

TheVOTER

Considering LWNYS Concurrences

on

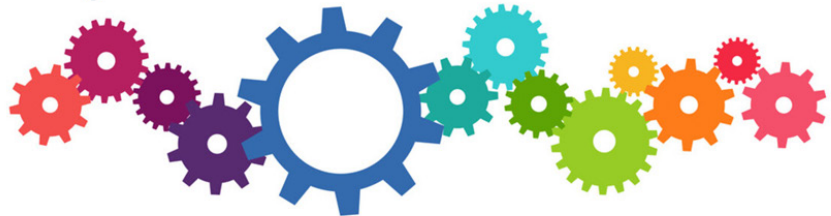
Election Administration Structure

and

Voting for Incarcerated Individuals



Saturday, April 9, 2022
9:30 A.M. via Zoom
See page 3.



Postcard Writing

Help Get Out the
Vote in North
Carolina!
Also, see League
friends and drink
Cappucino!

See page 3.



Friday,
April 8, 2022
1:00 P.M.
I-Square,
Irondequoit

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President's Corner

If You're Out of Prison, You're Eligible to Vote and We Want You!

Many readers have probably had the experience while registering voters of having some people avoid meeting your eyes, and if you reach out to them they mumble that they can't vote. Such people may have been convicted of a felony and they may or may not have been correct about whether they could vote, depending on the year and their circumstances.

In NYS, it's never been true that once a felon, never a voter, though that idea persists. For years we had to let people know that if they'd finished parole, they could once again register and vote. Then the conditions got better, but harder to explain. For several years, some people on parole could vote. Who? Those who had received a partial pardon from the governor. Explaining what that meant, and how to find out which category a person was in, was difficult.

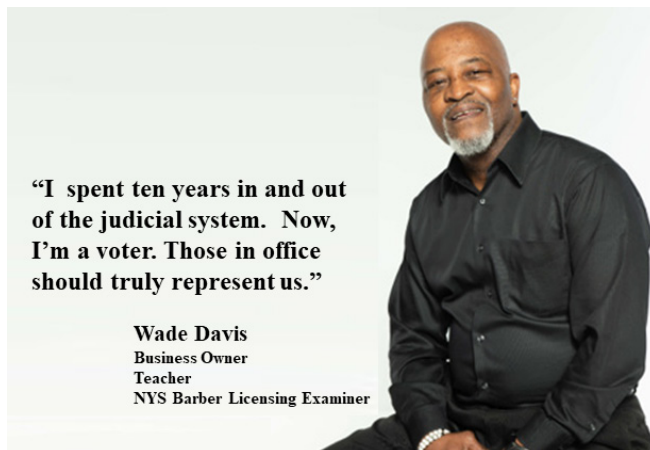
Last May, then-Gov. Cuomo signed a bill that simplified things: all those on parole can vote. If you're a citizen and you're out and walking around, you're eligible to vote. This season we will be carrying that message into the community loud and clear and trying to make sure it reaches all those who need to hear it.

How do we get that message out?

- **Posters.** We had a photo shoot with several inspiring former offenders willing to lend their face to our campaign. We'll have attention-grabbing posters wherever we register voters, and we'll also distribute them to barber shops, salons, and laundromats throughout the city.
- **A party.** On May 14 we're cosponsoring a voter registration fair at the Montgomery Neighborhood Center. SWAN, Tocsin Magazine, and Men Made Better will help us to publicize the event via channels designed to reach large numbers of former offenders. We'll have music, games, prizes, an obstacle course, drones to fly, a Redistrict-Palooza booth, Voting Rights Jeopardy, and more (food, drinks, prizes). Put it on your calendar!
- **Visits to jails and prisons.** Our old friend William Robinson, who helped us register city high school students, advises us to visit prisons to meet those who will be released soon to make sure they know their rights. This is new territory for us. Stay tuned as we research how best to make this happen. Consider joining us. If you have thoughts, reach out to me.

Barbara Grosh, President, League of Women Voters of the Rochester Metropolitan Area

president@lwv-rma.org or 585-415-8251



VOTING RIGHTS JEOPARDY

Constitution	Supreme Court	Presidents	Civil Rights Movement	New York
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

Voting Rights Jeopardy

Category: Supreme Court for \$100

Answer: Shelby versus Holder

Question: In what case did the U.S. Supreme Court gut the Civil Rights Act of 1965?

Category: Civil Rights Movement for \$100

Answer: Montgomery, Alabama

Question: Where was the bus boycott that made Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King, Jr. famous nationally and resulted in desegregation of public transit?

You probably knew the questions corresponding to these answers. What do you think is behind the other entries on the board? If that thought intrigues you, please volunteer to help complete the game. We think this could be a hit at our May 14 event and at other voter registration events this summer. We need your brain power to come up with good answers and questions. Please contact Barbara Grosh to help at president@lwv-rma.org

Considering LWNYS Concurrences



Saturday, April 9, 2022
 9:30 A.M. via Zoom
 See page 3.

On April 9, members will meet via Zoom to consider two LWNYS Concurrences:

- Election Administration Structure and
- Voting for Incarcerated Individuals.

Cathy Kane, Kathy Smith and Judy Weinstein will present information on both issues and then members will discuss and come to consensus on whether or not we agree with each proposal.

ELECTION ADMINISTRATION STRUCTURE CONCURRENCE

After the June 2021 LWNYS Convention, a state League study committee was established to gather information about Election Administration. Based on the input gathered, the Committee prepared three Position Statements that have been approved by the state Board and, if approved by members, will be used to determine new LWNYS Positions on how to improve the structure of election administration in New York.

The proposed positions would divide the current responsibilities of the State Board of Elections between a state chief election official and the State Board of Elections. Similarly, the responsibilities of the local Boards of Elections would be divided between a local election official and the local Board of Elections. The positions define the appointment process and responsibilities of each. The goal is to increase transparency and accountability. Concurrence on Voting for Incarcerated Individuals

CONCURRENCE ON VOTING FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

Now that those on parole in New York State have had their voting rights restored, there is a call to provide voting rights for all currently incarcerated individuals including those convicted of a felony. Neither LWNYS nor LWVUS has a position that covers restoration of voting rights to those currently incarcerated. The State League needs to determine if there is member understanding and agreement on this objective. The state Board voted to support a concurrence with the right to vote for all incarcerated individuals.

Both of these concurrences now go to the members. If approved by the membership, these will become LWNYS positions, permitting advocacy by the League.

Please join us at 9:30 A.M. - Noon on April 9 to learn more about these issues and give your input on whether or not LWNYS should adopt these positions.

This meeting is for LWV-RMA members only. Please register at <https://bit.ly/LWVRMA04092022>.

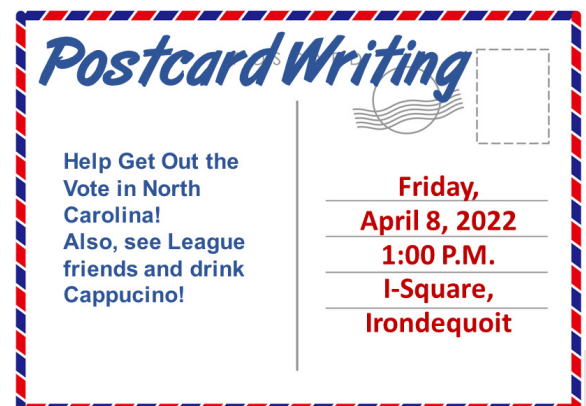
While the presentation will provide all the information you need to participate in the discussion (we're not expected to be experts on the issue), we will send background material in advance to those who register. Not reading the material should not deter you from participating.

Judy Weinstein, Government/Advocacy chair
vote411@lwv-rma.org

We are all affected by elections in other states, because of who they send to the Senate and House. It's frustrating to watch voter suppression in so many states resulting in gridlock on issues we care about at a national level. We can reach out to those impacted by voter suppression laws in other states.

The LWV-RMA and RocACTS are hosting a postcard party on Friday, April 8 at 1:00 P.M. at I-Square in Irondequoit. We will have postcards from the Center for Common Ground to be sent to individuals in North Carolina to Get Out the Vote for their primary elections. The Center for Common Ground is a non-partisan voting rights organization led by people of color whose goal is to educate and empower under-represented voters in voter suppression states to engage in elections and advocate for their right to vote.

We will bring postcards, pens, addresses and stamps – you bring your enthusiasm and desire to help defend our democracy.



Bail Reform in New York: Fact and Fiction

April 12, 6:00 P.M.

Register on zoom: <https://bit.ly/LWVRMA04122022>

A major bail reform bill was passed in 2019 and implemented in 2020. It eliminated cash bail in most cases, which resulted in a large drop in jail populations since people without resources languished in jail for months and years awaiting trial. Now some are claiming that the uptick in violent crime is due to what they call “catch and release” and calling for a reform to the reform. John Bradley, Monroe County Senior Assistant Public Defender, will share his knowledge about New York bail reform.

FORUM: Parole Justice and the Parole System in NYS

On March 24 via Zoom, participants the LWV-RMA collaborated with several community groups to host a discussion of the NYS parole system. Participants viewed a short film, “The Interview”, which shows what coming up for parole is like and how it changed during the era of mass incarceration. Two 2022 legislative initiatives of the LWVNYS – Elder Parole and Fair and Timely Parole – were discussed.

The program was co-sponsored by the Rochester Parole Justice Coalition, which includes:

FTP (Free The People) ROC, Vocal NY, Citizen Action, SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) ROC,
 NY Working Families Party (NY WFP), RAPP (Release Aging People in Prison),
 RocACTS (Rochester Alliance of Communities Transforming Society),

League of Women Voters of Rochester Metro Area.

Parole Justice Bills Supported by LWVNYS: What’s in Them?

ELDER PAROLE (S15/A.3475)

- Elder Parole would allow incarcerated people aged 55 and older who have already served 15 years or more a chance to go before the Parole Board for a hearing.
- Roughly 1,000 people would immediately become eligible for parole with the passage of Elder Parole, and thousands more people would ultimately benefit in years to come.
- The Elder Parole bill does not provide automatic release but instead a meaningful review and evaluation by the Parole Board, something that is not available to many older incarcerated New Yorkers, who may be forced to wait decades for a hearing or never receive one at all.
- Elder Parole would save lives, reunite families, promote racial justice, and save the state tens of millions of dollars.
- This bill is a critical step forward towards reducing the number of people subjected to long and life sentences in New York State.

FAIR & TIMELY PAROLE (S1415/A.4231)

- Fair and Timely Parole would provide more meaningful parole reviews for incarcerated people who are already parole-eligible.
- The bill would change the standard of parole by centering release not on the original crime but on the person’s rehabilitation while incarcerated. In other words, parole commissioners would no longer be able to deny release based solely on the crime for which the person is convicted.
- This is a meaningful step towards ensuring fair parole hearings, increasing New York’s dismally low parole release rate, and reducing the number of New Yorkers behind bars.
- It does not, however, fully take away parole commissioners’ discretion. It instead merely brings the statute in line with the original purpose of parole, which is to identify a person’s readiness for release, not a chance to retry the case.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Contact your state senator and assembly member, ask for their support to bring these bills out of committee for votes by their respective chambers.
- These bills are not dependent on the budget and can be voted on until the end of the legislative session in June.

Judy Sternberg, LWV-RMA representative to LWV-NYS Criminal Justice Committee

Meetings with our Legislative Delegation to Albany

During the last week of February and the first week of March, LWV-RMA members met with the state lawmakers who represent our area to discuss state budget issues identified by LWVNYS:

- Early voting access,
- Moving the deadline for voter registration from 25 days before an the election to 10 days,
- Funding for local boards of elections,
- Reform of the state process for dealing with ethics issues among governmental officials,
- Restoration of Tuition Assistance Program to incarcerated people.

In addition, the legislators were asked to share their priorities.



TOP 3 ROWS: Lawmakers or staff who met with LWV-RMA members.

BOTTOM 2 ROWS: LWV-RMA members who met with the NYS Senators and Assembly Members.

Redistricting Team Update

New district lines for the NY Legislature and US House were passed in February, and petitioning for 2022 candidates began on March 1. The map for NYS Assembly districts is final. The maps for NYS Senate and US House are being challenged in court. It is unlikely that the case will affect the 2022 elections, but there's a chance that the maps might ultimately be changed – possibly resulting in new district lines and special elections in 2023.

See the 2022 district lines here -- <https://newyork.redistrictingandyou.org/>

Here in Monroe County, the Legislature appointed a new 5-member commission to draw their new district lines. By the time this is published, they will have begun having meetings, and hopefully announced a schedule of public hearings. They must submit their map to the Legislature by June 11.

The Commission members are Legislature President Sabrina LaMar, Legislator Robert Colby (R), Legislator Yversha Roman (D), Elections Commissioner Lisa Nicolay (R), and Elections Commissioner Jackie Ortiz (D). President LaMar was elected as a Democrat but caucuses with the Republicans.

LWV-RMA President Barbara Grosh sent a letter to the five commissioners, plus the 26 other legislators and the County Executive, outlining the League's expectations.

See it here -- https://www.lwv-rma.org/redistricting_county.php

When the Commission's schedule is known (hopefully with adequate notice), the Redistricting Team will spread the word to members and community stakeholders to encourage participation.

Elsewhere in Monroe County, there are still no announcements about redistricting for Rochester City Council or Greece Town Board. The next elections for those seats will be in 2023. As with all redistricting, the League strongly urges public engagement to the greatest extent possible. We encourage members in Rochester and Greece to contact your elected office holders in support of an open process.

Do you have questions about redistricting? Or know somebody with a concern? Contact the League's Redistricting team at redistricting@lwv-rma.org.

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

be a voter!

LWVNYS 2022 Regional Training

The League of Women Voters of NYS held a Regional Training Session in Rochester at The Perkins Mansion on Saturday, March 19. The session was attended by 16 members from the local League as well as members from the Cattaraugus/Allegany, Buffalo/Niagara, Chautauqua, Geneva, Saratoga and Syracuse Leagues. This was the first of four sessions to be held around the state to provide information and share best practices.

The general session topic was Tactics for Increasing Membership and Cultivating Leadership. Kathleen Stein from the LWVNYS Board led the discussion which focused on "The Ask". Attendees were reminded that:

- The mission of the league is to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy.
- To further this mission we need strong, sustainable leagues.
- The best way to maintain strong Leagues is to ask others to attend a League program and/or to join, ask members how they want to be involved, and ask engaged League members to take leadership positions.

There were breakout sessions covering six topics. While a takeaway for each session is listed, there was much more information provided and discussed on each subject.

- The 411 on Vote 411: A Beginners Guide to the New Platform (Hands-on Workshop) .
 - The system is being updated to provide better data security.
 - Local League involvement is required to set up local campaigns.
 - The user experience on the site will not change.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Success Stories by Local Leagues.
 - Engaging and collaborating with partners on events of common interest helps build relationships that can lead to better understanding and further engagement.
- Engaging Youth Through Civic Collaborations.
 - Campus groups and clubs frequently have service requirements. Reaching out to the groups for volunteers could lead to further engagement.
- Zooming into 2022: How to Successfully Host a Virtual or Hybrid Candidate Forum.
 - Hybrid sessions are difficult but may lead to better attendance.
 - Hybrid should be for the viewers: candidates should be either all together, or all virtual.
- Hacking Social Media: Getting the best use out of your League's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.
 - Encourage members to "like" or "share" posts from the League. Software algorithms will then raise the visibility of League information on their sites. Sharing is more effective than liking.
- Let's Take Action: How, When and Why?
 - The League must maintain its non-partisanship to be a trusted voice for democracy.
 - However, taking action (Lobbying, Advocating, and Educating) on approved ("concurred") positions is encouraged.

The materials from all the sessions will be shared on the NYS League website in April.

Mary Micket, Reporter



TOP: LWVNYS Executive Director Laura Ladd Bierman opening the LWVNYS training session on March 19 at the Perkins Mansion in Rochester; LWV-RMA President Barbara Grosh discussing the history of DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) in the LWV.

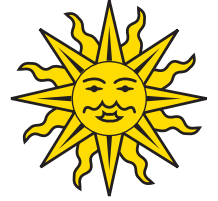
BOTTOM: LWV-RMA members participating in the training session included Linda Saalman, Mary Hussong-Kallen, Katherine Smith, Cathy Kane, Mary Micket, Sue Steepy, and Myra Pelz.

Sunshine Corner

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2022 PAB MEETING SUMMARIES

OBSERVED BY DEBORAH RICE GORDON

FEBRUARY 17, 2022



STAFF REPORT

Executive Director Reynolds gave the report. The meeting with the City Human Resources Department has been moved to the 18th. A meeting covering a number of issues was held with City Council President Meléndez. Upcoming meetings will focus on normalizing communication procedures between PAB and the City Council. The City Law Department has started reviewing PAB's draft rules and procedures. It is hoped that this work will be completed soon so that the Board can consider their input and proceed to the public comment step. Disciplinary matrix work has been delegated to staff and more information will be presented in the coming weeks.

A two-year lease for office space at 245 Main Street was approved and a move is expected in March. Currently, it is anticipated that staff training will be in April and May with the office opening in late spring.

CHAIR REPORT

A disciplinary matrix education session was recorded and will be made available to the Board. Approval from the City's legal counsel would allow PAB access to necessary Rochester Police Department (RPD) data. This approval has not yet been given.

COMMITTEE REPORT

The Training Committee met with Coordinated Care Services, Inc. to discuss details of staff training, which will be at least 63 hours long. A follow-up document has been sent to the Board members. The training will include information on restorative practices and trauma informed care.

OLD BUSINESS

Executive Director Reynolds gave an update on the disciplinary matrix development. Staff attorneys have looked into other matrices, different types of justice (punitive, restorative, etc.), and how various types of misconduct could be categorized. This ground-level knowledge will lead to a draft matrix that can be shared with stakeholders for their input.

NEW BUSINESS

A community justice coalition has been having quarterly meetings with the RPD concerning body-worn camera implementation. Mayor Evans asked PAB to participate. PAB involvement could start following finalization of the rules for information access.

Chairs are needed for Committee assignments such as Finance, Training, and Education. Chair Wilson requested that Board members consider volunteering for one of these positions.

Executive Director Reynolds suggested that the Board start thinking about the ideal situation for future meetings, communications, etc., since offices are moving, and it is not known when PAB will be required to meet in person again.

MARCH 3, 2022

STAFF REPORT

Executive Director Reynolds reported that the City Law Department has reviewed the draft PAB rules and regulations for investigations. The Board will meet with them to respond to their comments.

Progress is being made in the development of a training program for staff.

The finalization of a lease contract for new office space is anticipated shortly. The logistics for the move are being addressed by multiple support departments.

The PAB staffing model is in development and the City Human Resources Department and City Council liaison

Sunshine Corner continued from page 7



to PAB are providing input. It is hoped that the final revision will be completed by the end of March so that new hires can be finalized by late spring.

The Jobs Committee is proposing a change to PAB rules so that qualified people who have ties to the Rochester Police Department (RPD) can be considered following the proper legal procedures.

Board member Dr. Harrison raised two concerns about the draft rules and regulations, namely, the processing of police records and the evaluation of police procedures and processes. The section on handling processes is not well addressed and the disciplinary section needs more Board input. Executive Director Reynolds responded that a chief of oversight position has yet to be filled. The disciplinary section can be addressed by the Board following the resolution of comments by the City Law Department.

CHAIR REPORTS

Chair Wilson and Ted Forsythe from the Police Accountability Board Alliance attended an event on reimagining policing that was attended by several teenagers. The teens were very well informed and worked on policy changes.

Board Member Rabbi Setel reported on the Training Committee's work on a staff program. Board training will include both skills and diversity/equity training. A training schedule will be set following the completion of program development.

OLD BUSINESS

Information gaps still exist for the completion of the disciplinary matrix. Access to RPD information is needed to finalize the analysis. The City Law Department is on board with PAB's information request. PAB staff has consulted with other cities that have access to RPD-type data systems. Therefore, the technology or best practices should not be a barrier to accessing the needed information.

Board member Rabbi Setel met with Jonathan Cory to talk about restorative justice approaches. PAB may be a pioneer in integrating this area into their processes. These approaches may be developed over time and added to existing methods.

An update on RPD's Wellness Training Program was reported by Spectrum News recently. PAB should also be receiving updates and will be in the best position to observe training and review materials when PAB rules and regulations are finalized and staff is available.

Board Member Reverend Nickoloff raised concerns about the importance of a sustained program for the long-term care of officers. PAB needs to receive more information about this program to address these concerns.

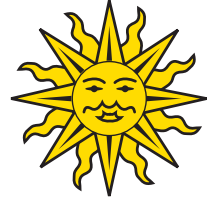
Board member Brown asked about a timeline for the filing of past complaints against officers. Generally, a complainant has 18 months from the incident during which disciplinary proceedings can be launched and 90 days from the time of an injury to file a lawsuit. If an incident is criminal, there is no statute of limitations for discipline. PAB needs to find out what has happened with past incidents (e.g., pepper-spraying of a 9-year-old). Once proper access to records has been granted to PAB, incidents can be reviewed. There is a long-standing policy that non-city employees should not have access to resources; however, PAB is working to clarify rightful access for Board members. The Board needs to understand RPD's inner workings to address concerns such as the treatment of black/brown officers.

The City has released a public database of a limited set of investigations into police misconduct. The categorization of cases has raised questions on the Board. PAB log-in access should be sought in order to answer questions.

The meeting was adjourned to an executive session which was held to discuss a particular contract renewal.

Sunshine Corner *continued from page 8*

RCSD BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING: FEBRUARY 17, 2022, OBSERVED BY CONSTANCE FLAHIVE ONLINE



Commissioner Adams and Superintendent Myers-Small were absent. One community member spoke on Special Education concerns.

Reports were given by the Student Leadership Congress, the Parent Leadership Council (PLAC) and the Bilingual Education Council (BEC). PLAC requested that the Board be aware of the importance of listening to the community and asked that each member call five parents for a conversation. The need for communication, accountability and equity was emphasized. The BEC report was given in Spanish and translated to English, an indication of valuing and the need for the district to hire and train more interpreters. BEC also asked for English Language Learning students from each high school to be added to the committee to include student voices.

The Board Reports are available at Board Docs* from the Equity in Student Achievement (Simmons), Board Governance and Development (Maloy), and Policy Development and Review (Powell) committees. Commissioners summarized key points during the meeting. Policies will be further addressed under new business. The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee report was read into the record.

The President's Report (Elliot) highlighted the graduation rate for 2020-2021 which was recently accepted by NYSED. The RCSD overall rate was 71.4%. In addition, she noted that: Letters of support for legislation reducing the mileage to 0.5 for transportation were sent; a Community Engagement Session occurred; the RCSD Board was well represented at the Monroe County School Boards Association meeting with lawmakers in February; and Board members will be resuming school visits with an emphasis on high quality results. President Elliot also said she would soon be meeting with all district unions.

Chief of Operations, Michael Schmidt, presented the Superintendent's report in Dr. Myers-Small's absence. He emphasized the recent announcement of graduation rates, providing details about the overall increase. He also highlighted the Job Fair, his experience at the World Read Aloud Day at School #33, and RCSD sport teams' successes including the addition of two girls Flag Football teams in the Spring 2022 statewide pilot.

VP LeBron asked Chief Schmidt for data tracking the School Choice program, requesting the number of parents participating in each of the last 4 years as well as a 5th year of data collected in the current year.

East Superintendent Nelm's report also dealt with the graduation rate at East Upper School which was 85% in 2021. [Note that later in the meeting VP LeBron also gave a shoutout to four other high schools with 90% graduation rates: SOTA, Early College, SWW and World of Inquiry.] Other highlights for East were the contributions of East students to the celebration of Black History Month, the Career Fair available to all RCSD students and graduates held in early April, and Senior week in the Sports program. Nelms also pressed for approval of tonight's resolutions for additional monies for supporting students in their preparation for end of year testing as Regents Exams are returning.

Resolutions were brought forward and approved with minimal discussion. The process was more efficient and transparent with the new use of BoardDocs which allowed the resolutions to be viewed online. Several (424-433) were grouped as Concept Resolutions and voted on as a whole. They included the acceptance of four monetary gifts to individual schools totaling \$18,000. Resolutions 434-458 were voted on individually with all motions approved with a 6-0 vote with a few exceptions. There was some discussion of the process for prioritizing renovations to schools as there were four contracts for new work. A 'Building Condition Survey', usually done every 5 years by a specialty company, is expected next year. VP LeBron noted that elementary schools without playground fencing create a safety and equity issue. Chief Schmidt said that those issues can be part of the process through community input and asked LeBron to forward the specifics.

Commissioner Powell presented the Policies available for second and third readings including District, Board, Facilities and Superintendent goals. She strongly requested the community read the policies and offer comments as none have been received. No direction as to how to provide comments was given.

Sunshine Corner *continued from page 9*



RCSD BOARD OF EDUCATION 2022-23 BUDGET PROCESS:

A PowerPoint providing details of the process for developing and approving the 2022-2023 RCSD Budget was presented to the community on March 2 and remains available on BoardDocs® Plus under the agenda via the meetings tab for March 2. Next steps include presentation of draft proposals by Superintendents Myers-Small and Nelms, a response by State Monitor Jallow, and a PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING set for April 7th at 5:30. This will be followed by two deliberation meetings, with a Special Board Meeting for Budget Adoption on May 9 before moving to the City Council for review and adoption (expected June 14).

* See BoardDocs® Plus on the RCSD website under the Board of Education tab— click on meetings and 2022. Relevant Policies of are available within the agenda.

MONROE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

MARCH 8 2022 OBSERVED BY ELAINE SCHMIDT

Support for the people of Ukraine was announced during proclamations.

Members of SCOPE once again asked the legislature to change the Monroe County Charter to allow firearms in County Parks.

Mr. Matthew Fero was reappointed and Ms. Sheila Ragus Mason was appointed to the Monroe County Water Authority. The terms expire March 1, 2027.

The Daily Record and the Rochester Business Journal were designated as the official newspapers for the publication of local laws, notices, and matters required by law for publication.

Seven new positions, five upgrades and one reclassification were approved for the Public Defender's Office along with nine new positions for the Conflict Defender's Office. This is part of a statewide expansion.

Thomas J. Frys, P.E., was appointed as Director of Transportation effective immediately.

The Legislature unanimously authorized spending up to \$3,130,000 to reconstruct the Children's Pavilion at Highland Park.

The County accepted a grant from New York State to create one new position in the Monroe County Conflict Defender Office.

An agreement between the Monroe County Executive and the CSEA Local 1000 part-time employee unit was approved.

The Legislature reconvened the Legislative District Revision Commission. The following legislators will serve on the committee: Sabrina Lamar(R) Chairwoman, Robert Colby (R), and Rachel Barnhart (D), as well as County Elections Commissioners Lisa Nicolay (R) and Jackie Ortiz (D).

Daniele Lyman-Torres was appointed to the Monroe Community College Board of Trustees.

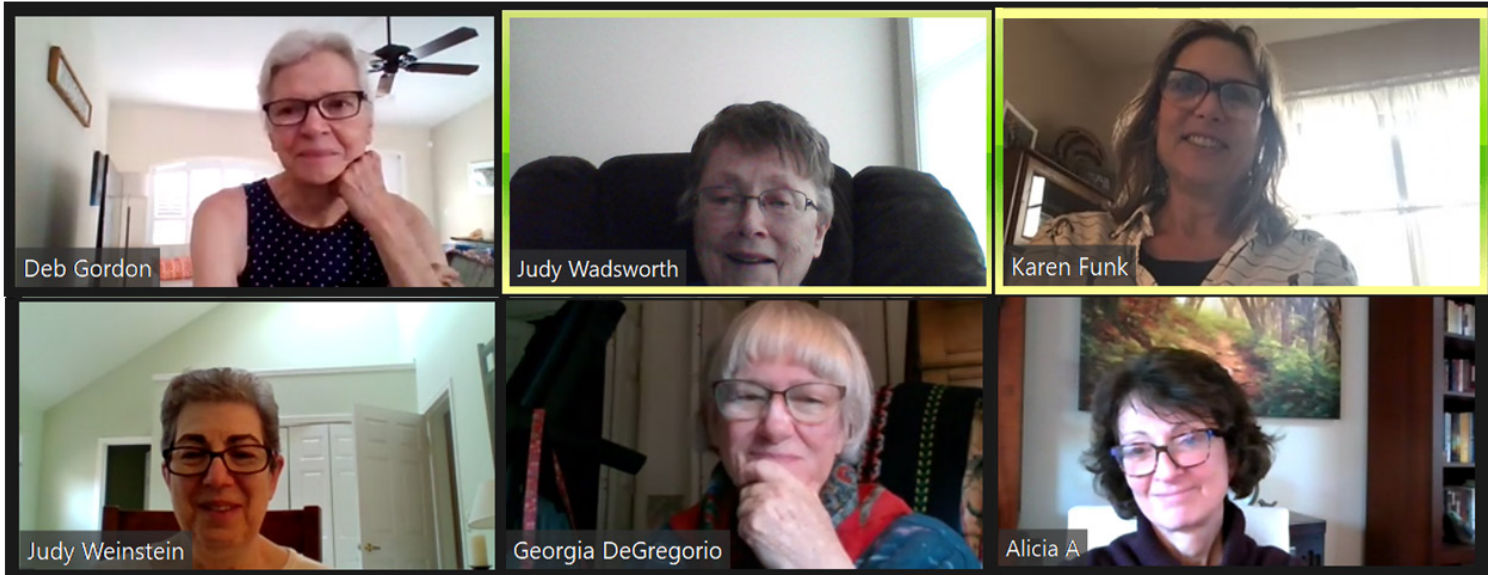
In accordance with the rules of the Legislature, the President of the Legislature appointed Sean M. Delehanty (R) and the Majority Leader appointed Richard B. Milne (R) to the Climate Action Plan Advisory Committee.

LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK! 

We know you'll "like" us!

www.facebook.com/lwvofrma

Book Club to discuss The 1619 Project in April and May



Book club members discussing *The Righteous Mind* by Jonathan Haidt during their meeting via Zoom in March.

The LWV-RMA book club meets via Zoom at 4:30 P.M., for the most part on the third Thursday of the month. A link will be sent to everyone expressing an interest to Judy Weinstein (vote411@lwv-rma.org), who serves as the group's Zoom techie. The schedule for the remaining sessions during this program year includes:

April 21 *The 1619 Project* by Nicole Hannah Jones (Chapters 1 - 9) – discussion led by Deb Gordon

May 19 *The 1619 Project* by Nicole Hannah Jones (the remainder of the book) – discussion led by Chris Pryor

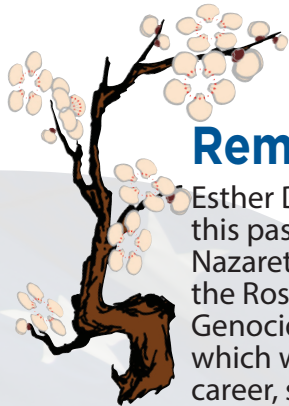
June 16 *The End of Policing* by Alex S. Vitale – discussion led by Diane Stengel.



The problem is not police training, police diversity, or police methods. The problem is the dramatic and unprecedented expansion and intensity of policing in the last forty years, a fundamental shift in the role of police in society. The problem is policing itself.

Alex S. Vitale

The End of Policing



Remembering Esther Denaro Maltese

Esther Denaro Maltese, 1999-2004 LWV-RMA President, died this past February. Dr. Maltese was a professor of education at Nazareth and Saint John Fisher colleges. In 2004 she established the Rose and Joseph Denaro Interfaith Center for the Study of Genocide and Violence Prevention, named after her parents, which was housed at Bishop Kearney High School. During her career, she served on several education-related communitywide committees.





Calendar



April

- 1 First Friday (11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.) via Zoom
- 8 Help Get Out the Vote in North Carolina (1:00 P.M.) I-Square in Irondequoit – see page 3
- 9 Concurrence meeting (9:30 A.M. via Zoom) – see page 3
- 12 Bail Reform in New York: Fact and Fiction (6:00 P.M. via Webinar) – see page 4
- 13 LWV-RMA Board Meeting (5:30 – 7:00 P.M.)
- 21 LWV-RMA Book Club (4:30 – 5:30 P.M. via Zoom) – *The 1619 Project* by Nicole Hannah Jones (Part 1)

May

- 6 First Friday (11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.) via Zoom
- 18 LWV-RMA Board Meeting (5:30 – 7:00 P.M.)
- 19 LWV-RMA Book Club (4:30 – 5:30 P.M. via Zoom) – *The 1619 Project* by Nicole Hannah Jones (Part 2)

June

- 3 First Friday (11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.) via Zoom
- 8 LWV ANNUAL MEETING (5:00 – 7:00 P.M.) Locust Hill Country Club
- 13 Forum: An Evening with Justin Murphy, author of *Your Children Are Very Greatly in Danger* (7:30 P.M.) (SAVE THE DATE: Details to follow)
- 16 LWV-RMA Book Club (4:30 – 5:30 P.M. via Zoom) – *The End of Policing* by Alex S. Vitale

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

LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK!



We know you'll "like" us!

www.facebook.com/lwvofrma

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

Join First Friday via Zoom!

Join First Friday for informal conversations—
for a few minutes or for the full two hours,
just for fun and to learn more about League activities:

April 1
May 6
June 3
August 5

October 7
November 4
December 2



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

First Friday happens every month.

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, call 262-3730 or e-mail us at info@lwv-rma.org



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

MAY VOTER DEADLINE IS APRIL 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.

Rochester VOTER

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

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COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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

President Barbara Grosh
president@lwv-rma.org

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
fepc@lwv-rma.org

Government Judy Weinstein
vote411@lwv-rma.org

Membership Mira Washington
membership@lwv-rma.org

Nominating Sheila Abeling
nominations@lwv-rma.org

Programs Barbara Grosh
president@lwv-rma.org

VOTE411 Judy Weinstein
vote411@lwv-rma.org

Voter Services Elaine Schmidt
voterservices@lwv-rma.org

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Editor,
Judy Wadsworth

Layout/Design,
Chris Burleigh*

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

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

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or send an email to: info@lwv-rma.org	