

# TheVOTER

## Urgent Forum 1:



**November 8 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom**

## Urgent Forum 2:



**November 11 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom**

***See page 3 to learn more & to register for both events.***

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## President's Corner

### DEBATE DISAPPOINTMENTS

If you talk to most people in Monroe County, you will find we all think democracy is a great thing. We're proud that Americans choose those who govern us, at every level. We're all pro-choice when it comes to our public officials.

Except, when it comes down to it, we often don't have a choice and when we do, many candidates are not happy to have an opponent. For many years, the elected officials governing the towns of Monroe County were nearly all Republican. And unlike in the city of Rochester, where the mostly Democratic elected officials were winnowed by vigorous competition in the primaries, in the suburbs there were seldom any primaries. Which meant there was usually no choice on the ballot in the towns in the primary or general elections. It's a special kind of democracy where voters get no choices.

Things have been changing gradually. In 2015, the Democrats of Henrietta managed to field a complete slate of candidates. The League tried to organize debates, but our invitations were not accepted. In the local elections in 2019, there were more contested races, and we still didn't succeed in organizing debates in the towns. There seemed to be an attitude on the part of the incumbents that their party had nothing to gain by giving their challengers greater exposure through public debate. Incumbents or dominant parties can be that way.

This year when candidates filed their petitions in March and April we saw that there would be contested elections throughout Monroe County. The final list for the general election had over 200 candidates and Judy Weinstein and the Government committee started organizing debates in July. In the end we planned a schedule of 22 debates to cover all the contested elections in all the towns as well as the 20 contested County Legislature seats and the Rochester City Council at-large race.

Sadly, the attitude seems to be unchanged. There are not enough candidates willing to debate to hold debates, given that it takes two to tango. You can see the sad details on the list on our website: [https://lwv-rma.org/local\\_debates\\_2021.php](https://lwv-rma.org/local_debates_2021.php).

Despite the general failure of our efforts to organize debates, things are very different this year. Penfield is the only town where voters still have no choice in town races but even there, they have choices for their representatives in the County Legislature. Two-party democracy is coming to Monroe County. Perhaps we can have debates at the next local elections. The League will be there, doing our best to organize them.

**Barbara Grosh**, *President, League of Women Voters of the Rochester Metropolitan Area*  
[president@lwv-rma.org](mailto:president@lwv-rma.org)



TOP: LWV-RMA Moderator William Robinson with Candidates for Greece Town Justice Debra Crowder, Brett Granville, and Bridget O'Toole.

BOTTOM: LWV-RMA President and technology guru Barbara Grosh, Welcomers Judy Sternberg and Tiffany Moore-Corteville, and timekeeper Judy Wadsworth.

***The Redistricting Committee will hold not one, but two, webinars in November.***

## REDISTRICTING IN MONROE COUNTY: LET'S LOOK AT THE MAPS

**NOVEMBER 8 AT 7:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM**

The Monroe County Legislative District Revision Commission (LDRC) held "public" – albeit not well-publicized -- hearings to get input for revising the district maps for the County Legislature. We suspect that most Monroe County residents are not very familiar with the current maps and didn't feel able to give meaningful feedback. We don't know when the LDRC will come out with proposed new maps or how they will make them available. This webinar will help the public understand the state of play, whatever it may be on that day. We may be looking at the current (old) maps, or maybe at the newly proposed maps, or maybe talking about them but unable to show them, depending on what the LDRC does between now and then. Whenever the maps are released, there will be another chance (possibly brief and not well-publicized) to give feedback on the maps, and we want to help the public be prepared.

<https://bit.ly/LWV-CountyLeg>

## Urgent Forum 1:



**Redistricting  
in Monroe County:  
Let's Look  
at the Maps.**

***November 8 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom***

## REDISTRICTING IN NY: LET'S LOOK AT THE PROPOSED MAPS

**NOVEMBER 11 AT 7:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM**

The NY Independent Redistricting Commission published two sets of proposed maps for Congress, the state Senate and the Assembly. They change the shape of the districts that represent the Rochester area. We will walk you through the maps to help you understand how you will be affected. There is still time to tell the IRC which set of maps you like better and why, but that window closes before Thanksgiving. Join us!

<https://bit.ly/LWV-NYSmaps>

## Urgent Forum 2:



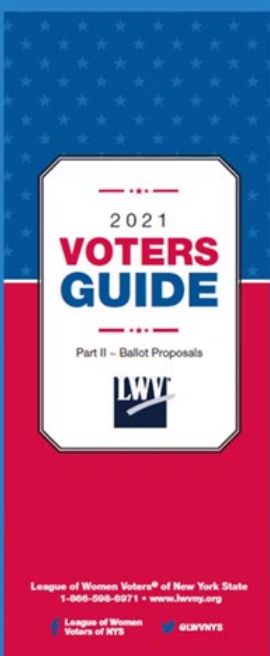
**Redistricting  
in NY's:  
Let's Look  
at the Proposed Maps.**

***November 11 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom***

**Democracy is not a  
spectator sport.  
Tag! You're It!**

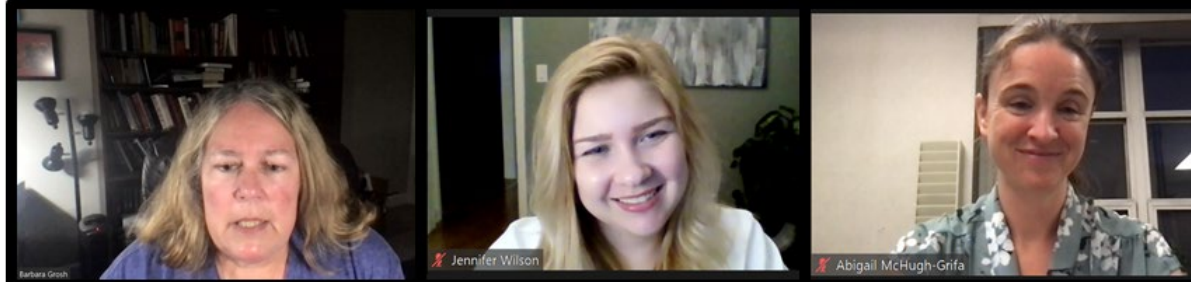


## Review of Proposed Amendments to the State Constitution



- 1 Amending the Apportionment and Redistricting Process
- 2 Right to Clean Air, Clean Water, and a Healthful Environment
- 3 Eliminating Ten-Day-Advance Voter Registration Requirement
- 4 Authorizing No-Excuse Absentee Ballot Voting
- 5 Increasing the Jurisdiction of the New York City Civil Court

**Ballot proposals will appear on the back side of the ballot!**



Leading the forum on proposed constitutional amendments were LWV-RMA President Barbara Grosh with panelists Jennifer Wilson and Abby McHugh-Grifa.

During a LWV-RMA forum on October 12, participants were updated about the five ballot proposals that will appear on the back of ballots this fall. These proposals were passed by two successive legislatures. To become law, they require our approval via this referendum.

Abby McHugh-Grifa, Executive Director of the Climate Solutions Accelerator, provided an overview of Proposal 2 which would give us all the right to clean air, clean water, and a clean environment. **LWVNYS has endorsed Proposal 2.**

Jennifer Wilson, our LWVNYS Deputy Director and in-house lobbyist, discussed the other four proposals.

*Proposal 1* revises the amendment that was passed in 2014 to create the Independent Redistricting Commission, currently at work. The 2014 amendment, now part of the NYS Constitution, contains several rules designed to ensure that one party cannot control the whole process, even if it holds a majority in both houses. Proposal 1 would undo some of those rules. Other changes would add to the Constitution requirements that incarcerated individuals shall be counted as living in their last place of residence, and not prison, for purposes of redistricting (it is currently state law) and that non-citizen and Native American residents be counted for purposes of redistricting, in case the Federal Census fails to include them in its count. **LWVNYS is opposed to Proposal 1.**

*Proposal 3* would eliminate the requirement in our constitution for voters to register ten days in advance, opening the possibility for same-day voter registration. **LWVNYS has endorsed Proposal 3.**

*Proposal 4* would allow anyone to vote absentee, with no excuse required. **LWVNYS has endorsed Proposal 4.**

*Proposal 5* would change the cap on claims that can be heard in NYC's Civil Court. **LWVNYS has no position on Proposal 5.**

**BE SURE TO VOTE ON THESE PROPOSITIONS WHICH WILL APPEAR ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF YOUR BALLOT.**

## Fair Election Practices Campaign

The League of Women Voters-Rochester Metropolitan Area (League) and The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester (TIAR) are pleased to announce that 75 of the 186 non-judicial Candidates in the Monroe County General Elections have signed and submitted the Fair Election Practices Campaign (FEPC) Pledge. Forty-one of the competitive races include at least one candidate who signed the Pledge. By signing the Pledge, candidates commit to remaining focused on the issues important to local voters and to run positive campaigns. A complete list of candidates who signed and submitted the Pledge is provided on the League's website at [www.lwv-rma.org](http://www.lwv-rma.org).

The FEPC Hearing Committee, a balanced panel of local volunteers with prior election experience, accepts formal complaints from candidates who signed the Pledge regarding any inaccurate or negative campaign materials published by their opponents. A virtual hearing is held to review all properly filed complaints, and decisions are released to the media and posted on the League's website.

For more information about the Fair Election Practices Campaign Pledge and the FEPC process, please visit the League of Women Voters-RMA website at <https://lwv-rma.org/FEPC.php>

**Kris Rogers**

[fepec@lwv-rma.org](mailto:fepec@lwv-rma.org)

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## Redistricting Campaign Team Report

Redistricting is now fully under way, and the League's team is engaged. Latest news and links are available at [www.lwv-rma.org/redistricting.php](http://www.lwv-rma.org/redistricting.php)

### HERE'S WHERE REDISTRICTING STANDS, AS OF MID-OCTOBER:

**New York Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC)** is charged with drawing maps for seats in the NYS Legislature and US House of Representatives, to be presented to the NYS Legislature for approval in January.

The Commission released its first version of maps on September 15. Unfortunately, the bipartisan Commission failed to agree on a single set of maps – there's a Republican set and a Democratic set. Commission members have promised to do better, and try to produce a single set of maps, when they are finished. Cross your fingers. You can see the proposed maps, and compare to the existing maps, at <https://newyork.redistrictingandyou.org/>

The local League's Redistricting Team encouraged community stakeholders to participate in the Commission's Rochester hearing on October 21. In addition, some members of the team planned to testify. Look for an update next month.

There is still time to weigh in before the Commission draws its final maps. Written testimony can be submitted until late November. Find details at <https://nyirc.gov/participate#submit-testimony>. See page 3 for the forum we plan to help people understand the IRC maps.

**The Monroe County Legislative District Revision Commission (LDRC)** is the five-person panel drawing new maps for the Monroe County Legislature, consisting of three Republicans and two Democrats. You may recall that League President Barbara Grosh reacted with a critical and cautionary statement, *"Redistricting: Too Important to Rush"*, in the October newsletter. She urged the panel to engage the public in a careful and thoughtful process.

We'll see how it goes. The Commission hosted three October hearings in a single week, none of them well-publicized or well-attended. We encouraged community stakeholders to participate, and some did. As of mid-October, there was no word from the Commission about its proposed process, timeline, or any details about what to expect. A minority member remarked at the first hearing that he expected the Commission to quickly approve a partisan map and present it to the County Legislature for approval, with minimal notice or public input.

League President Barbara Grosh testified at the county hearings. You can read her testimony on the website: [https://lwv-rma.org/redistricting\\_testimony\\_countyLeg.php](https://lwv-rma.org/redistricting_testimony_countyLeg.php). League members Dave Garretson, Elaine Schmidt and Cathy Kane also testified.

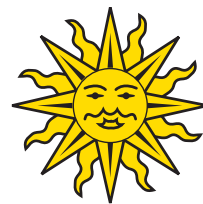
You can stay informed by checking our LWV-RMA Redistricting page for updates. [www.lwv-rma.org/redistricting.php](http://www.lwv-rma.org/redistricting.php)

Do you need help preparing testimony, figuring out how to participate, or providing information to others? We're here to give a hand, at [redistricting@lwv-rma.org](http://redistricting@lwv-rma.org)

**Dave Garretson**

[davegarretson363@gmail.com](mailto:davegarretson363@gmail.com)

## Sunshine Corner



### SEPTEMBER COMIDA MEETINGS REPORTED BY DEBORAH RICE GORDON

#### COMIDA GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

The committee reviewed and discussed a revised draft housing policy. The committee decided that all housing projects must have an affordable set aside, percentage to be determined. The committee decided that the housing project must be built in a blighted or highly distressed area, defined as being located in an area with 20% poverty level and unemployment rate of at least 1.25 times the statewide unemployment rate. The committee will continue the discussion at the next meeting.

The committee recommended that the full board approve amending the local labor policy to include the granting of an exemption for the use of non-local labor on warranty related grounds is expressly conditioned on either said non-local subcontractors being enrolled in a New York State certified apprenticeship program or the hiring of an apprentice/apprentices or local construction laborer(s) to assist in the installation.

A bid processing policy for local labor was considered and approved for presentation to the Board. Projects totaling \$5 million or more would trigger the posting to the Rochester Builders' Exchange website and the payment of a prevailing wage. The posting would be required within a minimum of two weeks of the bid due date.

The committee reviewed and discussed a Renewable Energy Project Policy. Clean energy advocates have been inquiring about COMIDA policies regarding solar and wind projects. To date, COMIDA has provided benefits to two solar projects. A committee is being formed to advise the County Legislature and administration as to policy and priorities on clean energy development. NYSERDA has published guidelines and the property tax law now addresses solar power developers. The proposed policy consists of a maximum PILOT term of up to fifteen years with a minimum annual base PILOT payment reflecting the current land assessment of the improved parcel plus \$4,500 to \$5,500 per megawatt which would be split among taxing entities. The proposal will be advanced to the Board.

#### COMIDA BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

##### Project Applications:

The following requests were approved:

J.D. and Sons, Inc. requested sales and mortgage recording tax exemptions and real property tax abatement for the construction of a seafood processing plant in the Eastman Business Park on Lake Avenue in Rochester.

Pack Smart, Inc. requested sales and mortgage recording tax exemptions and real property tax abatement for:

1. The acquisition and renovation of a building on Air Park Drive in Chili to become their manufacturing center in the United States.
2. The acquisition and renovation of a building at 1964 Lake Avenue, Rochester to become their North American headquarters for design, research and development and business development. AIM Photonics is currently located in the building and will remain at the site, and other occupants will be recruited for selected floors of the building.

Precision Optical Transceivers requested sales tax exemption for renovation of an existing facility on Brighton Henrietta Town Line Road in Henrietta to include engineering labs as well as production and office spaces.

##### Project Modifications

The following modifications were approved:

The Flats LLC is selling a student housing property at South Plymouth Ave and Genesee Street, Rochester to the Spruce Risk Purchasing Group, LLC (a for-profit entity of the University of Rochester). The building will continue as student housing and a restaurant will be developed at the site. An approval of the sale of the facility and transfer of the real property tax abatement were requested.

An office project for Plymouth Terrace LLC was previously approved in 2012. In 2016, unrented space was converted to rental apartments. Therefore, there is no opportunity to create the ten jobs approved in the original agreement. They requested a reduction to two employees.



## Sunshine Corner *continued from page 6*



An American Aero Gel Corporation project application was approved in 2019. Modifications to the original approval are requested due to an increase in project costs needed to fulfill a revised agreement with the landlord for building improvements. An adjustment to the sales tax exemption benefit and an additional extension through December 31, 2021 were requested.

### Other Business

The following requests were approved:

Genesee Country Village and Museum requested \$5000 to support its annual agricultural fair. Emerging food and drink businesses showcase their products at the event.

Camp Good Days and Special Times requested \$10,000 for an annual event for children called the Courage Bowl. This competition is a fundraiser with the proceeds going to cancer patients. Funds would be used for transportation, refreshments, advertising, and stipends for interns involved in the project.

The following recommendations were presented by the Governance Committee:

1. Those businesses requesting local labor waivers due to warranty requirements must be enrolled in a NYS-certified apprenticeship program or be willing to hire an apprentice. In addition, any project over \$5 million must post its plans on the Rochester Builders' Exchange website. The recommendations were approved by the Board with an effective date of January 1, 2022.
2. Renewable energy pilot projects of up to 15 years would pay a per megawatt output charge of \$4500-\$5500 with a minimum yearly increase of 2%. This is consistent with other localities locally and within the state. The recommendation was approved and will be adopted immediately.

## SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2021 POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD MEETINGS

OBSERVED BY DEBORAH RICE GORDON

### SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

Executive Director Reynolds gave the following update:

- Earlier that day, the Rochester Police Department (RPD) issued a press release concerning the Daniel Prude incident announcing that disciplinary charges were being brought against one officer. No other officers were charged. The announcement also included reform efforts undertaken by RPD. The announcement led to questions, e.g. what are the charges, why did this take so long, why was only one officer charged? These questions underscore the need for the PAB to properly and quickly address these incidents.
- The city government has decided that the PAB has authority to hire its own staff. This is a significant positive change that enables faster turn around and the ability to address outstanding hiring issues. The city government has also expressed a desire for collaboration and cooperation with the PAB moving forward. The Civil Service Commission approved additional staff positions so that the PAB now has over 30 open positions. Job postings will appear on [rocpab.org](http://rocpab.org). The PAB will make a public announcement when that happens and encourage local residents to apply. A wide range of skills are needed such as attorney, investigators, human resources, administrative assistants, social media, etc. Work is ongoing to address pay structure, pre-job posting requirements, and the interview process.
- The work of establishing policies and procedures proceeds with SMK Consultants writing a framework for a manual. With the city's Law Department, the PAB is looking at locations for office space, and hopes to present a proposal to City Council and have it approved in a month or so.
- A grant of \$500,000 was received from New York State and is going through the city's budget department process.
- Website development has been a top priority over the past few weeks. Initially, the focus will be on job postings, including positions that are shareable, and an easy application process. The website will evolve as The PAB moves forward and acquires additional expertise with new hires.

Vice Chair Danielle Tucker provided an update for Board members :

- Upcoming meetings will be held on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 6:30-8:00 P.M.

*continued on page 8*

## Sunshine Corner *continued from page 7*



- A Board calendar is under development.
- LEAP Peak Performance would like to conclude interviewing Board members by end of the month.
- Two new committees will be formed for finance and job equity.

Board member training needs, plans and scheduling were discussed by Board members. Training will be started after SMK Consultants has completed the policies and procedures guidance, hopefully prior to the end of the year. Dr. Harrison raised the need for a consistent meeting structure and a means for Board input to and updates on SMK's work. Reverend Nickoloff suggested that other training, such as non-violent communication, could be done in the near future.

### OCTOBER 7, 2021

Vice Chair Tucker led discussions of internal Board operations including members' availability for training/education and team building events and the proposed calendar for the remainder of 2021. Expanding the committee structure, Board members have been assigned to the following new committees: Training, Finance, Job Equity, Executive Director, and Rules.

Executive Director Reynolds reported that job recruitment is going well. The jobs are posted on [rocpab.org](https://www.rocpab.org) and about 100 inquiries have been received. Community members are encouraged to apply and also spread the word about the postings. The core rules center around fair and open recruitment without preferential treatment from Board members. The PAB is recruiting on the basis of who you are and not who you know. Some guidelines for Board members and the procedures that will be used to ensure fairness were presented, as were steps in the proposed hiring process.

The PAB will need to form a pool of alternates should a Board member conflict arise with a particular job candidate. The date and details of the diversity audit also need to be worked through. Board members need to share recruitment information with their organizations and finally approve the hiring process. Dr. McIntosh suggested a recruitment FAQ feature for [rocpab.org](https://www.rocpab.org). It was noted that staff has been sending letters to organizations, will be going on Spanish-speaking radio stations, and translating jobs flyers as well. Staff is also asking the Police Accountability Board Alliance to help identify candidates.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

SMK is meeting with City's Law Department next week to work through rules, policies and procedures. SMK will meet with the Board on October 21 to present an outline of the policies and procedures developed to date and seek Board feedback.

As reported in the last meeting, the PAB continues to meet with the City Office of Management and Budget to identify the rules that will apply to the \$500,000 grant received from New York State. The grant can be used for capital expenses such as furniture and professional consulting.

Board Member Brown asked for an update on the law students' progress. This will be added to the next agenda.

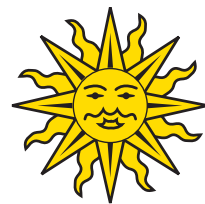
Approval of the proposed calendar was tabled until the next meeting. A motion to adopt the hiring process was approved unanimously.

Executive Director Reynolds discussed the recent officer-involved death in the city and emphasized that every such death needs to be investigated independently. He also noted that Rochester Police Chief Cynthia Herriott-Sullivan had announced her resignation and Deputy Chief of Operations, David M. Smith would become Interim Police Chief. The PAB will invite him to meet with the Board to discuss his vision for the force. There was consensus that the PAB should be involved in the search for a new Chief of Police to ensure community input.

For more details, go to <https://www.rocpab.org/contact/> and request that the minutes be sent to you.



## Sunshine Corner *continued from page 8*



### RCSD BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

OBSERVED BY CONSTANCE FLAHIVE ONLINE

Meetings have returned to in-person as directed by the state. The 2021-22 Board meetings are using a new electronic system using Board Docs to allow documents to be visible to Board Members and the public in real time. This includes the resolutions, thus streamlining the voting process. The September 2021 schedule included the usual committee meetings as well as four Special/Emergency Board meetings devoted to transportation issues arising from the lack of bus drivers as well as a working meeting devoted to the 2021-22 Board goals.

Reports were presented from the Student Leadership Congress (SLC), the Parent Leadership Advisory Council (PLAC), and the Bilingual Council, as well as the standing Board committees and the superintendent reports. Key issues from the reports continued to concern parent engagement in committees and the importance of providing timely processes to engage parents and hearing the voices of the community. Transportation was also mentioned in most reports with positive updates regarding student experiences. However, one parent speaker requested that certain bus stops need to be looked at more closely due to locations in high crime areas. She requested that the district look at safety for children beyond convenience and asked for an audit of the decision processes. A second speaker spoke about the need for system changes to improve outcomes across the district.

Dr. Nelms reported the need to be proactive now and provide support for students returning to school with conflict issues. He requested that parents and community keep East High School and the district informed of potential problems (such as gang activity), thus limiting fights and potential long-term suspensions. The 'Let's Talk' web feature can be used for anonymous reporting. Restorative practices and the family groups at East are still active and working on rebuilding trust after the pandemic. The Board had an active discussion of additional supports such as increasing the Pathways to Peace or other supports within buildings across the district.

CFO Carleen Pierce provided the Finance Committee report, reviewing the August End of Month statement focusing on the cash flow. Due to the decision to not request Revenue Anticipation Note (RAN) money this year, the district will need to be cautious and disciplined. She provided a brief look at how to read the reports and noted that a change in mindset will be required. During the requisition process, departments at all levels will need to ask where the money will come from as well as what is needed.

A report provided by the District Coordinator of Environmental Safety reviewed the COVID-19 procedures when positive cases are detected. The Board requested that her detailed PowerPoint be added to the RCSD website in various languages for families' easy access. Issues discussed included student quarantine requirements and pivoting to remote learning if necessary.

Finally, the Board voted to approve the proposed contract with the Association of Supervisors & Administrators of Rochester (ASAR).

### MONROE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OCTOBER 12

OBSERVED BY ELAINE SCHMIDT

A public hearing was held on the Food Delivery Fairness Act but no one signed up to speak.

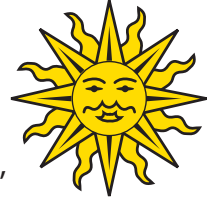
Many citizens spoke in the Public Forum. Several Monroe County employees from the Federation of Social Workers (FSW) spoke about the low retention rate and stressful working conditions of County Social Service employees. The speakers shared their research showing that Monroe County pays about \$8,000 less than surrounding counties, making that a factor in our low retention rate. The president of the FSW asked that negotiations with the County be reopened as their contract doesn't end until 2023.

The Legislature was once again reminded by speakers for Lakaya Sinclair (the woman who accused Monroe County Legislator Ernest Flagler-Mitchell of sexual harassment) that there has been no response to their inquiries about what the Legislature was going to do regarding one of their member's unacceptable behavior.

A speaker who identified himself as a member of the De Jure Assembly read a statement to the Legislature "serving notice" that they support the "natural rights and freedoms given to us by God". He went on to say, "The De Jure Assembly of Monroe County, our group, is a fourth arm of the government with the authority to monitor Monroe County's public servants, to ensure that they act on behalf of We the People remaining compliant to the Constitution and their oaths".

*continued on page 10*

## Sunshine Corner *continued from page 9*



Sister Grace Miller and others spoke about the need for low-income housing and the need for shelter of the homeless in the coming winter.

Representatives for SCOPE, a group pushing against the ban on firearms in Monroe County Parks, once again urged the Legislature to reconsider the ban.

A bill sponsored by Rachael Barnhart (Dem) and Paul Dondorfer (Rep) to prevent third party food delivery services listing, advertising, promoting, or selling restaurant products, or arranging delivery of products without a written agreement with the restaurant, passed 27-1.

Jackie Smith was appointed to the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation Board.

Julio Jordan and Shira May, Ph.D., were appointed as Citizen Representatives to the Criminal Justice Council.

Full minutes of Monroe County Legislature meetings are accessible at [Agendas & Minutes | Monroe County, NY](#).

### 2021-2022 LWV-RMA Dues are Due

It is time for the annual membership dues renewal for all members who joined prior to February 2021. (Life and Student members are exempt from renewals.) The due date for membership renewals is December 31, 2021.

2021 brought us the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, although after assessing changing safety recommendations, the League of Women Voters of the Rochester Metro Area was able to carefully transition to some in-person events as the year progressed. Whether in-person or through Zoom, we have successfully continued our mission of encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government, and influencing public policy through education and advocacy.

2021 activities included voter registration and GOTV (Get Out The Vote), organizing candidate debates, and holding public forums covering topics such as police accountability, redistricting, and 2021 ballot proposals.

It is your support and participation as a member that makes these and many more activities possible.

Complete information about renewals can be found by going to our website: [www.lwv-rma.org/join.php](http://www.lwv-rma.org/join.php). Options and information are available for both secure online payment, or payment by regular mail. Payment by regular mail can be sent to:

League of Women Voters of the Rochester Metropolitan Area  
PO Box 10573  
Rochester, NY 14610

Membership levels:

- Individual Membership, \$75.00
- Household Membership, \$105.00
- Susan B. Anthony/Frederick Douglass Membership, \$150.00
- Carrie Chapman Catt Membership, \$200.00
- Student Memberships are FREE!
- Limited Income? Do not let this be a deterrent to membership!

Please email for more information to: [membership@lwv-rma.org](mailto:membership@lwv-rma.org).

Thank you for your support!

**Sarah B. Sandler**



## Book Club Update

The LWV-RMA book club meets at 4:30 P.M., usually on the third Thursday of the month. A link will be sent to everyone who expresses an interest to Judy Weinstein ([vote411@lww-rma.org](mailto:vote411@lww-rma.org)), who serves as the group's Zoom techie. Below is the reading and meeting schedule for November through January. Books for later in the year are yet to be determined.

- November 18     *First Principles* by Thomas E. Ricks – discussion led by Georgia DiGregorio  
 December 16     *However Long the Night* by Aimee Molloy – discussion led by Judy Wadsworth  
 January 20        *The Sum of Us* by Heather McGhee – discussion led by Barbara Grosh

Your suggestions are welcome for books to read February – June. Please send them to Judy Weinstein ([vote411@lww-rma.org](mailto:vote411@lww-rma.org)). OR better yet, attend one of the book club sessions listed above to share your input.



## Public Market Registration

### Public Market Voter Registration



On October 24, Sue Steepy and Deb Gordon hosted a voter registration table at one of the Rochester Public Market's Halloween days. Also seen are Marion O'Connor holding a sign for a potential future voter (left), as well as a skeletal visitor to the table from a Hispanic dance troupe (right).



# Calendar

## November

- 2 ELECTION DAY and Last day to postmark absentee ballot
- 5 First Friday (11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.) Join us at I-Square, in our old spot in the back on the ground floor (unless global warming gives us a freak warm day, in which case we'll be on the roof again)
- 8 Redistricting in Monroe County: Let's Look at the Maps. (7:00 P.M. via Zoom)
- 11 Redistricting in NY: Let's Look at the Proposed Maps. (7:00 P.M. via Zoom)
- 17 LWV-RMA Board Meeting (6:00 – 7:30 P.M.)
- 18 LWV-RMA Book Club (4:30 – 5:30 P.M. via Zoom)  
- *First Principles* by Thomas E. Ricks

## December

- 3 First Friday (11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.) Watch your email for notification of whether this will be in person or via Zoom.
- 15 LWV-RMA Board Meeting (6:00 – 7:30 P.M.)
- 16 LWV-RMA Book Club (4:30 – 5:30 P.M. via Zoom)  
- *However Long the Night* by Aimee Molloy

There are no scheduled public Naturalization Ceremonies for 2021 in Monroe County due to the pandemic.

LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK! 

We know you'll "like" us!

[www.facebook.com/lwvofrma](https://www.facebook.com/lwvofrma)

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

## Join First Friday!

Join the group for informal conversations on any or all of the dates listed—for a few minutes or for the full two hours, your choice:

November 5	March 4
December 3	April 1
January 7	May 6
February 4	June 3

**Democracy is not a  
spectator sport.  
Tag! You're It!**



Board of Directors meetings are currently via Zoom. Board meetings are open to all members. See calendar for dates and times and contact Barbara Grosh for link.

Forums are open to the public. Calendar information is subject to change.

For more complete information, consult our website at [www.LWV-RMA.org](https://www.LWV-RMA.org), call 262-3730 or e-mail us at [info@lwv-rma.org](mailto:info@lwv-rma.org)



PO Box 10573  
Rochester, NY 14610  
585-262-3730  
[www.LWV-RMA.org](http://www.LWV-RMA.org)



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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>President</b>	Barbara Grosh (2021-2023)
<b>Vice President</b>	Myra Pelz (2021-2023)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Linda Saalman (2021-2023)
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<b>Director</b>	Tiffany Moore-Corteville (2021-2023)
<b>Director</b>	Beverly Pringle (2021-2023)
<b>Director</b>	Sarah Sandler (2020-2022)
<b>Director</b>	Judy Sternberg (2021-2023)

## COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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

**President** Barbara Grosh  
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*The Voter is a  
monthly publication  
of the LWV-RMA  
  
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Layout/Design,  
Chris Burleigh*

## DECEMBER/JANUARY VOTER DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 15!

### League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, political organization which encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

The League of Women Voters is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in principal and in practice.

League membership is open to any person who subscribes to the League's purposes and policies.

**Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**

## Join the League Today!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Level of Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and your check payable to  
League of Women Voters/RMA to:

LWV-RMA

PO Box 10573

Rochester, NY 14610

or join us online at: [www.lwv-rma.org/join.php](http://www.lwv-rma.org/join.php)

### MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Individual/Associate	\$75
Household	\$105
Susan B. Anthony/Frederick Douglass	\$150
Carrie Chapman Catt	\$200
Student (full or part time at an accredited institution)	FREE
Low income, call office at 262-3730	Sliding Scale
or send an email to: <a href="mailto:info@lwv-rma.org">info@lwv-rma.org</a>	