

**League of Women
Voters of the City
of New York**
2023 Annual Meeting
of the Members

**June 12,
2023**

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Letter From the Co- Presidents

As we near the halfway mark in our term, it offers us an opportunity to review some key accomplishments as well as share several goals for the coming year.

We have improved our technology capabilities to offer hybrid meeting options, so that our members and volunteers can increasingly interact in person as well as remotely. We've returned to in-person Lunch with the League events, hearing from dynamic experts on important political and social issues, as well as offering much needed opportunities for personal connection. We have continued to diversify our funding sources, for the first time securing government support from the NYC Civic Engagement Commission as well as several City Council districts.

We have strengthened and broadened our outreach on Adult Civics Education, conducting more than 40 presentations and events with community partners in underserved neighborhoods, returning citizens, among others. Our partnership connections continue to flourish and feature voter registration, get out the vote and Constitution Day activations. We expanded Constitution Day to ten low voter turnout districts and distributed 6,000 pocket constitutions to New Yorkers in collaboration with the three NYC library systems.

This spring we launched our new website which features an improved look and easier interface, ensuring the public can find all the same important and essential information.

We have made great progress with your help and commitment as we continue to build LWVNYC. Over the next year we will work to expand and diversify our membership, volunteer base and partnerships, reaching more communities across New York City to ensure that all voices are heard. We aim to amplify those voices by becoming the trusted and non-partisan resource for local media, streamlining our communications and increasing our social media presence. The League will bolster its understanding of and interaction with City

Council and work with educators and professionals to revise "What Makes NYC Run" so that it can be used for New Yorkers of all ages.

Our most ambitious goal, which speaks directly to our mission, is to increase voter turnout in New York City. Our get out the vote efforts will expand and advise how to effect change at the local level. We will augment our civic education and engagement programs to inform on issues of importance, ensuring that all New Yorkers understand the power of their voice and vote. We have a lot to accomplish but are confident that with your passion, dedication, knowledge and our greater community, we will achieve tremendous success together.

Thank you.

Deb Brodheim and Kai Rosenthal

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2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

League of Women Voters of the City of New York Annual Meeting of the Members June 16, 2022 Meeting held via Zoom

Annual Meeting Attendance and Voting	
Members in good standing as of 5/2/2022	243
Total for a Quorum	25
Total in Attendance	40
Total Proxies	10
Total Attendance (via Zoom and proxy)	50

Parliamentarian: Dorothy Ouzidane
Meeting commenced at 6:05 PM via Zoom.

Natalie Silverman provided instructions on how to use Zoom.

WELCOME Diane Burrows, Co-President

Meeting is gaveled in by Diane Burrows, Co-President.

Dorothy Ouzidane will act as Parliamentarian. Kai Rosenthal will be timekeeper. Natalie Silverman will provide tech support and Tayra Vionette will be running the slide presentation.

Thanks to Natalie for all her hard work and support and to Tayra, who has elevated and amplified our work by making us a loud and visible presence on social media.

Thanks to committee chairs, our interns, board members, expanded Advisory Board members, and all our members. Both for the League and for Democracy itself.

BUSINESS MEETING Lesley Sigall, Co-President

Voting today will be to approve last year’s meeting minutes, nominations for officers, changes to our bylaws, the budget for FY2023, and our local program. You will also have the opportunity to offer “Directions to the Board”.

Credentials: We had 243 active members eligible to attend this meeting. We need 25 members for a quorum, and we have members voting, including 10 proxy votes.

Unfortunately, our guest speaker has very recently decided to run for public office and therefore was unable to address us this evening.

All the votes will be taken using the polling function in Zoom.

Any vote taken that has been recommended by the current Board of Directors does not need a second

Meeting Minutes Diane Burrows

We will start by approving last year’s minutes. Let this year’s minutes include a clarification of a statement made last year about civic education. Mary Jenkins, a past president and former chair of the Education Committee noted the following:

“In reading the minutes of our last Annual Meeting I noted that an erroneous mention was made that the study of civics had been removed from the curriculum of New York City public schools. I believe that this statement was also made at our Gala. To publicly make such erroneous assertions only damages our credibility.

At a minimum all students must pass a Participation in Government course in order to graduate from high school. In addition, an excellent Civics for All curriculum has been developed and is available to all schools. What is true is that much more needs to happen to bring this curriculum alive. Our federal government subsidizes STEM education but currently provides little for civics education. The bipartisan Civics Secures Democracy (CSD) Act (S.879/H.R.1814) would authorize federal investment in K-12 civic education providing support for teacher professional development, curriculum materials and student programming. I hope that our state and local leagues will advocate for this bill.”

We will vote on last year’s minutes as included in your pre-meeting package sent on May 16. This year’s minutes will reflect this clarification offered by Mary Jenkins.

I need a motion to accept the minutes from last year’s annual meeting. Shelly Warwick. I need a second to the motion. Jane Colvin.

Motion: Accept last year’s annual meeting minutes.

Yes: 38

No: 0

The motion passes.

NOMINATIONS

Cathy Gray – Nominations Committee Chair

Committee: Bella Wang, Ruth Altman, Laura Quigg, Diane Drew.

The Nominations Committee and as recommended by the Board of Directors proposes this slate of nominations for officers:

- ▶ Kai Rosenthal – Co-President
- ▶ Deborah Brodheim – Co-President
- ▶ Susie Gomes – VP Development
- ▶ Caroline Smith – VP Technology
- ▶ Sherletta McCaskill – VP Communications
- ▶ Amy Matthews – VP Membership
- ▶ Laura Quigg – Treasurer
- ▶ Jacqueline Elkort – Secretary

We elect officer positions in even numbered years. We will need a simple majority for this slate to pass.

Are there any nominations from the floor?

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion: To approve the Slate as presented by the Nominating Committee. Jane Colvin motioned.

Yes: 41

No: 0

The motion passes.

Welcome to our new officers. And special thanks to our retiring officers for all you’ve done: Diane Burrows and Lesley Sigall – Co-Presidents, Crystal Joseph – Vice President, Jessica Weinberg – Treasurer, and Amy Matthews – Secretary.

BYLAWS

Akyla Tomlinson – Bylaws Committee Chair

Proposed changes to the Bylaws were submitted in the package of information sent to you on May 16. Bylaw changes require a 2/3 majority to pass.

The Bylaws Committee and the Board of Directors are proposing the following 2 changes to the Bylaws:

Article IV. Officers – Section 1

Proposed Change: remove the language “(as described in Article IV, Section I)”

Rationale: We do not need to reference the section since the terms are already defined in the paragraph.

Article V. Board of Directors – Section 1a

Proposed Change: Change the term from two years to one year for the appointed Board of Directors.

Old Language: The terms of office of the Appointed Directors shall expire concurrently with the terms of office of the Elected Directors.

New Language: The terms of office of the Appointed Directors shall be up to one year and shall expire at the next Annual Meeting.

Rationale: This gives us the opportunity to appoint other members and will create space for more people to serve as board members and take on leadership roles. Directors, whether elected or appointed, shall be limited to six consecutive years in the same office.

Are there any questions?

Shelly Warwick – why wasn’t the change blacklined?
Answer: This was an error.

Barb Ettington – can we vote on these separately? Answer: If the combined motion fails, we will vote separately.

Carol Meilman – had difficulty getting into the zoom meeting. She is approving of the changes to the Bylaws.

Gladys Krasner – How do we vote? Answer: a poll will be launched.

Motion: To approve the two amendments to the By-laws as presented. Several members motioned.

Yes: 36

No: 6

Motion passes. The changes to the bylaws have been adopted.

BUDGET

Lesley Sigall – Budget Committee Chair

Our fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

Budget documentation as presented in the package to members on May 16, 2022.

As the forecast for the annual meeting was done in February, and we have two months of actuals since forecast a net loss of \$21K on an adjusted basis, a \$38K increase to budget

Favorability is due to the success of the breakfast and underspending on staff and rent.

The Board recommends the proposed budget be approved.

Fiscal 2023 revenue includes a gala and an expected grant from NY Community Trust to update *Who Represents Me*. We are partnering with CUNY for this grant.

The expenses include an additional part-time staff member and allowance for additional space for in-person meetings.

Investment revenue is based solely on interest and

dividends. In FY22, we used an average of three years of gains, but recent market conditions show the riskiness inherent in that approach. Therefore we are changing interest and dividends only—a steady source of income.

Are there any questions?

Jane Colvin: Are we paying rent for the office? Answer: We let go of some of the space. We retained the larger room at \$1600. Using it to store and some meetings.

Any thoughts on the Gala? Answer: a date in April 2023 with more than one honoree. Development is considering several themes. Join the Development Committee!

Jane Colvin: Have we hired a new staff member? Answer: We don't have a new staff member yet.

What kind of position? Answer: Administrative – Sales-force, assistance to Development Committee.

Motion to adopt the budget as presented. Jane Colvin

Yes: 41

No: 1

The motion passes. The budget is adopted.

LOCAL PROGRAM

Karol Robinson – Chair Local Program Committee

The Local Program Committee recommends adopting the Local Program “Access to Affordable Childcare in New York City”.

The issue of access to affordable child care encompasses many of the areas of interest proposed by the membership relating to women’s reproductive rights, parental rights, and general issues of equity and access.

As New York City continues to recover from the pandemic, the League is aware of the importance of childcare and the issues created for so many New Yorkers, particularly lower income and people of color, who are having to make difficult financial and work-related choices that are directly impacted by the extent of a family’s access to affordable childcare. According to a December 2020 report issued by the Citizens’ Committee for Children, the average cost of daycare services is one-third of the median household income for families in New York City. According to the report, the cost consumes even more of the take home pay for lower income families, reaching as high as 65%.

To undertake the issue of access to affordable childcare as a local program, the League will work with its committees, other groups advocating for affordable childcare and possibly elected officials, with the goal of ensuring that childcare programs are adequately and equitably funded in all communities throughout New York City. The League is committed to educating and enacting change in support of this very important issue that impacts the lives of so many New Yorkers.

Other suggestions from members:

- ▶ Education
- ▶ Women’s Rights and Equity, ERA, Parental rights
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Reproductive rights and equity
- ▶ Women in Politics
- ▶ Voting – registration, GOTV, etc.

Are there any questions on our proposed Local Program “Access to Affordable Child Care”?

No questions.

Motion to adopt the local program as presented.**Laura Quigg****Yes: 42****No: 1***The motion passes.***DIRECTIONS TO THE BOARD****Sherletta McCaskill, Board Director and New VP
of Communications**

Directions to the Board is the time during the meeting when members have an opportunity to provide guidance to the incoming Board.

Please be assured that these comments will be recorded in the Annual Meeting minutes and will be discussed at the first Board meeting of the new fiscal year.

This will NOT be a question and answer session.

Lulu Friesdat – can we research if the current legislative suggestions for voting machines are secure, accountable, transparent. Note: this is a State LWV issue, not a local issue.

Sally Robinson – the State League made a decision not to support the bill. This is a State Board issue, not NYC. We are only taking directions to the NYC League.

Barb Ettington – hope we can return to in person meetings soon!

CLOSING REMARKS**Diane Burrows**

We would like to thank you all for attending our 2022 Annual Meeting of Members. Before we hand the gavel to our amazing new co-presidents, Deb and Kai, to close today's meeting, we would like to say it has been an honor to serve as your Co-presidents. Even though we were isolated in our own homes, we knew we were never alone—you all were there—a Zoom click away! We could not have done it without all of you, our membership. We are so proud of the passion and dedication of our dynamic and energetic members. We made a commitment to open ourselves to greater diversity, equity, and inclusion in our leadership, our membership and our partnerships. We believe in the strength, vision, and collaboration that diversity brings to our work. This is what drives us forward.

Lesley Sigall

We renewed our commitment to work for the preservation of democracy. This meant we advocated for greater access to the vote—including people who had been recently incarcerated and the disabled. We expanded our reach into many neighborhoods in New York through technology like Zoom and our social media campaigns. We vigilantly worked to protect voting rights, reproductive rights, pay equity, and other issues that impact the lives of New York City communities.

As our new slate of officers take their positions, we will continue to support the work to engage New Yorkers because we understand that democracy has never been, and will never be, a spectator sport.

We now hand over the gavel to our new Co-Presidents, Kai Rosenthal and Deborah Brodheim.

I want to say it has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve as co-president of LWVNYC.

NEW CO-PRESIDENTS' REMARKS

Deborah Brodheim

We are honored and very proud to be your new Co-Presidents. We look forward to working with our new and longtime members and volunteers as we continue to build on the League's legacy for the future. But we couldn't do this without the very solid foundation established by Lesley and Diane and so many others before.

Thank you both for all you have done for the League during your tenure as Co-Presidents and prior to that as board members and volunteers. Your passion for the League is highly motivating. By your example, you've both encouraged our participation and that of many others. You gave us leadership opportunities. Thanks to both of you, we are well prepared to continue the League's legacy and important work, overcoming challenges we face, and expanding on the opportunities to make a difference for all New Yorkers. Offering an engraved photo of you both honoring your service and leadership.

Kai Rosenthal

We will continue to work to expand and diversify our membership, volunteer base and partnerships, reaching into more communities across New York City to provide that all voices are heard. We anticipate that we will be able to soon begin in-person events and meetings, but always offering a hybrid option.

We will continue to augment and strengthen our programs especially our Adults Civics Education. We will aim to improve and broaden our communications notably with local media, update our website and tech-

nology capabilities, and work diligently on building our financial health to ensure we continue to move our mission forward.

This is a great time to be involved with the League.

Thank you again to our membership. Thank you for attending, and we look forward to working together in the year ahead.

CLOSING THE MEETING

Kai Rosenthal, Co-President

Do I have a motion to adjourn? Susie Gomes and Laura Quigg

Do I have a second? Shelly Warwick

I hereby adjourn the 2022 annual meeting of members.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.

Submitted by Amy Matthews, Secretary

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Report of the Nominating Committee Proposed Slate of Nominees

The Nominating Committee proposes a slate of five Directors to be elected for a two year term in odd numbered years as stated in the Bylaws. The Nominating Committee proposes Laurie Pauker to be elected as VP - Development for a one year term until June, 2024, when all the Officer terms expire in even years as stated in the Bylaws.

All are first elected terms unless otherwise noted. The slate of candidates include:

Nominations for the Board

- ▶ Barbara Ettington
- ▶ Cathy Gray
- ▶ Patricia Manning (3rd term)
- ▶ Karol Robinson
- ▶ Karen Wharton

Nomination for VP – Development

- ▶ Laurie Pauker

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee, Diane Burrows, Laura Quigg and Diane Drew.

PROPOSED SLATE

Barbara Ettington, Board Director

Barbara is proud of the League's non-partisan history and enjoys working to ensure today's League remains relevant. Running her own consulting business for 20 years, Barb's search for a volunteer gig led her to "Lunch with the League" where she felt inspired by the smart people in the room. She began volunteering in 2014 and joined in 2015. In addition to serving as an Appointed Board Director since July 2020, she sits on the Development Commit-



tee as Chair of Special Events, and serves on the Budget & Finance Committee and has helped on various projects such as Budget, Office Space, Debates, and as Chair of Voter Services 2016–2019. Barb enjoys serving where needed.

Cathy Gray, Board Director

Cathy has served as an Appointed Board Director since July 2020, Co-President from November 2014 to June 2020 and has been a member of the New York City League for over a decade. Formerly a Librarian with the Brooklyn Public library, Cathy worked in many departments and managed several large branches in Brooklyn.



As a past Co-President Cathy's main title now is the Archivist of the NYC Leagues' records. Her favorite activities are public events: voter registration, get out the vote, constitution day and even the odd rally. Cathy recently led a League book discussion on Black suffragists.

Patricia Manning, Board Director

Patricia grew up in Manhattan, however she has spent her adult life in The Bronx.

Patricia holds in high regard her 32 years of public service at Bronx Community Board 8 where she was hired as a Community Associate and went on to be hired as the Board's 3rd District Manager. As District Manager she was charged with advocating for delivery of city services and resources to ensure the stabilization and viability of a culturally diverse community district consisting of a population of 104,000 citizens.



Previously, Patricia was employed by non-for-profit organizations including New York Foundling Hospital's Bronx Teen Parenting program, a program that provided support services to teen parents which made it possible for them to continue their education and to be able to work; and Developing Arts for The Bronx, which was dedicated to showcase the talents of local Bronx artists.

Patricia has always taken her civic duty responsibilities seriously. She is a graduate of New York City Citizen Police Academy and has served for many years as President of Baychester Neighborhood Block Watchers Association.

Patricia is most passionate about increasing voter registration and "voting," especially in The Bronx. Immediately after retiring, she signed up as a volunteer with the League of Women Voters of New York City, knowing its exemplary reputation for its civic engagement programs with heavy focus on voter registration. She has been proudly serving as an Elected Board Director since June 2020, a member of the Development Committee, a member of the Voter and Information Services Committee and participates with the Voter Reform Committee and more.

Patricia has no plans to retire from volunteering her time in a meaningful way that inspires citizens of New York City to "Vote Louder!"

**Karol S. Robinson,
Board Director**

Karol has served as an Appointed Board Board Director since August 2021 and has been a member of the league since 2020 first serving on the Voter Services Committee. Karol is a partner in Herrick's Real Estate Department where she



practices cooperative, condominium, and real estate law with a focus on affordable housing, non-profit organizations and general transactional work. She has also been involved extensively in secured and unsecured financing transactions from both lender's and borrower's perspective. Karol has become known for her integrity and hands-on, direct working relationships with directors and agents for her cooperative and condominium housing and not-for-profit clients, advising on day-to-day operational and corporate governance matters. In addition, her experience includes dealing with and advising clients on compliance with various federal, state and city governmental housing agency regulations. She also regularly attends and advises clients at board of director and shareholder meetings, drafts corporate governance documents, negotiates and drafts commercial leases, construction contracts, vendor agreements, and advises on real estate financing transactions.

Karol is a longtime volunteer with the Vassar College Alumni Program. She has also volunteered with various New York groups including New York Cares, Fresh Air Fund, Association of Black Women Attorneys and the Lawyers Alliance for New York, a provider of pro bono business and transactional legal services for non-profit organizations. In 2020, the Lawyers Alliance for New York honored Karol with its Cornerstone Award for outstanding service to nonprofits that improve the quality of life for low-income New Yorkers. Karol was recognized for sharing her transactional and counseling skills with Lawyers Alliance clients since 2003 on governance, fiscal sponsorship, and lease review projects.

Karol has been recognized by Legal 500 for her experience and professional excellence in Real Estate.

**Karen Wharton,
Board Director**

Karen is Democracy Coalition Coordinator for Citizen Action of New York & Public Policy and Education Fund. She leads Citizen Action's democracy campaigns. She facilitates the Fair Election for NY coalition that advocates for New York's Public Campaign Finance Program and spearheads an education campaign to raise awareness about the program. Her OpEds have appeared in the NY Daily News and the Bronx Times. In addition, Karen has presented on public campaign financing and democracy to NYS Democratic Rural Conference, Demos IDP convenings, and state and national grassroots organizations. She created and currently leads a statewide BIPOC democracy table that helps to expand, protect and make democracy more accessible to diverse communities.



Karen has served as an Interim Board Director since August 2022 and has been a member of the League since 2021, and serves on its DEI and Voter Services Committees. She is also a member of the Brooklyn NAACP, Brooklyn Voters Alliance, and Canarsie Lions.

Karen is a graduate of Boston University College of Engineering and Pace University.

**Laurie F. Pauker,
VP Development**

Laurie has served as an Interim VP of Development since March 2023. She joined the League in February 2022 and began working with the Development committee shortly thereafter.



Previously, Laurie was the principal of Laurie & Sons, an award-winning chocolate and confectionery company in East Harlem. Laurie & Sons sold a variety of chocolates, toffees and bonbons wholesale to retailers like Whole Foods, Bloomingdale's, Amazon, Columbia University as well as food service and catering companies. Laurie & Sons sold direct to consumers through the company's online website. Laurie's days required a balance between financial planning, marketing, sales, customer service and managing staff, in addition to the hands-on work of manufacturing, facilities management and the logistics to run a small business in a competitive market.

Laurie is a marketing expert with a long career in product development. She was previously a senior executive at Lowe Direct and Lowe & Partners, where she advised key clients on developing and marketing new products for both consumer and business-to-business markets. Accounts for which she had primary responsibility included Black & Decker, Xerox and AT&T. She began her career as a product developer in the consumer group at Chase Manhattan Bank, where she was responsible as a Product Manager for all aspects of development for numerous consumer credit products. Laurie has also conducted independent marketing consulting engagements for clients in a variety of industries.

A graduate of Hampshire College, Laurie has an MBA in Marketing from the Columbia University Graduate School of Business.

Laurie and her husband, David, live on the Upper West Side. She loves art, food, travel and fishing.

Respectfully submitted by the Bylaws Committee: Amy Matthews, Dorothy Ouzidane, Kate Doran, Deborah Brodheim

The Bylaws Committee recommends a change to Article X. Program - Section 3 paragraph a). This change would further clarify the timing about receiving recommendations for a Local Program from the League membership. Below, we have highlighted the proposed change:

► **Section 3. Adoption of Local Program**

- *Current wording:* a) The Board shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members not later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.
- *Proposed changes to wording:* a) The Board shall consider the recommendations for a local program sent in by the voting members. Voting members shall send their recommendations not later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. An Ad Hoc Board committee shall consider all recommendations and draft a proposed Local Program. The draft proposal shall then be reviewed by the Board of Directors.

The rest of the Bylaws would remain unchanged.



ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be The League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Inc. (“LWVNYC”). LWVNYC’s former name was League of Women Voters of the City of New York Education Fund, Inc. (“Ed Fund”), the surviving corporation of the merger (“the Merger”) between the previously-existing The League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Inc. and Ed Fund. Ed Fund’s name was changed to The League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Inc. pursuant to the certificate of merger filed with the Secretary of State on pursuant to Section 904 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of the State of New York (“N-PCL”).

LWVNYC is a local league (a “Local League”) of The League of Women Voters of the United States (“LWVUS”) and of The League of Women Voters of New York State (“LWVNYS”), and is an integral part thereof.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES AND POLICY

Section 1. Purposes

The purposes of the LWVNYC are set forth in its Certificate of Incorporation (as amended from time to time) and include the promotion of political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. Policy

The LWVNYC may take action on local governmental measures and policies in the public interest in conformity with the Principles of the LWVUS and LWVNYS. It shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

Section 3. Diversity Equity and Inclusion Policy

LWVNYC is fully committed to ensure compliance — in principle and in practice — with LWVUS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility

Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the LWVNYC shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership

- a. *Voting Members.* Persons of at least 16 years of age, who upon payment of dues, join the LWVNYC, shall be voting members of the Local Leagues, the state Leagues and LWVUS; provided that,
 - i. persons who reside within the area of a Local League may join that Local League or any other Local League;
 - ii. persons who reside outside the area of any Local League may join a Local League or shall be state members-at-large; and

- iii. any person who has been a member of the League for 50 years or more shall be a life member excused from the payment of dues.
- iv. Student members - any individual who is attending an accredited institution of education either full or part time. Student members under the age of 16 are associate members.
- e. *Associate Members.* All others who join the LWVNYC shall be Associate Members. Associate Members are not voting members.
- f. *Initial Members.* The initial members of the LWVNYC shall be the members of the previously-existing The League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Inc. as of the effective date of the Merger.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers.

The officers of the LWVNYC (each, an “Officer”) shall be a President or two Co-Presidents, or if deemed necessary by the Board, a management team consisting of as many people as is necessary to carry out the work of the LWVNYC (herein referred to as “President”), up to four Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The Officers shall be elected for terms of two (2) years by the members at the Annual Meeting in even-numbered years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. They take office immediately upon the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Qualifications.

Only voting members of the LWVNYC shall be elected or appointed to serve as Officers or Directors of the LWVNYC.

Section 3. The President.

The President shall preside at the Annual Meeting. The President shall sign contracts and other legal instruments together with another officer authorized by the Board. The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

Section 4. Vice Presidents.

The Vice Presidents, shall in the event of absence, disability or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office, until such time as the Board shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy. The Vice Presidents shall perform such other duties as the President and the Board may designate.

Section 5. The Secretary.

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board and of the Annual Meeting. The Secretary shall notify all Officers and Directors of their election. The Secretary shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 6. The Treasurer.

The Treasurer or a duly appointed Assistant Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board, and shall disburse the same upon order of the Board. The Treasurer shall present statements to the Board at its regular meetings. The financial records of the organization shall be reviewed annually by a certified public accountant.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

- a. The Board of Directors (the “Board”) shall consist of the Officers of the LWVNYC (“Officer Directors”), up to five but no fewer than three elected directors (“Elected Directors”) and up to six appointed directors (“Appointed Directors” and, together with Officer Directors and Elected Directors, the “Directors”). The number of Elected Directors shall be recommended by the Nominating Committee (as defined below). The Officer Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in even-numbered years, or at the next Annual Meeting if a vacancy in an elective office has occurred, and shall serve until the next election in an even-numbered year. The Elected Directors shall be elected in the Annual Meeting in odd-numbered years, or at the next Annual Meeting if a vacancy in an elective office has occurred, and shall serve until the next election in an odd-numbered year. The Officer Directors and Elected Directors shall appoint such Appointed Directors as they deem necessary, but not more than six, to help

carry on the work of LWVNYC. The terms of office of the Appointed Directors shall be up to one year and shall expire at the next Annual Meeting. Directors, whether elected or appointed, shall be limited to six consecutive years in the same office.

- b. At the first meeting of the Board after the Annual Meeting, the Board shall elect a Chairperson of the Board (the “Board Chair”) from among the Board members, other than any director who is also serving as the President. The Board Chair shall, in conjunction with the President, develop the agenda for the meetings of the Board, and shall act as advisor to the President. The Board Chair shall be an ex officio member of all committees of the Board, except the Nominating Committee. No one shall serve more than six consecutive years as Board Chair.

Section 2. Qualifications.

Only Voting Members of the LWVNYC shall be elected or appointed or continue to serve as an Officer or Director of the LWVNYC.

Section 3. Vacancies and Absences.

Any vacancy occurring in the elected Board by reason of the resignation, death or disqualification of any member may be filled on an interim basis, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of all the remaining members of the Board. It shall be the function of the Nominating Committee to recommend to the Board candidates for vacancies in the elective offices occurring between elections. Absence of any member from three consecutive Board meetings, without valid reason, shall be deemed a resignation.

Section 4. Powers and Duties.

The Board shall have full charge of the property and business of the LWVNYC with the full power and authority to manage and conduct the same, subject to the instructions of the Annual Meeting. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program as adopted by the National and State Conventions and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such committees as it may deem necessary, which shall include a committee on Diversity Equity and Inclusion. The Board may adopt, amend or discontinue such Standing Rules (as defined below) as it may deem necessary for the functioning of the Board.

Section 5. Standing Rules.

The “Standing Rules” are policies and guidelines to the Board for the carrying out of their duties, which are not contained in the Bylaws, and which shall be adopted, amended or discontinued as provided in these Bylaws.

Section 6. Meetings.

There shall be at least six regular meetings of the Board annually. The Board Chair may call special meetings of the Board and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board. Members of the Board shall be notified of the time and place of any special meeting by written notice, transmitted electronically, by mail, or fax sent at least five (5) business days prior to such meeting. The Board Chair shall preside at the Board meetings.

Section 7. Quorum.

A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of the members in attendance at any board meeting shall, in the presence of a quorum, decide its action. Any member of the board may participate in a meeting by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment that allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time; participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

ARTICLE VI. ADVISORY BOARD

The Board may appoint an Advisory Board representing the corporate, civic, cultural and philanthropic community of New York City who support the work of the LWVNYC. The size and composition of the Advisory Board shall be decided by the LWVNYC Board of Directors. The Advisory Board shall serve as a committee of LWVNYC as described in Section 712(e) of the N-PCL.

ARTICLE VII. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year of the LWVNYC shall be from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

Section 2. Dues.

Membership dues shall be payable during the month in which the member joined. The Board may establish

special procedures for collection of dues. The dues structure shall be as determined by the Board.

Section 3. Budget.

A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The Budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.

Section 4. Budget and Finance Committee.

A Budget and Finance Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at the first Board meeting following the Annual Meeting. The Budget and Finance Committee shall provide financial guidance and oversight, and shall, at least four months prior to the Annual Meeting, prepare a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee.

ARTICLE VIII. MEMBER MEETINGS

Section 1. Notice

There shall be at least one meeting of the membership each year, which shall be designated the Annual Meeting. Any other meeting of the Members shall be designated a Special Meeting. Notice of any meeting shall be given to all members at least 30 days prior to the meeting electronically, by mail, or fax.

Section 2. Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Board (including, to the extent permitted by law, in virtual format). The Annual Meeting shall (a) elect officers and directors, (b) adopt a budget; (c) adopt amendments to the Bylaws; (d) adopt a local program for the ensuing one or two years; and (e) transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. Special Meetings.

Special Meetings of the Members may be called by the Board or by Members entitled to cast ten percent of the total number of votes entitled to be cast at such meeting, who may, in writing, including by e-mail, demand the call of a Special Meeting specifying the date and month thereof, which shall not be less than two nor more than three months from the date of such written demand. The Secretary upon receiving the written demand shall promptly give notice of such meeting, or if they fail to do so within five business days thereafter, any member signing such demand may give such notice. The Special Meeting shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Board (including, to the extent permitted by law, in virtual format).

Section 4. Quorum.

One hundred voting members, or 10% of the total members entitled to vote, whichever shall be less, shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Members. The record in the office of the LWVNYC of paid-up voting members as of 45 days prior to a meeting shall determine the members entitled to vote at the meeting or any adjournment thereof. Any member entitled

to vote may designate, by written proxy, transmitted electronically, by mail, email, or fax, another member to be present to vote in their stead. All proxies must be received at the LWVNYC office no later than three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

Section 5. List or record of members at Annual Meeting.

A list or record of members entitled to vote, certified by the LWVNYC Secretary, who shall be responsible for its preparation, shall be produced at each meeting, upon request therefor of any member who has given notice by email, fax or other electronic method to the Secretary provided that such request will be made at least 10 days prior to such meeting. If the right to vote of any person at the meeting is challenged, the Election Committee shall require such list or record of members to be produced as evidence of the right of the person(s) challenged to vote at such meeting. All persons who appear from such list or record to be members entitled to vote thereat may vote at the meeting.

ARTICLE IX. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominating Committee.

The immediate past President of the LWVNYC shall be the Chair of the Nominating Committee. In the absence of such person, the Board shall select one of its directors to serve in such a role. The Chair shall select at least two members of the LWVNYC, only one of whom shall be from the Board, to prepare a slate for the elective offices. It shall be one of the functions of the Nominating Committee to recommend to the Board

candidates for vacancies in the elective offices occurring between elections. Suggestions for nominations for officers and directors may be sent to the Nominating Committee by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained. The President or Co-President of the LWVNYC shall not be a member of the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee.

The report of the Nominating Committee, containing its nominations for officers and elected directors, shall be sent to the Members at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented at the Annual Meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member immediately after presentation, provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained.

Section 3. Election.

The Election Committee, appointed by the President at the Annual Meeting, shall be in charge of the election if it is by ballot. If there is only one nominee for each office, the election may be by voice vote. Officers are elected by majority vote of the members present, or voting by written proxy, and qualified to vote.

ARTICLE X. PROGRAM

Section 1. Authorization.

The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of the program.

Section 2. Program.

The program of the LWVNYC shall consist of (a) action to implement the principles and (b) those governmental issues chosen at the Annual Meeting for concerted study and action.

Section 3. Adoption of Local Program.

- a. a) The Board shall consider the recommendations for a local program sent in by the voting members. Voting members shall send their recommendations not later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. An Ad Hoc Board committee shall consider all recommendations and draft a proposed Local Program. The draft proposal shall then be reviewed by the Board of Directors.
- b. The proposed program shall be sent to all members at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting.
- c. A majority of the qualified members present or by written proxy and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of any item in the proposed program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board.

- d. Recommendations for program items submitted by voting members 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board may be considered by the Annual Meeting provided that the Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote.
- e. A three-fifths vote of those qualified members present or by written proxy at the Annual Meeting is necessary to adopt a non-recommended program item.

Section 4. Member Action.

Members may act in the name of the LWVNYC only when authorized to do so by the Board. They may act only in conformity with, a position taken by the LWVNYC, the LWVNYS and the LWVUS.

Section 5. Local League Action.

The LWVNYC may act only in conformity with, or not contrary to, the position taken by the LWVNYS.

ARTICLE XI. NATIONAL CONVENTION AND STATE CONVENTION, AND STATE COUNCIL

Section 1. National and State Conventions

Nominations for delegates to a National or State Convention may be sent to the Secretary of the LWVNYC by any voting member not later than 60 days preceding that convention. From these nominations the Board shall elect by ballot delegates to the particular convention in the number allotted to the LWVNYC (or portion thereof) under the provisions of the Bylaws of the LW-

VUS and the LWWNYS. When less than a full delegation is to be sent, the apportioned number shall be determined each year by the Board of Directors in consultation with the Budget Committee.

Section 2. State Council.

The Board of Directors shall direct how LWWNYC votes are cast at the State Council.

Section 3. Alternates.

Alternates for the delegates to the National Convention shall be elected at the same time as delegates. The Board may empower the President and/or a committee to fill any vacancy in the event that the list of alternates shall have been exhausted.

ARTICLE XII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order as revised, shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

Bylaws Committee.

A Bylaws Committee shall be appointed by the Board at least four months prior to the Annual Meeting to consider any proposals for amendments submitted by voting members. The report of the Bylaws Committee

together with the Statement of the Board's recommendations on the separate proposals shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting for action.

- a. The report of the Bylaws Committee and the recommendations of the Board of Directors shall be sent to the members at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.
- b. A two-thirds vote of those qualified members present or by written proxy at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of the amendments to these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV. STATUTORY COMPLIANCE ARTICLE

Section 1. Conflict of Interest Protocols.

This Organization shall adopt, and at all times honor, the terms of a written conflicts of interest policy to assure that its Directors, Officers and Key Employees act in the Organization's best interest and comply with applicable legal, regulatory and ethical requirements. The conflicts of interest policy of the Organization shall include, at a minimum, the following provisions:

- a. **Procedures.** Procedures for disclosing, addressing, and documenting Conflicts of Interest and Related Party Transactions to the Board of Directors, or authorized committee, as appropriate.
- b. **Restrictions.** Stipulations that when the Board of Directors, or authorized committee, as appropriate, is considering a real/potential conflict of interest, the interested party shall not:
 - i. be present at, or participate in, any deliberations;

- ii. attempt to influence deliberations, and/or
 - iii. cast a vote on the matter.
- c. Definitions.** Definitions of circumstances that could constitute a conflict of interest.
- d. Documentation.** Requirements that the existence and resolution of the conflict be documented in the records of the Organization, including in the minutes of any meeting at which the conflict was discussed or voted upon.
- e. Audit-Related Disclosure.** Protocols to assure for the disclosure of all real or potential conflicts of interest are properly forwarded to the Audit Committee or Conflicts of Interest Committee, as appropriate, or if there is no such Audit or Conflicts Committee, to the Board of Directors, or another Committee of the Board, as appropriate.



6

Budget/ Finance Report

Summary FY23 Forecast and FY24 Budget

	FY 2023 Budget	FY 2023 Forecast	FY 2024 Budget	Change in FY24 Budget from FY23 Forecast
Revenue				
Direct Contributions				
Individual	\$ 70,500	\$ 47,500	\$ 52,500	\$ 5,000
Corporate	-	10,500	17,300	6,800
Grants				
Government	-	45,000	45,000	-
Non-Government	40,000	50,930	32,000	(18,930)
Program Sales and Fees	1,230	7,200	22,000	14,800
Membership Income	20,000	20,250	24,750	4,500
PMP	(13,000)	(12,375)	(15,125)	(2,750)
Investments	4,800	5,560	5,000	(560)
Special Events — Revenue	165,000	90,300	20,000	(70,300)
Special Events — Direct Costs	(85,000)	(60,000)	(10,000)	50,000
Total Revenue	\$ 203,530	\$ 204,865	\$193,425	\$ (11,440)
Expenses				
Salaried Staff and Related Expenses	(13,000)	49,432	65,000	15,568
Contract Office Staff	-	34,424	50,500	16,076
Professional Fees — Other	21,600	18,082	20,000	1,918
Supplies, Printing, and Postage	-	5,966	11,000	5,034
Communications and Equipment Expense	-	8,401	6,350	(2,051)
Facility Expenses	36,000	20,000	23,000	(3,000)
Travel and Meetings Expenses	-	10,450	11,295	845
Other Expenses	24,400	4,546	5,300	754
Total Expenses	\$ 197,175	\$ 151,301	\$ 192,445	\$ 41,144
Net Income	\$ 6,355	\$ 53,564	\$ 980	\$ (52,584)

The Board recommends the proposed budget be approved:

- ▶ Interest and expense categories broken out to improve transparency (e.g. Direct contributions and Grants. Contract staff separated out from salaried staff)
- ▶ Fiscal 2024 does not include a major gala/fundraiser, instead increasing direct Corporate support for planned programming and activities.
- ▶ Continued progress diversifying funding sources, especially Foundations
- ▶ Anticipate increase in membership ahead of 2024 election, although net membership revenue is modest
- ▶ Investment revenue is based solely on interest and income

FY 2023 Forecast vs. Budget

	Budget	Forecast	
Account	FY 2023	FY 2023	I/(D) to Budget
Revenue			
Direct Contributions			
Individual	\$ 70,500	\$ 47,500	\$ (23,000)
Corporate		10,500	10,500
Grants			
Government	-	45,000	45,000
Non-Government	40,000	50,930	10,930
Program Sales and Fees	1,230	7,200	5,970
Membership Income	20,000	20,250	250
PMP	(13,000)	(12,375)	625
Investments	4,800	5,560	760
Special Events — Revenue	165,000	90,300	(74,700)
Special Events — Direct Costs	(85,000)	(60,000)	25,000
Total Revenue	\$ 203,530	\$ 204,865	\$ 1,335
Expenses			
Salaried Staff and Related Expenses	\$ 115,175	\$ 49,432	\$ (65,743)
Contract Office Staff	-	34,424	34,424
Professional Fees — Other	21,600	18,082	(3,518)
Supplies, Printing, and Postage	-	5,966	5,966
Communications and Equipment Expense	-	8,401	8,401
Facility Expenses	36,000	20,000	(16,000)
Travel and Meetings Expenses	-	10,450	10,450
Other Expenses	24,400	4,546	(19,854)
Total Expenses	\$ 197,175	\$ 151,301	\$ 45,874
Net Income	\$ 6,355	\$ 53,564	\$ 47,209

Notes:

- ▶ Fiscal year (FY) 2023 runs from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023
- ▶ We forecast a net income of 54k on an adjusted basis, a \$47k increase to budget
- ▶ Favorability is due to increased government grant funding and underspending
- ▶ Adjustments made for Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investments, which is a non-cash item

Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2023

	Amount
Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 221,654
Security Deposits	1,664
Federal Bonds	30,000
Total Assets	\$ 253,318
Liabilities and Equity	
Total Liabilities	\$ 0
Retained Earnings	\$ 273,177
Net Income (Expense)	(19,859)
Total Equity	\$ 253,318
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 253,318



7

Local Program 2023-2024:

Aligning
New York
City Elections
with State
and Federal
Elections

2023-2024 Local Program

Based on the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the City of New York, membership must adopt a local program for the upcoming year. Thank you to the members who submitted proposals and ideas.

The Local Program Committee and LWVNYC Board are recommending adoption of the Local Program:

“Aligning New York City Elections with State and Federal Elections.”

The issue of aligning New York City elections with state and federal elections speaks to the League’s important mission of increasing voter participation and equity in elections. A change in the city election schedule will require an amendment to the New York State Constitution, a process that will entail substantial voter education, another League purpose.

The non-partisan good government group, Citizens Union, has studied the issue and embarked upon a campaign in support of the idea of aligning local elections with state and federal elections, which are held in even-numbered years. As noted in Citizen’s Union’s December 2022 Policy Report, “Moving Municipal Elections to Even-Numbered Years,” elections held in even-numbered years (a) yield higher voter turn-outs, (b) result in electorates that are more representative of the population, and (c) lead to a reduction in the cost of elections and the administrative burden associated with running both odd and even-numbered year elections.

In undertaking the issue of aligning elections, the League would study the issue, research the impact local election alignment has had in other cities and work with other non-partisan good government groups advocating for the change. Partnership with other organiza-

tions will provide an opportunity for League members to expand connections and increase awareness of the League and our work.

The League is committed to educating and enacting change in support of this very important issue that could have an impact on the lives of so many New Yorkers. We hope the Membership will support the proposed Local Program.

Respectfully submitted,
Karol S. Robinson



CITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ City Affairs is a newly formed committee looking for members. Its objective is to help amplify the League’s presence with New York City Council members and City Hall. Our outreach will include monitoring legislation, meeting with council members, and developing joint programs for their constituents that encourage active civic participation.

COMMITTEE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ The Committee for Criminal Justice Reform envisions establishing the LWVNYC as an influencer around issues of criminal justice in NYC. Toward this end, we will work in collaboration with community-based organizations and those directly impacted by the criminal justice system to advocate and lobby for legislation and policies that focus on criminal justice reform.
- ▶ Our priority is aimed to address the inadequate systems in place to police our communities, as well as advocate for legislation that reforms the current system.
- ▶ We will partner with organizations that work with people in communities heavily impacted by criminal justice-related issues. The committee’s interest will be to engage these partners and actively encourage people they work with to participate in the political process.
- ▶ Overall, our goal is to achieve reform in a system that

has disenfranchised members of our most vulnerable communities.

Summary of fiscal year 2023 accomplishments and activities

- ▶ Partnered with the Women’s Community Justice Association on their Beyond Rosies Campaign which is aimed to advocate for the closing of the Rose M. Singer women’s facility on Rikers Island.
- ▶ Partnered with Urban Justice’s Freedom Agenda campaign to Close Rikers Island and replace the jail complex with four borough-based facilities. The plan to close Rikers also ensures the Island will no longer be used for incarceration and under the control of the Department of Corrections. The Island is to be used for environmental justice initiatives.
- ▶ In the next fiscal year, the Committee for Criminal Justice Reform will continue to focus our efforts on the campaign to close Rikers and advocate for more criminal justice reform legislation.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ Continue involvement in DemocracyReadyNY
- ▶ Continue participation in NYC Civic Coalition
- ▶ Allyship with YCI (Youth Civics Initiative)
- ▶ Continue advocacy for education related issues

- ▶ Launch the “Students Inside City Hall” pilot inspired by Students Inside Albany. A three day program to educate NYC public school students about city government and provide them with advocacy and lobbying skills training.

Summary of fiscal year 2023 accomplishments and activities

- ▶ Working members of DemocracyReadyNY
- ▶ Youth Civics Initiative, www.youthcivicsinitiative.org, a partner of the League, admitted as an independent member of DemocracyReadyNY
- ▶ Active Participants in Media Literacy, Youth Engagement, Equity, Access and Inclusion, and Assessment committees of DemocracyReadyNY
- ▶ Contributed to a white paper, *The Importance of Discussing Controversial Issues in the Classroom—Especially Today*, with Columbia University. Endorsed/justified discussions of controversial issues and offered recommended policy guidelines to support educators and help parents and students understand the importance of discussing these issues
- ▶ Member of Civic Week events planning committee. Contributed to planning of the Coalition’s five events, with NYC Department of Education
- ▶ Working member of NYC Civic Coalition Steering Committee.
- ▶ Collaborated with other youth facing organizations to create a Youth Civics Hub online to connect students to opportunities for civic engagement/participation.

- ▶ Coalition was inspired by the Youth Civics Initiative, that we helped to launch in 2019, and for whom Jane Hatter is the adult advisor
- ▶ Working Member of the NY State League Youth Chairs committee

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ Develop monthly speaker programs for the League and the community on political and social issues impacting New Yorkers.
- ▶ Expand our audience and introduce new topics, by developing joint programs with sister Leagues and other civic organizations.
- ▶ Record all programs for viewing on the Leagues’ YouTube channel

Summary of fiscal year 2023 accomplishments and activities

- ▶ Resumed in person Lunch with the League programs
- Offered seven programs on current political issues including:
- ▶ Manhattan D.A. Alvin Bragg’s vision for safety and security in Manhattan (Sept 2022)
 - ▶ What’s on the Ballot in November 2022 (Oct 2022)

- ▶ Congestion Pricing in NYC: Pros and Cons (Nov 2022)
- ▶ How the Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) is handling asylum seekers from the southern border. (Jan 2023)
- ▶ New York's commitment to women's rights and the Equal Rights Amendment (March 2023)
- ▶ The role of Civics Education in and out of New York public schools (April 2023)
- ▶ Trend in Health Care Plans from Medical Provider to Profit Centers (May 2023)

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ The Transportation Committee, a newly formed committee looking for new members. Its objective is to support actions to promote sustainable, equitable, and accessible transportation systems in New York City. Transportation is the lifeblood of the city and through coalition building, advocacy, and policy change, the Committee aims to help New Yorkers benefit from a more efficient and safe system that is essential to their daily routines.

VOTER REFORM INITIATIVE COMMITTEE

Main objectives for committee

- ▶ Our committee advocates for electoral reform, in order

to fight voter suppression and make voting easier for all.

- ▶ Each year we aim to advocate for the League's platform of voting issues with legislators and other key decision makers, as well as develop new positions to propose to the Board of Directors when appropriate.
- ▶ This year, we are seeking to coordinate our lobbying process with other committees at the City League, including the Committee for Criminal Justice Reform. We have established cross-committee liaisons to deepen cooperation.

Summary of fiscal year 2023 accomplishments and activities

- ▶ Conducted spring lobbying meetings with state legislators on issues including funding for starting the online and automatic voter registration processes, the companion database bill to the NY Voting Rights Act, better access to voting in jails, and restoration of voting rights for currently incarcerated people. Engaged new and returning members, as well as student interns, in this process.
- ▶ Sent a representative to participate in the Let NYVote committee on voting in jails.

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

VOTER OUTREACH

Expanding outreach in other languages

- ▶ Palm card translated into Spanish and Mandarin for Fall 2022 election. Distributed over 1000 cards

- ▶ 2023 translate to Spanish in-house and with NALEO. Also work with partners at LiveOnNY and NYCCFB to enhance print and verbal communication in Spanish, Bengali and Mandarin.

Incorporating access for people with disabilities further into our work

- ▶ Work closely with partners in the disability community to understand challenges they face in exercising their voting and civic rights, getting guidance to do better with voter outreach and making all of us more aware of the challenges they face
- ▶ Included information and PSAs about ballot marking devices (BMDs) and rights of prospective voters with disabilities into our materials
- ▶ Conduct outreach events both virtually and at locations like the Andrew Haskell Talking Book Library.

Voter outreach

- ▶ Conducted scores of voter outreach events, at libraries across the city, YMCAs, parks, local businesses, senior centers and many other locations working with our many valued partners.

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE SPEAKERS BUREAU

Main objectives of the Speakers Bureau:

- ▶ Inform and educate New Yorkers about voting and

community engagement

- ▶ Outreach to community groups to increase partnerships and membership in LWVNYC
- ▶ Outreach to businesses to increase participation and membership
- ▶ Partnership with CCJR (Committee for Criminal Justice Reform) to engage returning citizens
- ▶ Encourage League members to join as speakers

Summary of fiscal year 2023 activities and accomplishments

- ▶ Revised and finalized Civics presentations and slide decks on the topics of: Adult Civics; Voting; Who Makes NYC Run; Ranked Choice Voting; Redistricting; History of the League
- ▶ Led 38 Speaking Events in schools, businesses, community groups throughout NYC increasing civic understanding and engagement.