



# 2023 Annual Report

## *Book I*

# Agenda and Meeting Materials

Wednesday, May 24, 2023  
6:30 to 8:30 PM

### **Virtual Zoom Meeting**

Please register at [www.lwvcalvert.org/upcoming\\_events](http://www.lwvcalvert.org/upcoming_events)  
for instructions to join the meeting

Zoom opens at 6:30 for informal social time & LWVUS video

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#### *SEE BOOK II FOR REPORTs ON 2022-2023 ACTIVITIES*

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CCPS History Fair - <i>Pat Hofmann</i>
Legislative Evening- <i>Sandra Raviv</i>
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Observer Teams of the Calvert County League – <i>Sharron Bickel</i>
Outreach Partners – <i>League members</i>
Publicity Committee (newsletter, e-campaigns, social media) – <i>Sandra Raviv</i>
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## Introduction to the 2023 Annual Report of the League of Women Voters of Calvert County

Please register for the Annual Meeting on line at the LWVCC website: [lwvcalvert.org](https://lwvcalvert.org) to obtain instructions for connecting to the meeting. Please read these materials and have them with you during the 2023 Annual Meeting.

This Annual Report outlines the activities of the League during 2022 – 2023 and proposed activities for 2023-2024.

- **Book I:** contains materials for our 2023 Annual Meeting, including an agenda for this meeting, the proposed budget, the Nominating Committee Report, Recommended Programs for the coming year with Calendar, and the Calvert County League of Women Voters (LWVCC) Bylaws and the Calendar for next year's activities.

- **Book II:** is a comprehensive report on the Calvert County League's activities this past year. For ease of use, Book II is organized alphabetically---starting with the Green Life Festival and ending with WOW (the Women of the World annual awards celebration.)

**We ask that you volunteer for at least one activity in the upcoming year.** Watch for updates on LWV activities in our bi-monthly Newsletter and our website – <https://lwvcalvert.org>. And **join us** for meetings of the LWV Board of Directors, held virtually at 9:30 am on the second Wednesday of each month. Zoom links will be provided when you notify us of your plans to attend.

For this meeting, individual LWV committees submitted reports about their activities, and Sandra Raviv and Gladys White organized their information into this *Annual Report*.



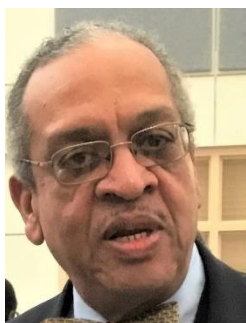
# LWVCC Annual Meeting Agenda

*May 24, 2023*

**6:30-7:00 Check-in & Video with Dr. Deborah Turner, LWVUS President**

**7:00 Welcome -JC Hooker**

**7:05 In Remembrance: *Malcolm Funn (1945 - 2022)***



The LWVCC was saddened by the passing of our long-time member and friend Malcolm Funn. Like his late wife Annette, Malcolm was engaged not only in many League activities (Parliamentarian, Nominating Committee, Forum Moderator, Policy Advocate, and Social Host) but also in a wide array of Calvert County and Maryland State positions as well as numerous non-profit organizations. He championed education, women's causes, and civil rights. His contributions and legacy to our community are stunning for their number and impact.

Always gracious with a ready wit to liven things up, Malcolm unfailingly came through for the League when we needed him. His knowledge of county history and his skills in policy analysis and persuasion were immeasurably helpful. He is greatly missed by all whose lives he has touched.

## **Malcolm and Annette Funn Annual Award**



In honor of Malcolm and Annette and their many contributions not only to the county, but also to the State League and other state-level commissions, the LWVMD is offering an annual award for those who continue their legacy of action and service. Each LWV Chapter has been asked to nominate three persons for this honor.

This year, the Calvert League has nominated Dawn Balinski, Inez Claggett, and Len Zuza. Their biographies appear below.



**Dawn Balinski** and her family have lived in Calvert County for close to 30 years. She has been active in the community for every one of those years, serving on many boards and commissions: Citizens Advisory Committee to the Board of Education, League of Women Voters, Economic Development Commission, American Chestnut Land Trust, Calvert Forestry Board, the Economic Development Authority, the Citizens Green Team and the Commission for Women. She is in her 3rd term as an elected member of the Calvert County Board of Education where she has proudly

supported Calvert's Equity Policy, Anti-racism Resolution, curtailment of the practices of Restraint and Seclusion, full implementation of Maryland's aggressive educational reform entitled the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, pay raises for all support staff to mirror the increases for teachers, and efforts to increase diversity of CCPS school teaching staff.

Dawn has a Bachelor degree in Math and French from Auburn University, as well as a Masters in French, and a Masters in International Business from the University of South Carolina. She worked for 13 years in international finance, treasury and manufacturing in Detroit and Silicon Valley. After moving to Maryland, she helped her husband start and manage a small engineering firm specializing in underwater equipment. Since 2016, she has been the Treasurer of the Maryland Forestry Foundation.



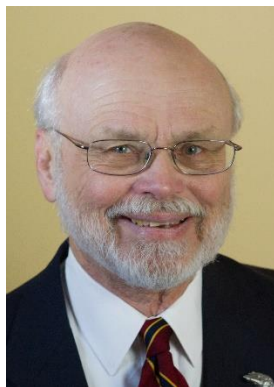
**Inez Claggett** was appointed to the Calvert County Board of Education in 2019, and in 2020 won her first 4-year term on the Board where she currently serves as President. As a first-year Board Member, Inez championed policy changes to restrict the use of restraint and seclusion within Calvert County Public Schools, with a vision toward abolishing the use of seclusion. Her leadership fortitude catapulted her into positions as Board Vice President in 2019 and 2022, and as Board President in 2020 and 2023.

A champion of change at an early age, in high school Inez began an effort to encourage her fellow classmates to conduct a letter-writing campaign for the re-installation of afterschool activity buses. She spoke before her entire high school community to disrupt an unorganized student walkout, and instead initiated an advocacy effort that led to student success. It was this effort that solidified her passion for advocacy and community service.



Inez has volunteered within the Calvert County community in many various capacities. Her current and former community service and advocacy work includes membership, as well as leadership roles, in the Southern Maryland Chain (MD) of Calvert County, League of Women Voters of Calvert County, the Calvert County Minority Business Alliance, the Concerned Black Women of Calvert County, and several local youth sports organizations. She also participated as a member of the Board of Education's Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) for five years prior to becoming a Board Member. It was in this capacity that Inez became interested in becoming a catalyst for change within the School System.

Inez has extensive knowledge and skills in public service, auditing, budgeting, internal controls, and policy development. She has been a public servant for over twenty (20) years and currently serves as the Director of Finance for a local legislature. She holds certifications in public sector auditing, internal controls, and risk management, and earned her Master's degree in Accounting and Financial Management from the University of Maryland Global Campus (College Park, MD). Prior to her Master's, she earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Delaware in Newark, DE. Inez graduated from Anne Arundel County Public Schools and has been a Calvert County resident for the past 25 years residing in Owings with her husband and son. She enjoys exercising, riding motorcycles, reading, and watching her scholar-athlete play lacrosse.



**Len Zuza** began working on political and environmental issues in Calvert County after retiring from the Office of Management and Budget in 1999. His many projects have focused primarily on environmental and governmental concerns including:

- Research at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation on potential economic benefits of restoring striped bass, oysters, and crabs to 1980 levels.
- Member, the Calvert County Environmental Commission and Board of the Patuxent Riverkeeper.
- Organizing the Southern Maryland Oyster Cultivation Society (SMOCS), that planted 12 million spat (baby oysters) on seven reefs in the creeks of the Patuxent River.
- Candidate for State Delegate in District 29(c)
- Member of the League of Women Voters of Calvert County Board, researching federal and state regulations for monitoring and reporting on toxic and hazardous emissions from the Dominion LNG liquefaction facility at Cove Point. The report concluded that regulations obscured, rather than clarified the dangers of emissions for the health of Calvert residents.

- Worked with Keep Calvert Country to bring concerns to the BOCC regarding the lack of transparency of the Planning Commission in revisions of the Comprehensive Plans, noting that officials had approved construction of more new residences than in prior Comprehensive Plans, jeopardizing the adequacy of basic county infrastructure.

**7:20 MUSICAL Tribute to Malcolm and Annette:** *“Lift Every Voice “* sung by Brandie Prioleau

**7:25 Keynote Address:** Gail Hatfield and Kristen Scott, Board of Elections of Calvert County on “Recent Election Law Changes and Their Impacts in Calvert County”

### **7:40 Business Meeting**

**Call to Order**– *J.C. Hooker (President)*

**Roll Call of Participants**– *Lila West (Secretary)*

**Approval of Agenda** – *J.C. Hooker*

**Approval of proposed Annual Meeting Rules** – *J.C. Hooker*

**Appointment of Parliamentarian/Timekeepers** – *J.C. Hooker*

**Adoption of Annual Meeting Rules (Book I)**– *J.C. Hooker*

**Greetings and Comments from State League**

**Approval of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes** – *Lila West (Book I)*

**Treasurer’s proposed 2023 – 2024 Budget** – *Janet Ashby (Book I)*

**Adoption of the 2023-2024 Budget** – *J.C. Hooker*

**8:00 MUSICAL INTERLUDE:** Dave Hardy

### **8:05 2022-2023 Programs and Vote to Retain or Drop for 2023-2024 (Book II)**

Civics Education for Youth – *Pat Pease*

CCPS History Fair– *Pat Hofmann*

Collaboration with US Census Bureau – *JC Hooker*

**\*\*Environmental Committee** – *Lila West*

Green Life Festival- *Gladys White*

**\*\*Legislative Evening with Officials**-*Sandra Ravio*

#### **Membership**

Socials and Fundraising – *Norma Onley*

Virtual Winter Social – *Sandra Ravio*

**\*\*Eggs & Issues/Wine and Wishes** – *Sandra Ravio*

**Observer Teams of the Calvert County League – Sharron Bickel**

Outreach with Partner Organizations (NAACP, Concerned Black Women, Calvert County Commission for Women, Tri-County Alumnae of Delta Sigma Theta and Omega Pi Omega Chapter of AKA Sorority, Southern MD Chain Chapter of the Links Inc., Vote MD, Sustainable Calvert)

**Prince Frederick Town Master Plan Revision Committee-Sharron Bickel**

**Publicity Committee– Sandra Ravio**

(newsletter, e-campaigns, social media)

Redistricting Committee – Dawn Collins

**Social Justice Committee – Mary Ann Zaversnik**

**Voter Services –Gladys White**

(Voter Registration and Voter Registration Training events, Nat'l Voter Registration Day Candidate Forums, Vote411.org, Voters Bill of Rights)

Women of the World Celebration – Norma Onley

**\*\*Denotes new/revived programs. Bolded programs will be discussed in greater detail while members are referred to Book II for other program reports.**

**Member Suggestions for NEW 2023-2024 Programs – J.C. Hooker**

**VOTE for Recommended Programs for 2023-2024 - J.C. Hooker**

**Announcements – Any**

**8:30 Adjournment – J.C. Hooker**

**Proposed Annual Meeting Rules**

1. Voting is limited to Members in good standing (i.e., membership dues are current).
2. Any Member has the privilege of the floor to speak.
3. Members who wish to speak should raise their hand, address the Chair and, when recognized, give his or her name.
4. Time limit will be 2 minutes to speak. The Chair may shorten the time if the meeting is behind schedule.
5. No Member shall speak in debate or discussion twice until all who desire to speak have been heard.
6. Questions of procedure will be referred to the Parliamentarian.



## **Annual Meeting Minutes May 25, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE (27 on Zoom):** Sandra Raviv, JC Hooker, Dawn Collins, Linda Calvert, Gladys White, Laoretta Grier, Sharron Bickel, Mary Ann Zaversnik, Janet Ashby, Maureen Hoffman, Janet Bellizzi, Norma Onley, Malcolm Funn, Renita Alexander, Pat Pease, Pat Hofmann, Debora Harris, Herb Wolff, David Hardy, Norma Lietz, Cheryl Hannon, Dawn Tucker, Willow Goode (LWVMD tech support). Guests: Dr. Melanye Smith, Vickey Reinholt, Emily Walker, Tierra Cook

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:26pm **Call to Order Business Meeting:** 7:16pm

**SPEAKER:** Dr. Melanye Smith, retired DC Metro Police Lieutenant, Consultant on Community Policing, and Faculty Member, Walden University

**In Remembrance:** Marie Andrews, long-term member of LWVCC, former President and co-President, author and poet.

**Agenda:** Approved

**Annual Meeting Rules:** Approved

Appointment of **Parliamentarian:** Maureen Hofmann and **Timekeeper:** JC Hooker

**2021 Annual Meeting Minutes:** Motion to Accept Gladys White, second Pat Pease, Approved

**Budget** presented by Treasurer Janet Bellizzi (2022 Annual Book I, page 11): Motion to accept the 2022-2023 Budget by Gladys White, seconded by Sandra Raviv, Approved.

**Motion to change Bylaws:** End 1st VP term in 2024: Approved. Book 1 page 16, to define Student, motion by Norma Onley, second by Cheryl Hannon, approved. Two-year Terms of officers: Motion by Sandra Raviv, second by Gladys White, approved.

**Nominations from the floor** for 1<sup>st</sup> VP: none

**Vote to approve Slate:** Approved

**Motion to approve Annual Report** by Norma Onley, seconded by Sharron Bickel.

**Book II Committee Reports:** Pat Pease reported on **Education and Youth**. Pat Hofmann, presented on the **LWVCC History Fair award**. LWVCC was involved in preparation of the **US Census** for Calvert County. Call JC Hooker to volunteer or for information on ongoing collaboration with the Census Bureau.

Gladys White reported on the **Green Life Festival and Socials**. Norma Onley reported on **Fundraising**, including the current Pampered Chef fundraiser.

Sharron Bickel: **Observer Teams** covering the Planning Commission, Board of County Commissioners, Board of Education meet on the first Monday of the month at 9:30am.

**Task Force on Police Accountability:** Sandra Raviv reported the committee is following the upcoming Sheriff election, and preparing a Fact Sheet and Citizen Survey to inform voters. The VFW Sheriff Candidate forum is June 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

**Redistricting:** Dawn Collins

**Voter Services:** Gladys White: Vote 411 will be online starting June 4th. BOE candidate forum at CSM on July. Election Judges needed in Lusby area the most.

**Women of the World Celebration:** Norma Onley reported on our honoree, Norma Imershein.

**Vote on Recommended Programs for 2022-2023, Annual Book I, pages 4-5:** A motion to approve by Lila West, second by Sandra Raviv: all recommended programs were approved by the membership.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lila West, appointed Secretary



## 2023-2024 Proposed Budget

*Submitted by Janet Ashby, Treasurer*

	2022-2023 Budget	2022-2023 Actual as of 3/31/2023	2023-2024 Proposed Budget
<b>Starting Balances 1 July each fiscal year</b>			
LWVCC Local Accounts*		6,416.86	
LWVCC Education Fund		2,623.62	
<b>Total Starting Balance</b>		<b>9,040.48</b>	
<b>Income</b>			
Membership Dues**	3,590.00	1,880.00	3,180.00
Donations to LWVCC	300.00	1,300.29	1,100.00
Donations to Education Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Income	300.00	251.88	200.00
One-time grant for Voter Services		250.00	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,190.00</b>	<b>3,682.17</b>	<b>4,480.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Ads (esp. with partner orgs)	500.00	50.00	500.00
Bank Fees	65.00	25.33	25.00
Events	120.00		200.00
Facilities Fees	200.00		0.00
Fundraising Expenses	50.00		0.00
Other Expenses***	25.00	290.40	50.00
PMP Fees: LWVMD *****	854.00	833.00	756.00
PMP Fees: LWVUS *****	1,952.00	1,904.00	1,728.00
Postage & Delivery	150.00	190.28	200.00
Printing & Reproduction	500.00	7.96	500.00
Software & Technology	300.00	205.85	250.00
Stationery & Supplies	100.00	276.60	150.00
Telephone	100.00		100.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,916.00</b>	<b>3,783.42</b>	<b>4,459.00</b>
<b>Net Gain / Loss</b>	<b>-726.00</b>	<b>-101.25</b>	<b>21.00</b>

\* Includes \$400 Regina Brown restricted funds.

\*\* Calculated on basis of 48 primary members and 12 additional household member; anticipate some dues will be paid in 2023.

\*\*\* Not likely to be available in 2023-24.

\*\*\*\* Includes: 2020-WOW expenses; 2021-renew a MD registration; 2022-memorial for Malcolm Funn, largely covered by donations.

\*\*\*\*\* PMP=Per Member Payment: out of the Calvert County member dues, LWVMD gets \$14 per primary member, \$7 per additional member; LWVUS gets \$32 per primary member, \$16 per additional member.

## **Calvert County LWV Nonpartisan Policy**

*Revised and Adopted May 2017*

The purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League of Women Voters (LWV) is nonpartisan. It does not support or oppose any political party or candidate; it is political in that it takes positions on selected governmental issues after member study and agreement.

The nonpartisan policy is a source of strength to the LWV and is the cornerstone of the Voters Service Program. Candidates are willing to appear on the LWV platforms and to provide materials for the Voters' Guide because they are confident that they will be treated fairly and the material will be used for nonpartisan purposes. Organizations, citizens and businesses also have confidence in the League because of the nonpartisan policy.

Calvert League members, (except officers and board members-see next paragraph), may seek an active role in the nomination of candidates for public office, run for office, stimulate public discussion of candidates' views during the campaign, urge citizen commitment to parties and candidates by means of political contributions and, in general, take part in the political activities of their choice. Individual League members may take action on whatever they choose; as long as they do so in their own name, do not use the League name, and leave no impression they speak for the League.

### **Board Members**

**Elected Office.** Board members shall not run for nor hold any partisan public elective office.

**Political Party Office.** Board members, who represent the League before the public or hold voter service portfolios, shall not serve in any position in a political party.

**Campaign Contributions.** Board members, except the LWV Calvert President and Voter Service Director, may attend fundraising events and make campaign contributions to individual candidates.

**Political Campaigns.** Board members may not chair or administer fundraising or campaigns for political parties or political candidates or campaign for their own elective office, partisan or nonpartisan.

**Social and Other Media.** A Board member shall not indicate her/his political affiliations or candidate preferences at any level of government in the media (including on social

networking sites or other public venues) that also prominently identify her/him as a member of the LWV Calvert Board.

**Petitions.** Board members may sign petitions.

**Spouses and Relatives.** The political activity of a spouse or relative of a board member should be considered separate and distinct from the action of the Board member.

**Additional Clarification.** Board members shall present questions about specific situations to the LWV Calvert Board where the foregoing policies do not resolve the question.

## **Nominating Committee Report, 2023**

### **Proposed Slate of Officers**

Position:	Name:	Term:
Co-Presidents	Gladys White & Sandra Raviv	2023-2025 1 <sup>st</sup> year of a two-year term
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	JC Hooker	2023-2025 1 <sup>st</sup> year of a two-year term
*2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Norma Onley	2022-2024 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of a two-year term
*Treasurer	Janet Ashby	2022-2024 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of a two-year term
Secretary	Lila West	2023-2025 1 <sup>st</sup> year of a two year term

\*new two year terms

### **Members Recommended to Be Appointed as Directors by the In-coming Board, 1 Year Term, Expires May 2024**

Tracey McGuire	Sinetra Bowdry	Ericka Fisher	Loretta Grier	Len Zusa
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### **Positions that are New for a two year term** \*Members that renewed their position

Director	Helenmary Ball	2022-2024 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of a two-year term
Director	*Sharon Bickel	2022-2024 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of a two-year term
	Mary Ann Zaversnik	2023-2025 1 <sup>st</sup> year of a two-year term

### **Positions that Continue for the Coming Year:**

Director	Dawn Collins	2023-2025 1 <sup>st</sup> year of a two-year term
Director	Pat Pease	2023-2025 1 <sup>st</sup> year of a two-year term
Director	Cheryl Hannon	2023-2025 1 <sup>st</sup> year of a two-year term

LWVCC's Bulletin Editor.	Sandra Raviv	LWVMD Representative: JC Hooker
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### **Nominating Committee Members submitting this 2023 report**

Debora Harris -- Chair	Gladys White – Director
Norma Onley – Director	Maureen Hoffman - Director

### **Nominating Committee, General Members, Proposed for Coming Year**

General members proposed for election:

Position:	Name:
Chair	Debora Harris
Members:	Pat Hoffman
	Nancy Smith
	Chris Banks

Notes: The LWV of Calvert County Bylaws, amended June, 2013, Article IX, Section requires the report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors, and the members of the succeeding Nominating Committee to be sent to all members at least two weeks before the date of the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee consists of five members. Three members from the general membership are to be elected, and two members of the Board of Directors are to be appointed by the Board immediately following the Annual Meeting.

*The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.*

### **New Board Candidates:**

**Helenmary Ball**: It was not until the 2016 election that Helenmary Ball determined it was time to step up and become involved in the political process to reinforce values she personally holds dear. She joined the League of Women Voters soon after, serving as Treasurer and as an LWVCC Observer for Board of County Commissioners meetings. She had the honor of representing the 5<sup>th</sup> District of Maryland at a rally to End Gerrymandering outside of the Supreme Court in Washington, DC. Helenmary has served as Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for a local party Central Committee, and as Secretary for a party's Women's Club.

Helenmary graduated cum laude from Notre Dame College of Ohio with a BA in Human Resource Development. She has served as treasurer for several non-profit organizations, and is a union member of SAG-AFTRA, having been an actor all her life. The combination of HR work and theatre has given her the opportunity to see the "big picture" while being cognizant of the details to make an organization effective, and she generously brings these skills to serve the needs of the LWVCC.

**Sinetra Bowdry** is a communications leader, motivator and advocate for transformative action. She is the President, Founder, and CEO of Sint Communications Inc. which serves as a boutique PR firm, and, as a certified and licensed Speech-Language Pathologist as well, she has a private practice for children and adults who need speech therapy. She has extensive training in neurogenic communication disorders as well as public relations communications, holding master's degrees in each from Howard University and Georgetown University respectively.



Her love for communications grew when she was a little girl in Mississippi, frightened to speak up and speak out for herself during a time when many of her dreams and hopes were suppressed in a town that despised African American people. At an early age, and during the first public school integration in the 1970s, she was placed in Special Education strictly because of her skin color and lack of experience with test taking.

As a result, Sinetra became a woman who believed that she must learn more and help others who may experience the same inequitable challenges in today's society. Thus, Sint Communications Inc. was eventually born, the logo for which is a dove holding a leaf (Genesis 8:11) *"And behold, the dove returned to him in the evening with a freshly plucked olive leaf in HER beak. So, Noah knew that the waters had receded from the earth."* Sinetra explains "We are the doves in this new communications industry...when your brand is successful, it is our olive branch to you and ultimately, the world. When you struggle with communications, we work with you and...find ways to keep you talking."

Sinetra's educational background and life experiences have molded her into a resourceful problem solver—proactive, driven, and respected. Many have sought her expertise in branding, speechwriting, and crisis communications. She is not a stranger to diversity and works with many to ensure all students are treated with equality. She is strong in her faith and passionate about helping others reach their goals. Her greatest joy is being a mom to her three adult children.

**Erika Fisher** serves as the financial assistance advisor at the College of Southern Maryland's (CSM) Prince Frederick Campus. She has worked at CSM for fourteen years and previously served as development coordinator and student life coordinator. Prior to CSM, Fisher worked in the public sector for both the State of Maryland and the federal government at the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Recent career highlights at CSM include leading the creation of the college's first-ever pantry program across three campuses from inception to execution through a partnership with the Maryland Food Bank and commendation and appointment by the College President to serve on the newly created college-wide Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Erika is a history buff who enjoys traveling, the outdoors, music, the arts, reading, and Caps hockey. She has lived and traveled throughout the U.S. and abroad but has called Southern Maryland home for the past 23 years. A former resident of Port Republic, she currently resides on Morgan's Cove in Tall Timbers.

Erika gives generously of her time. She has served as a lector at her church since 2010 and regularly ushers at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. Additionally, she has volunteered with George Washington's Mount Vernon, the Southern Maryland Women's League, Jude House, the Alice Ferguson Foundation Potomac Watershed Cleanup, the Maryland Veterans Museum, and Christmas in April.

She graduated summa cum laude from the University of North Carolina Pembroke with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Public Administration. She is also a graduate of the Leadership Southern Maryland Executive Program, class of 2019.

**Lauretta Grier** retired from the Federal government in 2004 after 36 years of service, working at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for 26 years and the National Institute of Health and the Food and Drug Administration for 10 years. During her Federal service, she held several management and professional positions in training and employee development, employee assistance and health, and organizational development.

She has an AA. in Mental Health, a BA. In Social Welfare-Counseling and a MAT in Counseling. After retirement, she worked for a year for the Calvert County Health Department-Substance Abuse Program where she taught "Guiding Good Choices" to parents and teens. Lauretta's passion has always been to make a difference in the lives of women and children. This is reflected in her many community service activities past and present such as the Southern Maryland Community Network Board of Directors, the Citizen's Review Board for Children in Prince Georges and Calvert County for nineteen years, the Calvert County Family Network Board of Directors for two terms, Health Chair and Vice President for Concerned Black Women of Calvert County, member of the Cancer and Tobacco Coalition-Calvert Health Department, Community Outreach Committee Chair for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc-Tri-County(MD) Alumnae Chapter, a founding member of Closing the Gap Coalition, former Development Director for the Calvert County Library Foundation and a member of the Dismantling Racism in Southern Maryland Steering Committee.

She has been a member of Mt. Olive United Methodist Church and its United Methodist Women in Faith for many years as well as the church Communications Committee. Currently, she serves on the United Women in Faith-Washington East District Nominations Committee. She received the Peace Builder Award in 2018 from the Community Mediation Center in Calvert County. Of the many awards she has received, this is her favorite because it reflects who she is as a person and community volunteer.

Lauretta moved to Calvert County 22 years ago with her husband Barry. She has two daughters, a son-in-law, three grandchildren and three great grandchildren. She loves to do floral crafts, and is an avid doll collector.

**Tracy McGuire** lives in Huntingtown and works part-time as an Attorney's assistant. She received a BS in Public Administration from George Mason University in 1986, and from 1987 to 1999, worked as a contractor supporting a variety of foreign military weapons sales programs for the US Navy. She resigned her position to be a stay-at-home parent.

Tracy has been a classroom volunteer, a school office volunteer, the Huntingtown Elementary School PTA President, a Northern Middle School PTA executive board member, and President of the Calvert County Council of PTAs. She also has served as Treasurer for the Cub Scout Pack and the Boy Scout Troop, a catechist at her Church, and a School Board member from 2008 to 2020.

Tracy believes that unfettered access to voting, non-partisan voter information, and citizen knowledge of the processes and decisions of elected officials will increase citizen participation in the public square, and hold elected officials accountable to the community.

**Len Zuza** In addition to his many contributions already noted above as a nominee for the Malcolm Funn Award, Len has more recently contributed to the League's study of The Effects of Climate Change on Calvert County (2029), as well as the League's Task Force on Police Accountability. In the latter capacity, he offered many good ideas, and facilitated our involvement with the VFW's Candidate Forums for Sheriff in the last election cycle.

## **VOTE FOR NOMINATIONS**



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CALVERT COUNTY

## BYLAWS (*Revised May 2022*)

### ARTICLE I

#### Name

The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Calvert County. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters of Maryland, hereinafter referred to in these Bylaws as LWVCC, LWVUS, LWVMD, or the LWV.

### ARTICLE II

#### Purposes and Policy

Section 1. Purposes: The purposes of the LWVCC are to promote citizen responsibility through informed and active participation in government, and to act on selected governmental issues, in accordance with member-adopted positions.

#### Section

2. Policy: The LWVCC shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

3. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Policy. The LWVCC 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 citizen who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the LWV shall be eligible for membership.

#### Section 2. Types of Membership:

A. **Voting Members.** People at least 16 years of age who join the LWV shall be voting members of their local, State, and National LWVs; a. Individuals who live within an area of a local LWV may join that LWV or any other local LWV;

b. Those who reside outside the area of any local LWV may join any local LWV or shall be State members-at-large;

c. Those who have been members of the LWV for 50 years or more shall be life members and excused from the payment of dues.

B. **Associate Members.** Students of local high schools under the age of 16 are eligible to be enrolled as Associate Members. This is a non-voting category and dues are waived by local and national LWV policy.

## ARTICLE IV

### Board of Directors

Section 1. Number: The LWVCC Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the LWV (President, or Co-Presidents if applicable, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer), **six (6) elected Directors**, and not more than **six (6) appointed Directors**.

Section 2. Manner of Selection and Term of Office for **Elected Directors**: Three (3) of the elected Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting (May of each year) and shall serve for a term of two (2) years, effective July 1 (start of fiscal year). The three (3) additional elected Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in the interim year, with terms effective July 1, thus allowing a total of six (6) serving elected Directors with staggered terms.

A. It is the intent of the LWV to have a brief overlap of outgoing directors and newly elected or appointed directors to allow for familiarization with duties and responsibilities of Directors;

B. Outgoing Directors retain voting privileges until June 30. Incoming Directors become voting Directors on July 1.

Section 3. Manner of Selection and Term of Office for **Appointed Directors**: The elected members shall appoint such additional Directors, not exceeding six (6), as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the LWV, on or after July 1. The terms of office of the Appointed Directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the fiscal year (June 30).

Section 4. Qualifications: No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless they are a general voting member of the LWVCC.

Section 5. Powers and Duties: The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct same, subject to the instruction of the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program adopted by the National Convention, the State Convention, and as approved at the local Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as may be deemed necessary to conduct activities of the approved programs.

Section 6. Meetings: There shall be at least nine (9) regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President may call special meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five (5) members of the Board.

Section 7. Quorum: A majority of the current members of the Board of Directors (50% plus one) shall constitute a quorum. Any one or more members of the Board of Directors may participate in a meeting by means of conference telephone, face time or other electronic meeting platforms that allow all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute in person presence at a meeting, provided the participant engages in the full meeting.

Section 8. Obligatory Resignation: Any Board member who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without written or verbal communication with the Board shall be deemed to have resigned from the Board.

Section 9. Leave of Absence: A Board member may request a Leave of Absence not to exceed six (6) months. Board President must be notified in writing (email or letter), member must be in good standing (dues paid for current fiscal year).

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Officers**

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers: The officers of the LWVCC Board of Directors shall be a President or Co-Presidents (if applicable), a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Each officer position is a two-year term. The President or Co-Presidents and the Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The Vice Presidents and the Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years. In the event of a resignation in a Board Officer position or an Elected Director position during the current term of office, a member of the Board of Directors will be appointed on an interim basis by vote of the Board of Directors to fill the remainder of the original term.

Section 2. President or Co-Presidents: The President or Co-Presidents shall:

- A. Preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors;
- B. In the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes;
- C. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee;
- D. Have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President;
- E. Perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

Section 3. First Vice President: The Vice President shall, in the event of absence, disability, or death of the President or Co-Presidents, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of



that office, until such time as the Board of Directors shall select one of its members to fill the vacancy until the next Annual Meeting. The Vice President will provide strategic leadership for one or more Board initiatives, and shall perform such other duties as the President or Co-Presidents and Board may designate.

Section 4. Second Vice President: The Second Vice President will provide strategic leadership for one or more Board initiatives and shall perform other such duties as the President or Co-Presidents and Board may designate.

Section 5. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the LWV and of all meetings of the Board of Directors; shall notify all Officers and Directors of their election; shall sign, with the President or Co-Presidents, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board; and shall perform other such functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 6. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due; shall be the custodian of these moneys, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors; shall disburse the same only upon order of the Board; and shall present statements to the Board at their regular meetings and an annual report at the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer will prepare a draft annual budget for the Board to review and approve for presentation to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Section 7. Terms of Office: All elected officers may be elected for a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms, staggered as described in Section 1. Each two-year term is determined by vote of the general membership at the Annual Meeting and becomes effective July 1.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Executive Committee**

Section 1. Composition: The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers-president or co-presidents, vice presidents, secretary, and treasurer.

Section 2. Duties: The Executive Committee shall have the power to make plans and act for the Board between meetings of the Board and shall report on all actions taken by said committee. It shall perform such duties as may be delegated to it by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Nominations and Elections**

Section 1. Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The Chairman and two members, who shall not be members of the Board, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Nominations for these positions shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. The two (2) Board Member positions shall be appointed by the current Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting but before July 1. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Suggestions for nominations for Officers and Directors may be sent to the Committee by any voting member.

A. The Committee is to be active throughout the year and be prepared to offer nominations for Board approval for any vacancies occurring during the year.

B. The Committee shall receive suggestions of any voting member throughout the year for Officers, Directors, and members of the succeeding Nominating Committee.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor: The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors, and the members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members at least two weeks before the date of the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of the report at the Annual Meeting, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee has been secured.

Section 3. Elections: The Election shall be by ballot, provided that when there is but one nominee for each office, the Secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot for every nominee. The majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted for elections.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Financial Administration**

Section 1. Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of the LWV shall commence on the first day of July of each year.

Section 2. Dues: The Board of Directors of the LWV shall determine the annual dues, subject to the approval of two-thirds of the members voting at the Annual Meeting. Members shall be given thirty (30) days' notice of any proposed dues change.

A. The Treasurer shall be responsible for preparing and sending out dues notices to members by June 30 of each year. The Treasurer will notify the Membership Chair of those members who have not paid dues by September 1.

B. It will be the Membership Chair's responsibility to follow-up on the dues that are in arrears. Any member who fails to pay dues within three (3) months after they become due shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

- C. New members who join after the start of the fiscal year (July 1): a. New members joining between July 1 and September 30 will pay a full year's dues of \$50.  
b. New members joining October 1 or later will pay proportional dues based on the number of months remaining in the fiscal year X \$5.  
c. Full dues will apply at the start of the next fiscal year (July 1).

Section 3. Budget: A budget for the upcoming year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption by the general membership. The budget shall include support for the work of the LWV as a whole.

A. Section 4. Budget Committee: A Budget Committee consisting of two Board of Directors and the Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two (2) months prior to the Annual Meeting to work with the Treasurer prepare a budget for the upcoming year. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as Chairman of the Budget Committee.

B. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members at least two weeks before the Annual Meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Meetings**

Section 1. General Membership Meetings: There shall be at least two (2) meetings of the general membership each year, the Annual Meeting and an additional General Membership Meeting. The time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Annual Meeting: An Annual Meeting shall be held at a date determined by the Board of Directors, usually in May of each year. The Annual Meeting shall:

- A. Adopt next year's local program(s);
- B. Elect Officers (per staggered term expirations) and Directors (per staggered terms; 3 per Annual Meeting); see Article IV;
- C. Elect members of the Nominating Committee (five (5)) two of whom must be from the Board);
- D. Adopt an adequate budget and vote on any Board recommendation for change in annual dues;
- E. Transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. General Membership Meeting: An additional meeting of the general membership shall be held at a date determined by the Board of Directors. The Agenda for a General Membership Meeting will include both Board of Directors' and General Members recommended items. Agenda will be finalized and presented (either electronically or by mail) two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 4. Quorum: Twenty (20) percent of the total Membership in attendance shall constitute a quorum at all general meetings of the LWVCC.

Section 5. Voting at Annual & General Membership Meetings:

A. Adoption/approval of proposed action items a. Requires majority vote (fifty (50) percent plus one) of quorum.

b. Use of emails for voting constitutes a valid decision-making format, but an email vote is not counted in determining whether there is a quorum for the actual meeting.

Section 6. National Convention: The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the national office, shall select delegates to that Convention in the number allotted the LWVCC under the provisions of the LWVUS

Section 7. State Convention: The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the State Office, shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted the LWVCC under the provision of the Bylaws of the LWVMD.

Section 8. Representation: Every local LWV shall be entitled to two delegates, in addition to the President or alternate, or Co-Presidents. Local LWVs having more than 50 voting members shall be entitled to one additional delegate for each additional 50 members.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **LWVUS Issues and Supporting Principles**

Section 1. Issues and Supporting Principles: The Issues and Supporting Principles are concepts of government adopted by the National Convention and supported by the LWV as a whole. They are the basis for the adoption of National, State, and Local programs. The Issues and Supporting Principles are available online at the LWVUS Website [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org).

Section 2. Locally Focused Programs: The Programs of the LWVCC shall consist of action to support, and to the extent possible, implement the LWVUS Supporting Principles and those governmental issues chosen at the LWVCC Annual Meeting for concerted study and action, provided that, as a condition of recognition by the State and National Boards, the LWVCC shall act only on existing local positions or State or National positions.

A. The Board of Directors shall recommend to the membership, at the Annual Meeting, programs of work focused on the local community. Programs of work, as used in these Bylaws, may be in the form of observing local government, advocating on a local issue or educating the membership and community on the structure and services of local government.

B. The Annual Meeting may adopt the Board of Directors recommended programs or any similar programs of work\* provided that any program of work adopted by the L WVCC shall focus on the local community.

\*See General Membership Meeting agenda items Article VIII, Section 3.

Section 3. Program Action: Members may act in the name of the L WVCC only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors. They may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the L WVCC, the L WVMD, and the L WVUS.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Parliamentary Authority**

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws. The Board of Directors will appoint a Parliamentarian from the membership of the Board. A copy of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, will be accessible at each meeting via electronic access or hard copy.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Amendments**

The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments are submitted to the membership in writing, either electronically or by hard copy, at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.

*Original Adoption: March 1969*

*Amended: April 1995; May 2000; June 2001; May 2007; May 2011; June 2013; March 2017; May 2020*



## **Board Recommended Programs for 2023-2024**

Civics Education for Youth

Green Life Festival

History Fair Award

Partner Organizations Outreach

Membership and Membership Events

Observer Teams of the Calvert County League (BOCC, BOE, Planning Commission)

Publicity Committee

Social Justice Committee

Voter Services

Women of the World Celebration

## **League of Women Voters of Calvert County**

### ***Calendar of Activities for 2023-2024***

#### **June 2023**

June 2-4: LWVMD Convention

June 5: Observation team meeting

June 15: LWVCC Board meeting and Retreat at Southern Community Center, Lusby

June 17: NAACP Family and Community Day at Jefferson Patterson Park

#### **July 2023**

July 3: Observer team meeting

July TBD: Voter registration training

July TBD: Voter registration at SMILE

July 12: LWVCC Board meeting

July 29: Voter Services meeting



### **August 2023**

August 1: National Night Out at Calvert Pines and Chesapeake Beach

August 7: Observer team meeting

August 9: LWVMD meeting

August : Voter Service Committee meeting

### **September 2023**

September 11: Observer team meeting

September 13: LWVCC Board meeting

September: Voter registration training

September: LWVMD Fall Workshop

September 19 & 27: National Voter Registration Day at CSM

September: voter registration

### **October 2023**

October 2: Observer team meeting

October 11: LWVCC Board meeting

### **November 2023**

November 6: Observer team meeting

November 8: LWVCC Board meeting

November 17: Legislative Evening

### **December 2022**

December 3: Winter Social

December 4: Observer team meeting

### **January 2024**

January 2: Observer team meeting

January 10: LWVCC Board meeting

January 29: LWVMD Winter Workshop

### **February 2024**

February: WOW Planning meeting

February 5: Observer team meeting

February 14: LWVCC Board meeting

February 23: Vote411.org committee meeting

### **March 2024**

March 4: Observer Team meeting  
March 13: LWVCC Board Meeting  
March: WOW virtual celebration  
March: Calvert County Public Schools History Fair  
Mar 21-22 Voter Service meeting to finalize Vote411.org questions  
March 29: Voter registration training

### **April 2024**

April 1: Observer team meeting  
April 6: Voter registration training  
April 10: LWVCC Board meeting  
April 19: CSM Spring Fling voter registration  
April 20: Green Life festival at Anne Marie Gardens  
April 26: Huntingtown HS voter registration

### **May 2024**

May 6: Observer team meeting  
May 6: Voter Services meeting  
May 8: LWVCC Board Meeting  
May: Voter registration at Calvert HS  
May: Virtual voter registration training  
May 22: Annual Membership Meeting (virtual)

### **June 2024**

June 3: Observer team meeting  
June TBD: LWVMD Council  
June TBD: Release of Vote411.org and Voter Guides  
June 8: Virtual voter registration  
June 12: LWVCC Board meeting  
June 15: NAACP Family and Community Day at Jefferson Patterson Park

