

Serving the communities of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores, Grosse Pointe Woods, and Harper Woods

The Voter August-September 2020

President's Message

As I write this message to you, our League is doing some incredible things! I am SO impressed with the work that has been accomplished during the summer months. You'll see these accomplishments with the many reports elsewhere in this issue of *The Voter*.

I was fortunate to serve as a delegate, along with Sue Acton and Wilhelmina Giblin, to the first ever Virtual National Convention June 22-27 via the Zoom platform. This was obviously much different than an in-person convention, and I was very impressed with its success (see my perspectives in a related article in this newsletter).

Voter Services is off and running with a very busy schedule. After the very successful, first-ever, virtual candidate forum on June 17th for the Michigan House District 2 race, Mary Zahler and Mary Ellen Brayton are now placing their emphasis on clerk engagement, the August Primary, the November General Election, Vote411 and a fall candidate forums for local school board elections and Harper Woods judge. Thanks to Mary Ellen Brayton for coordinating a very successful August Primary ballot stuffing event with Derrick Kozicki, Grosse Pointe Farms city clerk, as well as working with all local city clerks to secure poll workers for both the August and November elections! If you haven't volunteered to be a poll worker, I strongly encourage you to serve in this role to help out our clerks. It is a very rewarding experience and the clerks will be following established protocols during the pandemic to keep workers and voters safe!

Kudos to Carol Lufburrow, Kathy Gardner, Sarah Coats and Vicki Granger who have completed work to include PayPal as a payment option on our website for dues, our Vote411 sign fundraiser and general donations to the League. This will greatly enhance the ability for people to use an on-line payment option.

Valerie Kindle and Carol Todd are working on the program schedule for this fall, in collaboration with the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and Voter Services teams. Although we aren't sure of when we can safely have "in-person" meetings again, the virtual platform is available for us to bring programs to you!

We are collaborating with the Grosse Pointe Historical Society for a program, via ZOOM, on Wednesday, September 16, at 7 p.m., noting the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. More details and registration information will be available soon.

The Nominating Committee (Chair Mary Jo Johnson, Mary Morshead and Wilhelmina Giblin) is also working on its charge to develop a diverse slate of candidates for our election of officers in 2021. If you are interested in serving as an officer, please contact one of the committee members.

The Communications Committee (Marge Freundl, Kathy Gardner and Vicki Granger) has worked very hard to streamline our communications for the League. They established a plan earlier this month, working with Voter Services, to be sure our activities and fundraiser are posted on social media as well as our local media. This is extremely important for continuity of our messages to the public.

Our Vote411 sign fundraiser is underway (see article in this newsletter). I hope you will all contact your family and friends for support in purchasing signs so we can get our important message out to the public about the importance of voting, using the excellent Vote411 on-line tool! Our goal is to sell as many as possible for the August Primary Election. However, since they are not dated, they are also good for the November General Election!

We also have a special photo session scheduled for Tuesday, July 28 to recreate history and the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment! The suffrage photo will be taken at the War Memorial. We have over 30 people who have signed up to participate.

Our League has been awarded a Making Democracy Work (MDW) Grant in the amount of \$400. This grant, through the LWVMI, is to support local leagues in their voter protection/education efforts from June-November, 2020. The grant has the following goals:

- Monitor implementation of Voting Rights as described in 2018 Proposal 3.
- Educate public on election protection through engagement with county and local clerks
- Increase visibility of Vote411, expanding media and social media engagement

We are pleased to be selected and are already on our way to accomplishing the above goals!

Our next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 18, 7 p.m., via Zoom. If you would like to join us, please contact me so the meeting link can be sent to you.

I hope you are all enjoying your summer, despite the "new normal" in our world today. Please stay safe and take care of yourselves and others. And, as always, if you have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me!

Judy Florian, President LWV GP. 313-402-6786 jflo@comcast.net

Voting Reminder: August 4 Primary

Many people will be voting from home this primary election. It is very important that you mail your ballot as soon as possible- definitely by July 28! Starting July 29, voters should drop their ballots off at their city clerk's office or in a drop box provided by the clerk. This will ensure that your ballot arrives in time to be counted!!

You can also track your ballot. If you're voting from home and want to make sure your clerk receives your ballot, check mi.gov/vote. [See this video](#) on how to track your ballot.

Problems? Call 866-OUR-VOTE.

Before you vote... 

VOTE411.org

LWV LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

lwvgrossepointe.org

SAWICKI & SON (313) 942-2725 

LWVGP Fundraiser: Lawn Signs Raise Awareness of VOTE411

We are currently selling lawn signs (see the pic above) to promote the League's voter information website, Vote411.org. The signs also emphasize the importance of every registered voter participating in the August 4 Primary Election, as well as the November 3 General Election. And the sign helps promote our League!

Signs are \$10. (\$12. delivered). Contact either Judy Florian or Vicki Granger.

- Judy Florian (GP Park) 313-402-6786 jflo@comcast.net
- Vicki Granger (GP Woods) 313.882.9878 lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com

Voter Services Active All Summer

Virtual Candidate Forums

Our first virtual Candidate Forum for the Michigan House, District 2* for the August 4 Primary was a resounding success! It was recorded on Zoom in June and features the two Democratic candidates (one of whom will be in the November 3 General Election). District 2 of the Michigan House of Representatives covers Grosse Pointe City, Farms and Park as well as northeast Detroit.

You can view the recorded forum on our YouTube Channel at this [link](#).

In September we will be holding **two virtual candidate forums**:

- Grosse Pointe Public Schools School Board - five positions
- 32A District Judge of District Court-Harper Woods-one position

LWVGP members and the public will have the opportunity to submit questions for both forums, which will be recorded during the week following Labor Day and will be available

on our [YouTube](#) channel. Up to date information, including candidates and recording dates, will be available in mid-September.

LWVGP Aids Cities in Preparing for Primary Elections

In anticipation of the August 4th Primary, our LWVGP volunteered its efforts to aid our cities by contacting the five Grosse Pointes and the Harper Woods City Clerks, asking how we could help.

Derrick Kozicki from Grosse Pointe Farms was happy for the offer and asked for help in preparing 2,200 absentee ballots on Tuesday, June 23rd. While wearing masks and practicing social distancing at Pier Park, League members and other volunteers worked for several hours to complete the mailing.

Other City Clerks asked for help finding workers for both the August 4th Primary and November 3 General Election and the League continues to put the word out in helping them find poll and absentee workers.

Absentee Ballots

If you are a registered voter, you received an application to receive an absentee ballot. The deadline to request a ballot online for the August 4th primary is past, but you can still go to your local City Clerk's office to register up until the day of the election. You can also register online to request a ballot for the November 3 election. See the information below about [Vote411.org](#) for more information.

We are planning a Zoom program highlighting the process of absentee ballots (also known as voting by mail) in early October. Dates and speakers are still being determined. Stay tuned!

Vote411.org - Your One-Stop Candidate and Proposal Information Spot

The [Vote411.org](#) website provides information for all voters, including candidate information provided by the candidates themselves. Launched by the National League of Women Voters in 2006, VOTE411 serves as a "one-stop-shop" for nonpartisan, election-related information, and responses to relevant questions for federal and state races and for ballot proposals. Candidate information for some local races and proposals is also included. VOTE411.org also assists voters in finding their polling places, hours, and learning about candidate forums. Additional resources for how to navigate elections during the COVID-19 pandemic are also included.

Voter Guides Available Soon

The League of Women Voters of Michigan produces and distributes over 100,000 copies of a non-partisan voter guide that covers statewide offices and proposals in advance of the November 3, 2020 General Election. Additionally, information about most local, county and state candidates is available on the League's non-partisan, on-line voter guide, [VOTE411.org](#). We will be ordering 2,5000 of these guides to be distributed throughout our area to city halls, libraries, churches and other places. I will be sending an e-mail asking for help in distributing!

Online Voter Registration for High School Seniors

This summer both school districts (Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods) sent our flyer to all

seniors encouraging them to register to vote. The deadline for the August 4 election is past, but people can still register for the November 3 election. See the flyer on our [website](#). Voter Services also created a Power Point presentation especially for young voters. This presentation was sent to the high school principals.

Communications Committee Collaboration

Mary Ellen Brayton, Judy Florian, Sue Acton and I met recently with the Communications Committee (Vicki Granger, Marge Freundl, and Kathy Gardner) to determine how the Committee could help spread our message about the important work we are doing. Thank you for composing and submitting Voter Services information to The Grosse Pointe News, Grosse Pointe Times, Grosse Pointe Patch, our Facebook page and our website, as well as sending emails to our LWVGP members We have never had so much publicity!

Mary Zahler
VP for Voter Services



LWVGP volunteers at the GP Farms Pier Park assist with sending absentee ballot applications.

Rigged! LWVGP Partnering with GP Library for August 6 Program via Zoom

The Grosse Pointe Public Library has asked our League to participate in a special program: *Rigged*.

The American Library Association has offered libraries the opportunity to host the showing/streaming of this award winning film. *Rigged: The Voter Suppression Playbook*, The film will be available for people to screen in advance of the panel discussion. The panelists will start a Q&A session after showing a 14-minute segment pulled from the film, *Voter Fraudbusters* before the program begins.

The panel discussion is Thursday, August 6, at 7 p.m. via Zoom A link to the film will be available from the Library's Facebook page beginning Monday, July 27th. It will also be available free on Hoopla using your valid Grosse Pointe Public Library card.

What's it about? The documentary feature chronicles how American democracy is being threatened and our vote is being undercut by a decade of dirty tricks - including the partisan use of gerrymandering and voter purges, and the gutting of the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court.

How did they do it? The film shows you how.

Sue Acton, President-Elect, will represent LWVGP on the four-member panel, including the award winning executive producer Tim Smith, author Gilda Daniels, who recently published her new book [Uncounted: The Crisis of Voter Suppression in America](#), along with other community leaders.

Further information is available on the Grosse Pointe Public Library's Facebook page.

Membership Update: We are 113 Strong!

We are now at 113 members strong, with the recent addition of two new members, Diana Langlois and Emily Everett. We always welcome new members and encourage all of you to spread the word about the League!

Diana Langlois lives in Grosse Pointe Woods, and is active with the Soroptomists of Grosse Pointe, and the Grosse Pointe branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Welcome, Diana!

Emily Everett also lives in Grosse Pointe Woods and is active in the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club, the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods NAACP, and the Black Lives Matter movement. She has long admired the work of LWV to educate voters and protect democracy in a nonpartisan way, and was inspired by Vicki Granger to join. Welcome, Emily!

Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30, meaning annual dues should be paid by the end of each June.

Dues are

- \$60.00 Individual
- \$90 Household of 2 or more at the same address
- \$5 Student

We have **two ways** to renew your membership.

1. Print the [renewal form](#) from our website, on the [Membership](#) page, and send, along with your check to

LWV Grosse Pointe, 32 Lake Shore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms 48236

2. Pay online, via [Pay Pal](#).

NOTE: The [PayPal](#) link goes to a page that says "DONATE", and you enter the amount. Our Communications team is still working on creating a "store" on the website, so for now, to pay online, enter the amount, and follow the steps asking for credit card, etc.

We look forward to hearing from you!

[Sarah Coats](#), LWV Director - Membership

[Laurie Copin](#), LWV Director - Membership

Call for Nominations

The LWVGP Nominating Committee is preparing a slate of nominees for 2021-2022 for the following board and committee positions:

- VP Program (two-year term)
- Secretary (two-year term)
- Directors (2) (two-year term)
- Nominating Committee Chair (one-year term)
- Nominating Committee Co-Chair (one-year term)

We encourage both long term and new members to apply! We are focusing on the goal of incorporating diversity and inclusion in membership and leadership on the board. This is your chance to become more involved in the important work of the League in fostering voter education, community engagement, and participation. A strong league starts with a strong and diverse leadership!

Members interested in being considered for a nomination or who have questions, should contact one of the Nominating Committee members listed below by email no later than October 1, and include your phone number. We will be happy to answer questions and provide you with a copy of the job description of the board or committee position to be filled.

Chair: [Mary Jo Johnson](#)

Co-Chair: [Mary Morshead](#)

Member: [Wilhelmina Giblin](#)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Update

The committee is working to identify individuals to attend committee meetings to educate the league regarding how we can address the diverse needs of our community. Future attendees include: a minister from a newly opened church in Grosse Pointe Park; a person who owns a consulting firm that addresses the needs of persons with disabilities. and the broad discussion of accessibility and inclusion; and our Voter Services Director to discuss membership recruitment of newly sworn-in US Citizens.

Daniel Baxter, Wayne County administrator, will be speaking at a fall meeting about the demographic landscape of Wayne County and how the League can use this information to be more inclusive and responsive to the needs of our community. Val Kindle is working with the president of the GP Historical Society on a collaborative Women's Suffrage program in the fall. If you know of other organizations that we should reach out to, please contact one of our committee members.

W. Giblin informed the committee that the newly elected president of LWVUS is Deborah Turner, MD, an African American female, the only second African American to lead the national organization. The committee has encouraged our Board of Directors to invite Dr. Turner to our chapter annual meeting next year; perhaps this can be done jointly with the Detroit Chapter.

Readers are encouraged to watch the webinars available on the LWVUS website and the links in the Voter regarding diversity, equity and inclusion. Also, think about the conversations and activities occurring across the nation and consider what each can do as a citizen to promote a more just, equitable and inclusive society.

The committee needs your help. To track our progress to become a diverse, equitable, and inclusive organization, we need all members to complete the DEI Survey. As of this date, only 21 members have completed the survey (18% of our membership); 8 were completed between April 2020 -July 6, 2020. If you have completed the survey, thank you. If you have not completed the survey, please [click here](#) and complete it today.

Finally, the committee will recommend to our Board of Directors that we adopt the recommendation from LWWUS to reinstitute our local Observer Corp. to encourage transparency and accountability in our local government.

Please consider signing up for two upcoming Zoom meetings. Click on the date for the link to the registration form.

- [August 20](#)
- [September 24](#)

Wilhelmina Giblin, LWWGP Chair, DEI Committee

LWWUS 2020 Convention Perspectives

President's Perspective on LWWUS 54th Convention

These are not normal times and neither was the LWWUS 54th convention. The first-ever virtual convention, conducted via Zoom Webinar, June 22-27, was attended by over 1400 voting delegates and 900 observers, representing all 50 states and the Virgin Islands. The convention encompassed 7 different time zones, an overwhelming logistical undertaking. It was impressive how well it was managed, despite some minor technical glitches!

In this Voter issue, Sue Acton provides you with an excellent summary of the Plenary activities, which conduct the biennial business of the organization. Wilhelmina Giblin shares information on several Caucuses she attended. I provide below my insights on lobby day and the caucuses attended.

A very important part of the week was Virtual Lobby Day on June 25th. Delegates to the convention were encouraged to participate and join in a nationwide day of action by calling for restoration of the Voting Rights Act through the Voting Rights Advancement Act (VRAA). This act restores and modernizes the original protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA). The goal of the legislation is to combat the influx of discriminatory voting requirements that states have enacted that disproportionately prevent minorities, the elderly, and youth from voting.

Delegates were asked to email and call their Senators, asking them to support and pass the Voting Rights Advancement Act; send a Tweet to their Senators and participate in a Twitter Storm between 2-3pm ET that afternoon. The League provided excellent tools for delegates to use when communicating with their Senators. Although I was unable to personally talk to Senators Stabenow and Peters, I left a lengthy voice message urging them to support the Act and pressure Senator McConnell to put this item on the agenda for a Senate vote.

I also attended excellent caucus sessions, summarized below:

Climate Emergency-Time for All Hands on Deck This caucus was sponsored by several Leagues (California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Utah, Illinois, Florida, Oregon) and prepared by the LWWUS Climate Emergency Working Group. The presentation provided tips on how to communicate the climate change issues, including telling stories that have an impact and also gear to a local audience. Mobilizing Everyone needs to be at the table, including disadvantaged communities-racial justice is climate justice. I admired the energy and enthusiasm of the presenters and the tools they provided.

Civics Education and Strengthening Democracy with the Harvard Case Study

Method. Sue reported on this caucus. I'd like to add that this method has reached over 30,000 students. All materials and workshops for the teachers are provided free of charge. It has resulted in students taking an increased interest in history and civic engagement. It would be nice to get some local teachers involved with this teaching method.

Introduction to Board Source. Board Source is a non-profit organization with a mission "to inspire and support excellence in nonprofit governance and board and staff leadership." Membership is free to all leagues. They provide resources to leaders of nonprofits, as well as a certificate of nonprofit board education through their in-training portal. They provide tools for leaders to use boards effectively.

Voting Rights Across the Lifespan. This was a very interesting session. It addressed what the League could do to make democracy work for all ages. By all ages, the discussion included allowing infants the right to vote, effectively giving their parents the right to act as their proxy vote. A more realistic age suggested was giving 13 + year olds the right to vote. To do that, they stressed the importance of education starting at the grade school level. We were asked to consider what impact the Parkland students might have had on gun violence protection if they were voting citizens. In addition, they offered suggestions on how to reach out to politically-engaged young people to discuss voting rights across their lifespan.

A special thanks to the LWVMI, Christina Schlitt and Paula Bowman, for preparing the Michigan delegates for Convention. Through a series of Zoom calls and a LWVMI 2020 Convention Delegates Facebook page, I felt very prepared for the convention and agenda items up for discussion and vote.

Judy Florian, President

Sue Acton's convention notes:

Judy Florian, Wilhelmina Giblin, and I represented LWVGP "at" the 2020 LWV Convention. The LWVUS made a major pivot this year in producing a worthwhile virtual convention after the disappointment of changing from a very special 100th anniversary event in Washington DC. The virtual event took place over the week of June 22-27. It began with a full series of caucuses and informational sessions, some of which are recapped below.

Separate plenary sections to conduct the biannual business of the League on nominations, budgeting, bylaws, and program took place Thursday through Saturday. They were interspersed with a keynote address by Norah O'Donnell (CBS News), a panel discussion moderated by the LWVUS CEO, Virginia Kase, clips of elected officials in Washington (including Stabenow and Peters) wishing the LWV well on our important anniversary, music clips from the musical "Perfect 36" and an awards ceremony.

Business Meetings

Nominations LWVUS has a new President. Dr. Deborah Turner is the 20th president of the national league. The entire slate nominated was accepted and welcomed by the delegates.

Budget The financial position of both LWVUS and LWVEF are strong with reserves in excess of requirements. They recommended no increase in PMP, and the budget for 2020-22 was approved.

Bylaws A commitment to DEI was enshrined in the bylaws. A formal dissolution plan was adopted for leagues or state leagues. A statement to address conduct of Board members

was approved.

Program The national Board strongly recommended continuing the Campaign for Making Democracy Work ® as the centerpiece of programming and efforts in the next two years. This campaign includes a focus on Voting Rights, Improving Elections, Campaign Finance/Money in Politics and Redistricting.

It was also adopted that LWVUS give voice and support to the urgent issues of Climate Change, Health Care, Gun Safety, Immigration, the ERA, Abolishing the Electoral College and the Transfer of Federal Public Lands. This last amendment lobbies to permit the sale or exchange of federal lands only if it is clearly in the public interest.

Seminars

Here are summaries of those I attended:

Think Globally Act Locally. This session highlighted both the role of the United Nations Observer for the LWVUS and the 17 SDG's (Sustainable Development Goals) of the United Nations. We had lessons from activists who have acted locally in their own LWVs following participation in seminars at the UN on these global issues. Our panel focused on advocacy for the ERA, universal health care, and climate change. Further info on the global goals of the UN at un.org and sdg.org.

Using the Power of Music to GOTV. A movie musical, Perfect 36, will tell the story of the signing of the 19th Amendment. Writer, Laura Harrington; Composer, Mel Marvin; and Producer, Mac Pirkle talked about the history of making the show commissioned in 1996. It was revisited and rewritten for the 100th anniversary. They were looking to produce it this year, but Covid has delayed that production. Perfect36themusical.com has links to several of the songs that would be part of the show.

Case Method for Teaching Democracy. David Moss is a on the faculty of the Harvard Business School where he lectures using the case method. This modality provides a story of a pivotal moment, then asks the class to provide the decision or direction that a firm might take. The twist is that Moss has applied this to teaching History in high school through a series of 22 cases from his book Democracy, a Case Study, including case studies on writing the Constitution, race issues, suffrage issues, and even the 2010 *Citizens'United* case. He brought in 400 high school teachers to learn his methods. He can demonstrate better retention of history and a more positive view of democracy by students who learn this way. He hopes to expand this widely and is actively seeking high school teachers to be trained in this program.

Club Express Dan Irman, Co-founder & CEO, offered insights into a packaged, integrated, software product for clubs and leagues. Included are modules that offer

- Front office and back office for a League. Public, Members Only, and Admin Sections
- Database management
- Event calendar with online registration
- Payment processing
- Blast Emails

The National Office uses SalesForce. Club Express connects to SalesForce so membership information is integrated. It works especially well when the State League and all the local leagues are on the same system. A pilot in Colorado was deemed a success. \$150 to set up, \$24/mo maintenance.

-- Sue Acton, LWVGP President-Elect

Following are summaries of several national convention caucuses in which I participated, particularly focused on diversity, equity and inclusion.

America's Choices in the Health Care Debate, Health Care Caucus

This session presented the stark reality of our current health care system: that disparities of access to health care services exist between white people and people of color. Covid-19 has revealed the disparities in our health care system. The virus has disproportionately affected people of color and low-income Americans. Covid-19 has overwhelmed most hospitals, and affected businesses, resulting in mass layoffs and loss of employer-paid health insurance. Millions of Americans still do not have health insurance; there have been attempts by the Trump Administration to dismantle the Affordable Care Act. A single-payer health system was recommended, to assure that more people have health insurance. There was a Call for Action for leagues to participate in the Health Care Reform Network.

Climate Migration, Immigration and Human Rights

This caucus presented the issue of climate migrants/refugees as it relates to climate emergency and strategies to address it with humanitarian and democratic policies. It was noted that migrants arrive to the United States due to climate issues: rising sea levels, drought and flooding, and also human rights violations: violence and abuse. Migrants are often returned to their countries of origin or Mexico to wait for their case to be heard. Programs to address some of these issues were highlighted.

How to Foster Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging in the League

Presenters stressed that League DEI Action Plans must reflect specific strategies that are different from the past, and that promote inclusiveness and equity of power and decision-making. The history of the League's discriminatory practices during its early beginnings was noted. To foster DEI in the League requires members to establish new trusting relationships with people of color and with persons with different ideas and perspectives. The concept of "allyship" was discussed: this is the state or condition of being supportive of an organization or individual, in most instances, a marginalized group. LWVUS revised its bylaws to include a statement regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Making Democracy Work in the Criminal Justice System

This session discussed the current problems with the United States Criminal Justice system: there is racism and bias at all levels; black men are incarcerated at higher rates than white men for similar offenses and given longer sentences; after arrest, black men often remain in jail for months or years because of their inability to pay bail. Alternatives to incarceration were discussed as well as a need to review the Use of Force Policies in police departments. LWVUS has a criminal justice public policy position. Participation in the Observer Corps was encouraged. The Observer Corps encourage oneness, transparency and accountability at all levels of government. A copy of the Observer Corps resource guide may be obtained at the LWVUS website.

- Wilhelmina Giblin, LWVGP Chair DEI Committee

President Elect Sue Acton

VP Program Valerie Kindle

VP Voter Services Mary Zahler

Secretary Diana Domin

Treasurer Carol Lufburrow

Director Membership Laurie Coplin

Director Membership Sarah Coats

Director Program Carol Todd

Director Voter Services Mary Ellen Brayton

Voter Co-Editors Marge Freundl and Vicki Granger

Assistant Treasurer Sandy Barrett

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair Wilhelmina Giblin

Webmaster Kathy Gardner

Nominating Chair Mary Jo Johnson

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[LWVGP YouTube Channel](#)

[LWVMI website](#)

[LWVUS website](#)

Mailing Address:

LWVGP

c/o Grosse Pointe War Memorial

32 Lakeshore Rd.

Grosse Pointe Farms,

MI 48236

LWVGP Mission

The League of Women Voters encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government; works to increase understanding of major public policy issues; and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League is strictly nonpartisan, neither endorsing candidates nor supporting political parties.

The LWVGP, in both its values and its practices, reaffirms its commitment to diversity.

Membership is open to men and women of all ages.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

The League of Women Voters, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism. LWV recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making, and subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds.

Inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs, and therefore, LWV will in both principles and practices promote the inclusion in participation in any activity of LWV all persons whatever their gender, race, socio-economic status, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.