



Annual Meeting Minutes May 23, 2022

7:00 – Meeting opened.

President's comments

Guest speaker – Andrew Warren 13th Circuit State Attorney.

Appointment of the Parliamentarian and Quorum – Norin Dollard to serve as Secretary for the Annual Meeting.

Adoption of Proposed Agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda. Seconded. Motion carried and the agenda was adopted

Statement of Rules of Order

Jeanne Coleman, Parliamentarian, reviewed rules of the meeting (Roberts Rules)

2021 Annual Meeting minutes – approval

No objections or changes were noted and minutes were accepted as presented.

FY 2021-22 Financial Report

The report was provided online and Tim Burke, Treasurer, reviewed the differences between the budget and actual expenses. Without objections, Treasurer's report was accepted as submitted.

FY 2021-2 Program Reports

Program reports were provided online. Chairs were available before and after the meeting if folks have questions. The Chairs were acknowledged. A motion was made and seconded to accept all reports as written.

Adoption of Proposed Programs for 2022-23

Teresa Potter reviewed changes of this year's program from last. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Action group was added. The Healthcare group added mental health and substance abuse and a focus on the ACA to their program and added a commitment to reproductive choice and access to affordable healthcare. Transportation noted the intersection of transportation with equity and climate change. The Government section remains unchanged. Environment and Climate Change noted a focus on the transition away from fossil fuels, opposition preemption of local ordinances, supports scientifically based decisions concerning fertilizer. Motion to accept the program changes as submitted. Seconded. There were no objections or changes. The motion carried.



Adoption of Proposed Budget for 2022-23

Chris Conn, budget committee chair, noted that the changes reflect changes in patterns of expenditures, e.g., mailing and postage, fund raising expenses had never been used and were eliminated, etc. See attached for proposed budget. Motion to adopt the budget as proposed and seconded.

The question was raised as to whether the change from c(4) to a c(3) would change the budget. It was noted that the budget isn't likely to change but tracking of expenditures will change.

The motion carried.

Conversion for 501(3) Tax Exempt Organization

Presently we are a non-profit but donations are not tax deductible as a c(4). Tax deductible donations must be made through the League Education Fund and we (and other chapters) have had difficulty accessing these funds. This committee proposes conversion to a c(3) so that we can directly solicit tax exempt donations and enable us to pursue grant opportunities. The c3 will likely help increase donations. The committee has spent considerable time researching and has consulted a lawyer. It was noted that the date the application is submitted is the official start date, even if the application is not approved months (or tax years) after submission. The application could take up to a year to be approved. There is a possibility of retroactive tax benefit, but that is between the donor and their tax attorney.

A motion was made that the LWVHC become a 501 c(3). The motion was seconded.

Discussion

Will record keeping and documentation change begin the moment is submitted? It was noted that we already have the systems in place to meet reporting requirements.

Is there a communication and marketing plan to let the public now? There is a grants committee at present that researched the current proposal and will continue to pursue possible funding sources.

One member opposed since a c(3) will not allow for lobbying as a priority in the organization. The committee noted that with a c(3), lobbying cannot constitute a substantial proportion of the budget (20%), but does not impact non-budgeted lobbying activities. With League budgeted activities focused on education and voter services and with 75% of our budget going to our state and national league dues, it is very unlikely our league could expend more than 20% on lobbying activities under the tax code. Discussion on having both the c(4) and c(3) designations. It was noted that it is not practical due to the necessity to have two boards, two bank accounts, two budgets, etc.



The question has been called and seconded. The motion was carried with two opposing votes.

The motion to become a c(3) carries with two members opposed.

Proposed By-Laws Changes

This is a required activity every two years. There were two versions of the bylaws proposed, one reflecting becoming a c(4) and one reflecting the c(3) status. Both sets of the bylaws were posted prior to the meeting. Changes made were to ensure compliance with national LWV bylaws, to support becoming a 501 c(3), to accommodate more flexibility with absences from Board meetings, gender specific pronouns were changed to gender – neutral pronouns, the number of members needed for a meeting quorum to 15 members or 10% of members, whichever is greater (currently is 15 members), and to correct typographical errors.

A motion to approve these changes was made and seconded.

There was no discussion. The motion carried.

Report of the Nominating Committee & election

Margaret Diaz, Chair, introduced the nominating committee and presented the slate of nominees for officers and directors. (See attached for the complete slate).

Nominations from the floor were solicited. There were no nominations from the floor. Per by – laws, a motion was made to adopt the entire slate. The motion was moved and seconded.

There was no discussion. The motion carried.

Swearing in of Officers and Directors

The new and ongoing Officers and Directors were sworn in.

President's Address to membership

Directions to the Board and Reminders

There will be a survey sent to all members to give directions to the Board.

Adjournment

Members were reminded to renew their memberships and the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Norín Dollard