

LWV The *informed* Voter

League of Women Voters ® of Appleton, Wisconsin



<http://www.lwvappleton.org/>

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Sept.—Oct., 2017

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LWV Appleton to host monthly gatherings What is a TIF? and other key updates

Irene Stroben

LWV Appleton is now hosting monthly LWV meetings on the 3rd Monday of *most* months at the Copper Rock coffee shop at 210 W College Avenue in downtown Appleton.

We will begin at 5:00 p.m. with time to socialize and order food, with the program starting promptly at 5:30 p.m.

(See program plan next pg.)

TIF & other updates

WHEN 5:00 p.m., Mon., Oct. 16

WHERE Copper Rock coffee shop
210 W College, Appleton
Bring a friend.

CALL TO ACTION—ATTEND CITY MEETING OCT 9

Mark your calendar to attend the Parks and Recreation meeting, Monday, Oct. 9 at 5:30 PM at City Hall to support the Climate Change Resolution—found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Bob Baker, City Council Alderman District 9, has introduced a resolution for the Appleton Common Council to work towards our own climate change plan. This is similar to what other communities are doing because of President Trump pulling out of the Paris Accords.

The resolution went to Mayor Hanna's office to determine what is already being done to support the resolution. The resolution was then sent to the Parks and Recreation Committee, which voted on Sept. 11 NOT to recommend it.

For about 90 minutes on Sept. 20, almost two dozen Appleton residents (including LWV President Jeanne Roberts) made public statements advocating for or against the resolution. Most were in favor.

(See city committees next pg.)

See how our city committees make decisions

The Common Council decided to send it back to the Parks and Recreation Committee for further review. **Plan to attend their meeting Oct. 9, at 5:30 PM at City Hall.**

The League supports legislation that seeks to protect our



country from the physical, economic and public health effects of climate change while also providing pathways to economic prosperity. Click here for the rest of the national position on climate change. <http://lww.org/issues/defending-environment>

Left—LWV President Jeanne Robert testifies at Common Council .

(Continued from TIF pg. 1)

PROGRAM PLAN FOR 2017-18 FISCAL YEAR



Mark your calendar!

Join us to learn about Downtown Appleton Development and TIF (Tax Incremental Financing) Districts from Karen Harkness, Director of Community Development for the City of Appleton. As the new Exhibition Center takes shape, other conversations are continuing regarding economic development in the downtown area, along the riverfront, and elsewhere in the city. This timely program is a chance to hear first-hand what the city is doing to promote development via TIFs, and what's going on with Appleton development.

We will begin at 5:00 p.m. with time to socialize and order food, with the program starting promptly at 5:30 p.m. Programs are held at the Copper Rock coffee house, 210 W College Avenue in downtown Appleton, unless otherwise noted.

Irene Strobeen is Second Vice-President—Program; and Maren Peterson is a Director—Program. You may contact them with questions, comments, and suggestions. Board contact information is also in this newsletter.

MONTH/DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER
Oct 16	PROGRAM--Downtown Development and TIFs	Karen Harkness
Nov 20	PROGRAM— Fox Valley Health Care Costs: What's Wrong and What You Can Do About Them	Bill McLaughlin and Dr. Marty Finkler
Dec 9	Holiday Brunch—Speaker Topic: Poverty and Racial Disparity in Wisconsin and Dane County (tent.)	Erica Nelson, Race to Equity (tent.)
Jan 13 (tent.)	Lively Issues	LWV
Feb 19	PROGRAM—Climate Change	TBD
Mar 19	SOCIAL—LWV Process: Positions and Advocacy (Education positions at local/state/national levels, Advocating from positions)	LWV
Apr 16	Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma-Informed Care	Paula Verrett, NAMI-FV Iris Place Director
May 10? 16?	Annual Meeting	LWV



Voter Services Update

J. Klimaszewski, VP -Voter Services



Youth Registration Project

Brochures purchased through grant funds were used throughout August at the registration assistance events at the Appleton high schools.

Presently our focus is on working with a student group at each of the high schools to promote voter registration and provide information on each upcoming election so students know the positions/people on the ballot and the importance of those offices. Our role will be supportive: making sure they remain non-partisan and that they are providing accurate information.



R-l: Sara Companik and Jacqui Klimaszewski offer registration assistance to a potential voter.

- In discussion with the Appleton North principal recently, National Honor Society, Student Government or other “clubs” are being considered. He will be meeting with some of the teachers and contacting me regarding how it is best to proceed.
- Appleton East is going to work through the guidance personnel and advisor/advisee; we will meet with them in September.
- Appleton West has designated a staff member who is interested in working on this project and we will meet in September as well.

When the lines of communication are set, we will work with the various groups to develop registration and voting materials aimed at 18-year-old

students with AASD high schools—posters, YouTube Videos, musical school announcements, contact cards, etc.

We are also working with UW Fox Valley and FVTC on a similar project.

Registration Assistance Events:

- August event results from the three high schools:
 - On-line registrations--16
 - Mail-in registrations--60
 - Information and forms—78
 - Membership Information - 2

National Voting Registration Day participation, Tuesday, September 26

- * Registered—9
- * Information—25

THANK YOU to all those who helped with National Voting Registration Day

J. Klimaszewski at JKlim@new.rr.com



R-l: On National Voter Registration Day Becky O'Connor and Betty Witt Huhn assist a potential voter.

Observer Corps keeps officials accountable

Cindy Fallona, Director—Observer Corps

Have you been looking for a way to become more involved with the League and your community but do not want to make a huge commitment of time? I have just the answer for you –LWV Observer Corps!

An Observer attends a government meeting (city council, school board, county board), notes what happens at the meeting, and reports back to the League. By attending public meetings of local government bodies, observers learn more about what their government is doing. They learn about the issues facing their community and how issues are being addressed.

Observers keep elected and appointed officials on notice; they let them know that someone is watching what decisions are being made and how

they are being made. They help ensure that the issues facing their community are being handled *in the sunshine*, in the open.



This is an opportunity for you to attend one meeting or several meetings of the Appleton Common Council, school board or Outagamie County Board. Pick what area you are interested in; attend a meeting or meetings that fit your schedule. New to this concept; no problem—we will train you and even have a veteran go with you to your first meeting.

Welcome new league board members

Editor's note: In the last newsletter, we introduced several new board members. Below are the remaining two.

KAREN BACHHUBER—LWV Appleton Treasurer

I came to Appleton from Long Beach, California to attend Lawrence University.

Lawrence remains central to my life in Appleton, and one of my sons is also an LU alum.

My husband and I raised four children, and I taught high school math in Appleton, Kaukauna and Stockbridge. All of my children now live out of state, but 12 years ago my mother moved to Appleton. At 91 my mom continues to enjoy living independently.



My life as a widow in Appleton includes music, book groups, yoga, dance, and generally staying healthy.

I find being part of a public discussion is important. In 2014, I worked with a group of people, *Appleton Move to Amend*, to gather signatures so Appleton voters could express their opinion about the "Citizen's United" decision. 71% of the Appleton voters agree that "Corporations are not people and money is not speech" should be considered as an amendment to the US Constitution. The folks I met doing that project continue to be important in my life.

Another new board member steps up

BARB DORZWEILER, Director—Natural Resources



I am the newly elected Director for Natural Resources. An Appleton native, I have had a 35-year career in nursing, retiring in 2016 and enjoying retirement.

My husband and I own 90 acres in the North Woods. I personally helped plant over 3,000

pine tree saplings, but I'll admit the guys planted the majority. We enjoy our cabin there, deer hunting, fishing, swimming and hiking. I also enjoy my expanding gardens at home, biking in summer, and quilting in winter.

I'm passionate about health and wellbeing and strongly believe a healthy environment is integral

to our personal health. I am interested in science as well as the arts. Currently I tutor English Language Learners for the Fox Valley Literacy Coalition and volunteer at St. Joseph Food Pantry. I'm also a master gardener volunteer with the Outagamie County Master Gardener Association.

I have served on the boards of Sustainable Fox Valley and the Best Friends of Neenah Menasha Auxiliary. I've been a member of LWV-Appleton for about 10 years and previously served as Program Director. I was instrumental in establishing our first celebration of Women's Equality Day where we honored all elected women in Outagamie County.

This year I hope to give you information on some of the legislative issues pertaining to our local and state positions on the environment and encourage you to take action when our voices are needed.

President Jeanne Roberts—Writing a letter to our Alderpersons

Please support Climate Change Resolution



Editor's note: In addition to testifying at the Sept. 21st Common Council meeting, Jeanne sent the following letter to Mayor Hanna and all of our Common Council members.

It has come to our attention that there has been a proposal to implement a Climate Action Plan and join other US cities in the Climate Mayors Network in adopting and supporting the goals of the Paris Agreement. This action plan would also commit to exploring the potential benefits and costs of adopting policies and programs that promote the long-term goal of GHG emissions reduction while maximizing economic and social co-benefits of such action.

The League of Women Voters has a long-standing commitment to improving the quality of life of our citizens, which includes improving the quality of our environment. The League of Women Voters-U.S. has stated that "climate change is the greatest environmental challenge of our generation."

The League of Women Voters has been at the forefront of the environmental protection movement for decades, consistently supporting

legislation to preserve our nation's natural resources and protect our public health. We support legislation that seeks to protect our country from the physical, economic and public health effects of climate change while also providing pathways to economic prosperity.

Chris Carson, LWV-US President, stated in June of this year that "Withdrawing from the Paris Climate Agreement is a giant step in the wrong direction for the health of the planet and all living beings...the long-term effects of this decision will make more people sick, especially children and the elderly."

Therefore, the League of Women Voters of Appleton supports the proposal put forth to implement a Climate Action Plan.

*Sincerely,
Jeanne Roberts
President, LWV Appleton*

CLIMATE CHANGE RESOLUTION

Note: Below is the resolution submitted by Bob Baker, which the Common Council returned to the Parks & Recreation Committee.

WHEREAS, consensus exists among the world's leading climate scientists that global warming caused by emissions of greenhouse gases from human activities is among the most significant problems facing the world today; and

WHEREAS, documented impacts of global warming include but are not limited to increased occurrences of extreme weather events, adverse impacts on ecosystems, demographic patterns and economic value chains; and

WHEREAS, responding to climate change provides communities an opportunity to access first mover advantage in a range of products, services and know-how that transitioning to a climate compatible future brings; and

WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement resulted in a commitment from all but 3 nations to take action and enact programs to limit global temperature increase to less than 2 degrees Celsius, with an expectation that this goal would be reduced to 1.5 degrees in the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Appleton, Wisconsin

1. *Indicates its commitment to reducing GHG emissions through future implementation of a Climate Action Plan; and*
2. *Join other US cities in the Climate Mayors network in adopting and supporting the goals of the Paris Agreement; and*
3. *Commits to exploring the potential benefits and costs of adopting policies and programs that promote the long-term goal of GHG emissions reduction while maximizing economic and social co-benefits of such action.*
4. *Form a Climate Change Board, to be filled by citizens of Appleton, city officials, and city staff to help set these goals and policies.*



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lwwappleton

The League of Women Voters of Appleton is a nonpartisan organization that advocates for informed and active participation in government. LWV is a vibrant, visible, respected advocate for sustaining our democratic society.

YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS AN ORGANIZATION THAT:

EDUCATES AND INFORMS CITIZENS ON IMPORTANT ISSUES

MONITORS GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION AT ALL LEVELS

PROTECTS CITIZENS' RIGHTS

CALLS OUT FOR

- Transparency in government
- Campaign finance reform
- Redistricting reform
- Responsible environmental legislation
- Healthcare for all citizens

The League of Women Voters of Appleton is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization run entirely by volunteers. The League is nonpartisan. It neither supports nor opposes political candidates or parties

More information is at
www.lwwappleton.org

Contributions are gratefully accepted
online at
<http://www.lwwappleton.org/donate/>

Committees accomplish league goals

Meet new members and share your skills

For more information, email Shirley Strange at shirleywstrange@gmail.com

Name	Make Up	Time Commitment	Responsibilities
Nomina- tions	Need three from membership at large.	All year getting to know mem- bers. Draft candidates by October, select nominees by February 1	Getting to know members, learning of their skills and interests. Selection of candidates. Phone calls to pro- spective candidates.
<i>Making Democracy Work Award</i>	4-5 members Chair appointed by President of League	August-December (Holiday Brunch usually first week in Dec.)	All materials are developed. Getting the word out, going over applica- tions and choosing a recipient.
Women's Equality Day	Need 5-6	Meeting in March, June, July, August	Help choose venue, choose speaker, plan program, food and beverage
Observer Corps	No maximum number	Attend Council, County, School Board meetings on your schedule.	Attend meetings and report out on important action items.
Member- ship	No max number	4-5 meetings in the year.	Plan membership social events, help out at forums & program events registering guests.
Study	Subject determined at Annual Meeting	Can be a 1-year or 2-year study.	
Program Committee		Planning the year in June , other work throughout the year	Helps Program VP plan and execute programming, getting speakers, ven- ues, etc.
Fund Raising		October—mailing February, Valentine Connection March—mailing to non responses from Oct	Address letters, brainstorm ideas for fund raising, work with membership committee on relationship building.
Voter Services	No maximum number	Two, three months before an election	Register voters, help with candidate forums
Advocacy	No maximum	Meets about once/month. Action as needed	Determine priorities and actions

LWV Appleton Board of Directors 2017-18

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LWVUS releases video clip on *journey to 2020 & beyond* Debra Cronmiller featured

LWVUS recently released Part 2 of a video about the League’s transformational journey to strengthen our role in creating a more perfect democracy as we enter our second century. Hear from League leaders from across the country about how we can maximize our mission impact by engaging new members, increasing our visibility and sharpening our focus on core issues.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iWXf90WieHs&t=24s>

Part 1, including a short statement by our own **Debra Cronmiller**, was released several months earlier. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iWXf90WieHs>



League members prepare fundraising letter.

The Informed Voter

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Contributions are gratefully accepted online at

<http://www.lwvappleton.org/donate/>

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 7, 2017

Contact: Andrea Kaminski, Executive Director

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LWW-WI Calls on U.S. Supreme Court to Rule in Favor of Fair Voting Districts

MADISON – The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin joined other organizations this week in filing an *amicus* brief in the U.S. Supreme Court in the case *Gill v. Whitford*, the case in which a federal district court ruled the Wisconsin Assembly districts unconstitutional based on partisan gerrymandering. The brief calls on the Supreme Court to uphold a lower court ruling which requires the state legislature to redraw the voting maps in time for the 2018 elections. The brief can be found here:

http://www.lwwi.org/Portals/0/News%20and%20Events/PDFS/AmicusBrief_GillvWhitford_9-5-17.pdf

The *amicus* brief demonstrates how Wisconsin’s 2011 redistricting has resulted in legislation that is much more extreme than would be expected from a more typical shift in the majority from one party to another. By creating “safe districts” in which a particular party is assured of victory in elections, the gerrymandered districts insulate lawmakers from accountability to their constituents.

“We have seen a serious breakdown in the legislative process in recent years. We have seen a bill that appeared to be traceable back to the desire of one wealthy donor. We have seen cases where thousands of constituent calls and emails were simply ignored. This is running roughshod over democracy,” said Andrea Kaminski, Executive Director of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin.

The brief demonstrates the ill effects of gerrymandering specifically on legislation related to government accountability, funding for public education and protection of our natural resources. The League holds positions in all of these areas and is active in the State Capitol working to pass policies that are responsive to the

“Where the majority party used to have to seek a bipartisan consensus to get legislation passed, now it can introduce and fast-track bills with no support from the minority and only the minimum required opportunity for public input. We are urging the U.S. Supreme Court to end partisan redistricting so that every citizen’s vote will have equal weight,” Kaminski said.

As a nonpartisan organization, the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin has long held that voting maps should be drawn by a nonpartisan entity, rather than by the legislators themselves. The League’s position, which was adopted by our membership in the 1970s, lined up with that of the Republicans in the 1970s and now with the Democrats. Our position has not changed substantially in that time; all that has changed is which party is in power in the state legislature.

Smooth transition expected for staff changes at LWVWI

I want you to know that I informed the State Board a few weeks ago that I will be retiring from my position at LWV WI at the end of the year. I made this decision because I want to have more flexibility to travel with my husband, who has been retired for a couple of years.

After careful consideration, the state board decided the best person to succeed me is our Voter Education Coordinator, Erin Grunze. I'm sure those of you who know Erin will agree! As you know, Erin very ably led the League's *Gear Up to Vote* tour and election observation program last year. This year she is helping local Leagues transition to the new voter registration system and improve their online presence. I was thrilled when Erin said "yes" to the Exec Director position, and we are glad to

have the rest of this year for mentoring and transition. Erin will do a great job of building on the League's legacy and the strategic advances we have made here in Wisconsin in recent years, while also positioning the League to do even more in its second century.

Please don't fear that the great work Erin has been doing for local Leagues will go away. We are committed to that work, and we will hire another person for the Voter Education position later in the year.

By the way, I won't be going far from the League myself. I plan to serve my full 2-year term as Board Secretary, which expires June 2019.

Andrea Kaminski

Job opening at LWV WI

League of Women Voters of Wisconsin is seeking applicants for the position of Voter Education Coordinator. Accepting applications until September 29 or when the position is filled. Find the job posting and instructions for applying here:

<http://www.lwvwi.org/About/EmploymentatLWVWI.aspx>

FYI, this is the position Erin Grunze currently holds. As I've mentioned before, Erin will be stepping up to the Executive Director position when I retire at the end of the year. We want to keep her important voter education work going!

Andrea Kaminski, Executive Director

Issues Briefing is Oct. 28 –Deadline to register is Oct. 19

I hope you will join us at Issues Briefing on Saturday, October 28, at the Madison College Truax Campus in Madison. An agenda and other information are included: <http://mailchi.mp/lwvwi/join-us-for-lwvs-state-issues-briefing?e=1cce0ea356>.

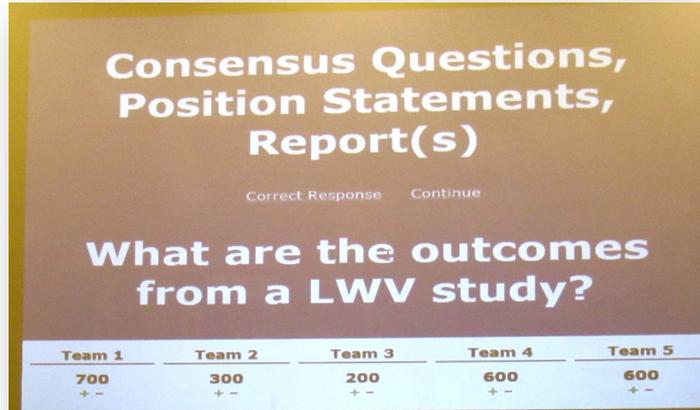
You can register online here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lwv-wi-issues-briefing-2017-registration-37747484743>

The registration deadline for Issues Briefing is October 19. I hope you will attend!

Photo Gallery



At Women's Equality Day, Dr. Sylvia Carey-Butler gives LWV a history lesson on lack of diversity.



Answer and question for Jeopardy game at first meeting of the year.

right—Members wrack their brains to ask the right “question” during the Jeopardy game at our first meeting of the year at Copper Rock. Comment overheard: *“This was one of the most fun meetings I’ve been to. Congrats to the Program Committee.”*

