeling

FEPC

The Fair Election Practices Campaign has come to a close for the 2020 election season. No complaints were filed with the Hearing Committee. There were fewer races this year, which in conjunction with the effects of the pandemic may have affected candidates' decisions to file complaints or sign Pledges. The FEPC Committee will reconvene in spring 2021. Anyone interested in assisting with the multitude of local races in 2021 may call Kris Rogers at 746-6157.









Book club members meeting via Zoom on November 19.

LWV-RMA Book Club

The bookclub discussed The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson

During its November 19 Zoom session, members reviewed the issues faced by black migrants from the Jim Crow South as they sought better lives elsewhere in our nation.

Remaining 2020 – 2021 book reading schedule

December 17 The Untold Story of Women of Color in the League of Women Voters by Carolyn Jefferson Jenkins

January 21 Set the World on Fire: Black Nationalist Women and the Global Struggle for Freedom by Keishan N.

Blain

February 18 The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present by David Treuer, AND

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West by Dee Brown

March 18 Begin Again by Eddie S. Glaude Jr.

April 15 How To Be An Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi

May 20 Walking with the Wind: A Memoir of the Movement by John Lewis

June 17 Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

The LWV-RMA book club meets via Zoom at 4:30 P.M. on the third Thursday of the month. A link will be sent to everyone who expresses an interest to Judy Weinstein (vote411@lwv-rma.org), who serves as the group's Zoom techie.

NATIONAL SECURITY FOREIGN POLICY · FAMILY VALUES FOREIGN TAX CREDITS SOCIAL SECURITY · WALL STREET GOOD JOBS · FAMILIES VOTING RIGHTS · MENTAL HEALTH RURAL COMMUNITIES CORPORATIONS · ILLEGAL ALIENS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FAIR SHARE · AMERICAN WORKERS INCOME TAX REFORM HEALTH CARE · NUCLEAR WEAPON FAMILY BUSINESSES RELIGIOUS LIBERTY · TAX RATE CORPORATE TAX DODGING · LAW-ABIDING GUN OWNERS ILLEGAL EXPORT SUBSIDIES · INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SPECIAL INTERESTS · CHILD CARE · IMMIGRATION VETERANS · GLOBAL LEADERSHIP · SIMPLE FLAT TAX SMALL BUSINESSES · ESTATE TAX · STABLE DOLLAR TAX CREDIT · GOD-GIVEN RIGHTS · WOMEN'S ISSUES







Calendar



December

- 4 First Friday (11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.) via Zoom; directions and a link provided via email.
- 9 LWV-RMA Board Meeting (6:30 8:30 P.M.) via Zoom; contact Judy Sternberg Judy Sternberg at president@lwv-rma.org for link.
- 17 Book Club (4:30 6:00 P.M.) via Zoom; The Untold Story of Women of Color in the League of Women Voters by Carolyn Jefferson Jenkins; contact Judy Weinstein at wote411@lwv-rma.org for link.

January - Happy New Year!

- 8 First Friday (11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.) via Zoom; a link will be sent via email.
- 9 LWVNYS Legislative Priorities and Bi-Annual Program Planning (10:00-11:30 A.M.) via Zoom; a link will be sent via email.
- 13 LWV-RMA Board Meeting (6:30 8:30 P.M.) via Zoom; contact Judy Sternberg at president@lwv-rma.org for link.
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26 LWV-RMA Annual Local Position Review and 2021-2022 Program Planning (7:00-8:30 P.M.) via Zoom; a link will be sent via email.

February

- 5 First Friday (11:00 A.M. 1:00 P.M.) via Zoom; a link will be sent via email.
- 10 LWV-RMA Board Meeting (6:30 8:30 P.M.) via Zoom; contact Judy Sternberg at president@lwv-rma.org for link.
- 18 Book Club (4:30 6:00 P.M.) via Zoom; The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present by David Treuer, AND Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West by Dee Brown; contact Judy Weinstein at vote411@lwv-rma. org for link.
- 22 Member Meeting on Healthcare (7:00 8:30 P.M.) via Zoom; a link will be sent via email.

* All Naturalization Ceremonies are cancelled in Monroe County until further notice.

Be sure to check your email and our website for other events as they are scheduled!

First Friday Goes Electronic

Because of the pandemic, First Friday convenes via Zoom. Shown are some of the participants in the November 6 and December 4 sessions. Join the group on any or all of these dates:

Join the group on any or all of these dates:

January 8 April 2 February 5 May 7 March 5 June 4







PO Box 10573 Rochester, NY 14610 585-262-3730 www.LWV-RMA.org

FEBRUARY VOTER DEADLINE IS JANUARY 15!

League of Women Voters-Rochester Metro Area Mission Statement

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.

Voter education is one of the League's most important functions, and the League encourages all citizens to register and to cast an informed vote.

The League does not support political parties or candidates, but does take stands on important issues after careful study and research.

Membership in the League is open to all persons who are at least 16 years of age.

Those under 16 can be associate members.

Goals of the League of Women Voters:

- To encourage informed citizen participation in government and politics
- To influence public policy through education and advocacy

Rochester VOTER

A Monthly Publication of the League of Women Voters/Rochester Metropolitan Area

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PresidentJudith Sternberg (2020-2021)Vice PresidentMyra Pelz (2020-2021)TreasurerJudy Weinstein (2019-2021)SecretaryKris Rogers (2020-2022)DirectorKimberly Byers (2020-2021)DirectorBarbara Grosh (2020-2022)DirectorMary Hussong-Kallen (2020-2022)

Director Sarah Sandler (2020-2022)

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Looking for info on a League committee or activity? Look no further!

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Book Club Judy Weinstein vote411@lwv-rma.org

Communication/PR Mary Hussong-Kallen communications@lwv-rma.org

Election Services/Naturalization Sheila Abeling Sheiler162007@gmail.com

Fair Election Practices Campaign Kris Rogers

krogers8@rochester.rr.com

Government Judy Weinstein vote411@lwv-rma.org

Membership Sarah Sandler membership@lwv-rma.org

Nominating Mary Hussong-Kallen nominations@lwv-rma.org

Programs Elaine Schmidt e.schmidt8@frontier.com

VOTE411 Judy Weinstein vote411@lwv-rma.org

Voter Services Barbara Grosh voterservices@lwv-rma.org

The Voter is a monthly publication of the LWV-RMA

Editor, Judy Wadsworth Layout/Design, Chris Burleigh

Join the League Today!



Name:		
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Check Amount:	MEMBERSI	HIP LEVELS:
Level of Memberchin	Individual/Associate	

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	Household	\$105
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	Carrie Chapman Catt	\$200
	Student (full or part time at an accredited institution) $\ \ldots \ \ldots$	FREE
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