

# 2022

## ANNUAL MEETING WORKBOOK

### INSIDE THIS YEAR'S EDITION

Annual Meeting – June 4, noon  
Hampton Plaza  
Guest Speaker, Ruie Marie LaVoie,  
Director Baltimore County Board of  
Elections  
Our Year in Review  
Committee Reports  
Plans for 2022-2023  
Proposed Local (Programs)  
Budget for 2022-2023  
Bylaw Changes  
Nominations

Eighty-One Years  
of Empowering Baltimore County

## Thank You to Our Contributors

Contributions to the League of Women Voters Baltimore County are vitally important to our continued success. They help with our advocacy and educational work and play an important part in the publication of the Voters' Guides. We are particularly grateful for the bequests from Camille Wheeler and Katharine Stierhoff which we received at the end of last fiscal year. Your Board is also extremely appreciative of the contributors listed below. Thank you.

Carol Allen  
Neilson Andrews  
Dale Balfour  
Naomi Binko  
Sheila Buchdahl  
Charlestown Residents Assoc.  
Lon and Evelyn Chesnutt  
Noreen Christian  
Barbara Crain  
Alice Dvoskin  
Donna Eden  
Terri Ferguson  
Francis Flanigan  
Sue and Joe Garonzik  
Tana Hamilton  
Maryalice Hartshorn  
Carel Hedlund  
Nancy Horst  
Jon Hyman  
Rosemary Irving  
Delores Kelley  
Colleen Kurecka  
Anita Lanford  
Theresa and George Lawler  
Anne M. Libis  
Trina Lion  
Maryanne Lombardo

Sharalyn Luciani  
Mary Marks  
Glen and Ellen McAvoy  
Ericka McDonald  
Judith Miller  
Tracy Miller  
Laurie Taylor Mitchell  
Stacey Morrison  
Sheila Meyers  
Mary Ellen Pease  
Judith Plymer  
Phyllis Panopolous  
Ralph Rigger  
Wilma Rosenberger  
Judith Schagrin  
Delores Schmitt  
Betsy and Carlton Sexton  
Marjorie Simon  
Anne Sleeman  
Ruth Smith  
Nancy Strohmingier  
Jean Taube  
Nicole Tedeschi  
Shelly Varon  
Jennifer White  
Carol Wynne  
Susan Zato

*Thank  
You*

## Table of Contents

Thank You to Our Contributors .....	i
Table of Contents .....	2
From the Presidents: Tana Hamilton and Ericka McDonald .....	1
Section 1: Reports on 2021-22.....	3
LWV Baltimore County Annual Meeting Minutes June 13, 2021 .....	3
Our 2021-2022 Year in Review .....	4
Committee Reports 2021-2022 .....	6
Advocacy: Stacey Morrison (Interim Chair) .....	6
Communications: Sharalyn Luciani.....	9
DEI: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion: Ericka McDonald.....	10
Membership: Vacant.....	11
Events Planning Committee: Sharalyn Luciani .....	11
Treasurer’s Report: Neilson Andrews.....	12
Voter Services: Barbara Crain .....	13
Section 2: 2022-2023 .....	14
June 4, 2022 Annual Meeting Agenda.....	14
Luncheon Agenda .....	14
Business Meeting 1:00 p.m.....	14
Meeting Speaker .....	15
Proposed Budgets 2022- 2023 .....	15
LWV City/County Management Fund 2022-2023 .....	15
Proposed Operating Budget 2022-2023.....	16
Proposed LWVBCo Goals for 2022-2023 (Program).....	17
Bylaw Change 2022.....	18
2021-2023 Nominating Committee Report.....	20
Slate of Officers and Directors.....	20
Meet the Candidates 2021-2023 .....	21
Officers .....	21
Treasurer – (2022-2024) .....	21
Directors.....	21
Past Presidents of LWV Baltimore County .....	24
Annual Meeting Flyer .....	25

## From the Presidents: Tana Hamilton and Ericka McDonald

As this League year comes to an end, it's a good time to talk about change. Sometimes changes are forced on us by outside circumstances like the changes we've made throughout the COVID pandemic. You may have missed seeing your friends and family, so you learned how to use Zoom or FaceTime. Maybe you changed your way of shopping from going to the store to ordering online. A recent LWVBCo change was moving League paperwork to an online cloud platform instead of storing hard copies in binders. Change was necessary, so we adapted and learned a new way of conducting business.

We know that change can be an uncomfortable topic. But without change, we would not meet new people, find new possibilities, or experience growth. **We are enlisting *Maryland Nonprofits* to assist us in strategic planning to address two urgent concerns.**

**The first is to refine our vision and mission.** There are many issues that interest members on which the League developed positions. As the number of active volunteers from membership decreased, the number of issues we've committed to tackle has not decreased enough. This stretches our resources and weakens our advocacy efforts. The model of focusing on many issues with limited membership participation is not sustainable. We need to envision and focus on our value to members and the community.

**The second is to attract and retain new and diverse members.** The LWVBCo has been working in Baltimore County since 1941. As our long-term members age, they have not been replenished by enough new members. Also, many members have done years of work for the League and are ready to pass the torch. However, there was not a concerted succession plan that prepared new leaders. Likewise, the size, composition, and needs of our communities have changed, and we need diverse participants to help us address issues for all people in Baltimore County.

Our members (you!) are dedicated and knowledgeable. Your input is crucial to our planning. *Maryland Nonprofits* will conduct interviews and focus groups; ask for your participation in surveys; and then lead a board retreat to reach consensus on our priorities for the next several years. You can guide this process by volunteering on the Strategic Planning Committee.

The LWVBCo ensures citizens have access to information and provides opportunities for them to solve community and government issues. Our role is extremely important, and we must make the best use of our time and resources. According to *Maryland Nonprofits* (2021), Baltimore County has nearly 5,000 nonprofits. If our League loses relevance, there are 4,999 other nonprofits that will gladly accept new members. Let's make sure we're the #1 choice!

To volunteer for the Strategic Planning Committee, please email either of the co-presidents, [Ericka McDonald](mailto:ErickaMcDonald@lwvbaltimorecounty.org) or [thamilton@lwvbaltimorecounty.org](mailto:thamilton@lwvbaltimorecounty.org).

LWV Baltimore County Co-Presidents,

Ericka McDonald,

Tana Hamilton





## **EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.**

**The League of Women Voters** is a **nonpartisan, grassroots** organization working to **protect and expand voting rights** and ensure everyone is represented in our democracy. We empower voters and defend democracy through **advocacy, education, and litigation**, at the local, state, and national levels.

### **Protect the Freedom to Vote**

Voting is a fundamental principle, and all Americans deserve the equal opportunity to make their voices heard in our democracy.

### **Ensure Fair Elections**

Our vote is our power. Through our votes, elections make our voices heard. The League protects and empowers millions of voters every year to ensure that our elections are fair, accessible, and representative of all Americans.

### **Reduce Money's Political Influence**

We work to ensure that our government serves the people, not wealthy special interests, by promoting transparency, limiting SuperPACs, and eliminating dark money.

### **Fight for Fair Redistricting**

Redistricting, or community districting, is the process of creating representational district maps for states and local communities. By determining which neighborhoods are included in each mapped boundary, redistricting impacts how our communities are represented in the US and local government and determines how resources are distributed.



## Section 1: Reports on 2021-22

### LWV Baltimore County Annual Meeting Minutes June 13, 2021

**Welcome:** Tana Hamilton, president, welcomed the members and guests to our second virtual Annual Meeting. She introduced Stephen Lafferty, Esq., Director of Planning for Baltimore County. Previously he served as the Chief Sustainability Officer for the county. Mr. Lafferty spoke on the Baltimore County Master Plan and the Voluntary Compliance Agreement/Affordable Housing Workgroup.

**Member Appreciation Award:** Theresa Lawler, past president, presented the third Annual Volunteer Appreciation Award to Sharalyn Luciani and Barbara Crain.

**Call to Order of the 2021 Annual Meeting:** The meeting was called order.

**Rules of Procedure:** They were adopted.

**Minutes 2020:** The minutes of the June 15, 2019, Annual Meeting were accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Neilson Andrews presented the Board's recommendation for approval of the Management Fund budget. The budget was approved 96% in favor, 4% nay. She also presented the Board's recommendation of approval of the operating budget which was approved as presented.

**Presentation and Adoption of Local Programs:** Betsy Sexton presented the recommendations for Local Programming for the coming year. The following recommendations were made and accepted by the membership:

With respect to the War on Drugs, suggestion to study the issue of recovery houses, which may be unregulated.

Study of transportation issues was also recommended.

Disseminate Baltimore County Mental Health initiative information of interest.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the '21-'22 Programming Recommendations.

Betsy also presented the Education Committee change in the league's Education position. There was a motion to approve and seconded. The motion was approved.

Ericka McDonald presented the DEI bylaw addition. It was moved and seconded to approve the change. The motion passed.

Elections followed. The 2021-2022 slate of officers and Board of Directors was presented and a motion to approve was made and seconded. Linda Dorsey-Walker was nominated from the floor, but she needed to opt out because of her elected position on the central committee. Trustees for the Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund were also approved.

#### **New Business – Directions to the Board:**

- Review by-laws with respect to actions we can take with respect to legislation
- Consider making/supporting a proposal to increase councilmanic seats added to the next ballot from 7 to 11 as a result of significant population growth; BCO has among the highest ratio of constituents per county councilperson and additional seats would expand opportunities for young people and minorities

**The meeting was adjourned at 3:22**

Respectfully submitted, Ericka McDonald, president

## Our 2021-2022 Year in Review

This has been a year of change for the League of Women Voters at every level, national, state, and our county. At all these levels, our league has moved to include more advocacy in our work as well as education. An Action Plan for the League's advocacy work was developed and can be found on our Annual Meeting Event page.

On the national level, we participated in LWVUS efforts to rally in support of the Freedom to Vote act sponsored by Maryland Representative John Sarbanes and the John Lewis Voting Rights Act. In October, we partnered with the LWV Baltimore City and the Declaration for American Democracy to reserve a bus and provide free transportation for members and citizens to a D.C. rally in October. We filled the bus and received local media coverage.

Between the county league and the LWVMD, we held seven member events throughout the year with often more than 100 people attending. Topics ranged from *Preventing Gun Violence* with Elizabeth Banach to *How Democracies Die* with Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt. We also participated in a *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion* (DEI) workshop hosted by LWVMD. Beth Huffnagel led a Lunch and Learn on how *Redistricting Affects Us All*. Barbara Hopkins, a LWVBCo member and director of Neighbor Space in Baltimore County, discussed the importance of open spaces in the inner suburbs.

At the last Annual Meeting, we approved a bylaw change to comply with the LWVUS Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Policy. To facilitate this work, the DEI Task Force workgroup was formed. The Task Force set the following goal: to increase inclusivity and diversity in league membership, activities, and the work we do. The priorities selected for the Task Force were to advocate for racial justice efforts in the County Council, to increase the distribution of Voters' Guides to more diverse communities, and to apply a DEI Lens to all League activities, documents, and projects.

In the fight for fair redistricting, LWVBCo The League advocated for the creation of a second majority-minority district in the County Council's redistricting map. Baltimore County has grown significantly more diverse over the past ten years (to almost 50% people of color), but there is a majority of white council people representing the constituency. The map approved by the Council included only a single majority-minority district. We joined the NAACP of Baltimore County, Common Cause, ACLU and individual plaintiffs to file a federal lawsuit challenging the proposed map. Although the Honorable Lydia Kay Griggsby found the initial map unconstitutional and ordered that the County redrawn the map to be in compliance with the Voting Rights Act, she approved the second draft which included one minority-majority district and one white plurality district. The League and plaintiffs were disappointed by the ruling and are considering whether to appeal.

We coordinated our support for the Baltimore County Coalition for Police Accountability to police accountability in Baltimore County. We encouraged the County to hold multiple public forums prior to passing the Police Accountability Bill and provided input on the Bill, including expanding the number of members, adequately funding the Board, focus on the representation of overpoliced communities, public access to Board reports, etc. We also urged the County to share information about the interview and selection process.

To support fair elections, the League is also gathering petition signatures for the 4MORE! 4BALTIMORE COUNTY Campaign. We are collecting 12,000 signatures to have a referendum question added to the November General Election ballot to amend the Baltimore County Charter to increase by four more districts. When the charter was updated in the 1950s, the districts represented 50,000 citizens each. By increasing the number of County districts from seven to eleven, the size of each district would

be reduced from 125,000 voters per district to approximately 78,000 voters, thereby allowing a greater opportunity for women, young adults, and minorities to run for and serve on the County Council and other elected positions. There would also be more district-level appointments by each Council member. This change would allow 220 more citizens to serve on boards and commissions.

To reduce money's political influence, League members testified in favor of County Council Bill 102-21, *The Fair Election Fund*, which will allow up to \$150,000 in support for \$15,000 raised in a county council race and \$1.4 million in the county executive race for \$50,000 raised. The bill passed and is a huge help for candidates without funding who want to enter a race.

Our Voters' Services work has continued throughout the year through Voter Registration and preparing the Voters' Guides for the primary election. This year our focus is expanding the guides to reach voters of color and places that are typically underrepresented in voter participation. The Vote 411 information for the primary election was submitted to the website. Additionally, planning is underway to host virtual Candidate Forums in June for the upcoming Primary Election.

We are also supporting HB 632, a study of the East West Transit Project that is currently before the General Assembly. The proposed transit project would go from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid through the downtown business district to Johns Hopkins Hospital. This transit link is imperative for economic and workforce development in both the county and the city.

Betsy Sexton facilitated the zoom book club meetings with a variety of non-fiction and fiction selections. They read two books with Baltimore ties: *The Life of Kings: The Baltimore Sun and the Golden Age of the American Newspaper*, by James Thakara, and *Madam Speaker, Nancy Pelosi, and the Lessons of Power*, by Susan Page. They also read *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, by Anthony Doer and *Code Breaker: Jenifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race*, by Walter Isaacson.

Our Holiday Party was held at Tana Hamilton's house and featured the judges of the Orphan's Court of Baltimore County. Chief Judge William R. Evans gave an overview of the Orphans Court and the issues that come before them. Associate Judges Juliet Fisher and Arthur Frank discussed mediation and also answered questions from those attending. The Honorable Alexis Burrell-Rohde gave an overview of the Register of Wills office.

While Zoom has allowed us to expand participation and inclusivity in our meetings, we were excited to meet in-person for the Board Retreat in the summer and our Holiday Party in December. We are grateful to come together again for our Annual Meeting!





## Committee Reports 2021-2022

### Advocacy: Stacey Morrison (Interim Chair)

**Action Plan 2022:** The Board has created and endorsed a list of priority items as we gear up for this election season.

Get Out the Vote is our most important focus and will continue to use a substantial amount of League energy and volunteers. We will continue to register voters through Naturalization ceremonies, promote voter registration by targeting minority and low voter turnout areas, advertise VOTE411.org through social media and our website, broadly distribute Voters' Guides, and focus on high school and college outreach. Voter education is carried out with candidate forums, press releases and community outreach.

Efforts in redistricting and fair representation will continue as we work toward expansion of County Council districts.

LWV Baltimore County will continue to educate about and alleviate Food Insecurity in partnership with the Baltimore County Student Support Network.

We will present topics of interest to our members and the public at least four times throughout the year.

One vital objective is the creation of an Outreach Circle of like-minded organizations which focus on our priorities. This will extend into all areas of our plan of action and enable us to expand our county connections.

**Baltimore County's Fair Election Fund Working Group:** Phyllis Panopoulos succeeded Sue Garonzik in serving on this working group, tasked with making recommendations for the establishment and implementation of a public financing system to be used by candidates for Baltimore County Council and the Baltimore County Executive. In December 2021, Phyllis presented testimony to the County Council in support of the working group's recommendations. Later that month, the County Council passed the bill as presented by the working group. The Council then produced a second map, with one minority-majority district and one white plurality district, which Judge Griggsby approved. The League and plaintiffs were disappointed by the ruling and are considering whether to appeal.

The County's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is responsible for investigating reports of fraud, abuse and illegal acts occurring within the county government. In February 2022, member David Plymyer alerted LWVBCo members to a bill proposed by the County Executive which would have limited the Inspector General's ability to do their job. As a result of his call to action, several League members attended the County Executive's Town Hall meetings advocating for support of this Office and against bills that would limit its effectiveness.

**Education Committee Report - Yara Cheikh:** League members continue voter registration outreach efforts for high school and college students. Since the passage in May 2021 of the Student & Military Voter Empowerment Act, which will help reduce the barriers faced by students and military members with voter registration and voting, Sue Garonzik has been contacting administrative leaders at Baltimore County colleges and universities to ensure they are complying with the bill's mandates, such as creating Student Voting Plans for their campuses. At the high school level, Education Chair Yara Cheikh is again coordinating with County Social Studies department heads to help register high school students during the lunch period.

Yara is serving as the LWVBCo liaison to Baltimore County's Education Justice Table, a coalition of community groups, non-profits, religious institutions, and unions joining together to advocate for common areas around education issues in Baltimore County. The group seeks transparency and advocates for meaningful ways to implement the Blueprint for Progress funding and requirements. Yara also represents the LWVBCo at the Equity in Education Task Force, which discusses education issues across Maryland using a lens of equity to reexamine policies and construct a strong position paper.

**Land Use, Zoning, Natural Resources - Ralph Rigger:** The elements included under land use begin with the League's action to support a good system for Baltimore County planning and zoning. To this effort, we keep watch over the County's actions related to wise zoning (prescribed usage of land) where services required exist or are reasonably available and to preserve rural land for agricultural usage. The required services are roads and transportation, schools, open spaces for recreation, as well as accessible commercial and employment areas.

We include some of the overall elements to monitor, such as: solid waste (sewerage), the sludge resulting from sewage treatment (We "Follow the Flush"), trash and recycling, as well as potable water treatment and stormwater management.

This year we have followed the preparation of the 2030 Master Plan. This is an important enterprise that occurs every 10 years. The plan is being built around the principles of Equity, Sustainability, and vibrant communities. The county has held virtual meetings to discuss the changes in all areas of the county throughout this year and last. The final report should be coming out later this spring.

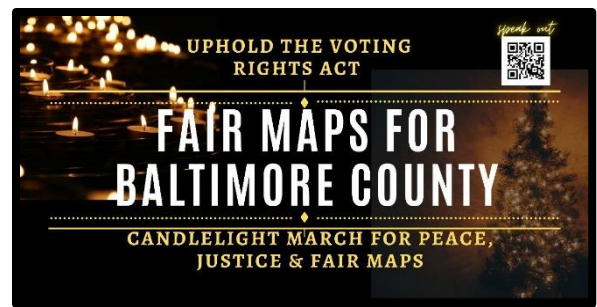
In summer 2021, Co-Presidents Ericka McDonald and Tana Hamilton wrote a letter weighing in on County Bill 73-21, which would have provided an exemption to a developer for the open space and impact fee requirements. This type of ad-hoc lawmaking would have set a precedent for other development projects and went against the county's stated objective in the Enterprise Strategic Plan of increasing open spaces.

**Police Reform:** Co-President Ericka McDonald continues to represent the LWVMD on the Maryland Coalition for Justice and Police Accountability (MCJPA) and work with League's throughout Maryland on police reform advocacy.. As a member of this coalition, in summer 2021 Ericka helped develop a fact sheet on the impact on counties following the repeal in spring 2021 of the Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights' (LEOBR) and provided training to local leagues on the implementation of Police Accountability Boards(PAB).

Ericka has also been active in this group's advocacy regarding transparency in the formation of the County's PAB as well as its inclusion of county citizens disproportionately affected by police misconduct. In addition to writing to the County Executive and County Council members in support of these measures, in February 2022, Ericka represented the LWVBCo in an open letter to the County Executive that pushed for transparency in the establishment of a PAB. That same month, Ericka joined the Baltimore County Coalition for Police Accountability (BCCPA) public town hall to raise awareness of the problems in the implementation of PABs in counties throughout Maryland and sent a follow-up email to the County Executive expressing concern over the short time frame to implement the PAB before July 2022.

In March 2022, Ericka represented the League in a BCCPA meeting with the County Executive to further discuss implementation of the PAB; at that meeting, the County Executive committed to transparency and community involvement in implementing the PAB, as well as a PAB that represents the communities impacted by police misconduct. The BCCPA also met with Speaker Jones in April to discuss the PAB Bill (24-22) and mobilized residents to request the Council postpone the vote on the PAB.

**Redistricting:** During the summer and fall of 2021, Carol Wynne served as the LWVBCo liaison to the LWVMD and LWVUS redistricting committees. Carol's advocacy on behalf of redistricting included writing letters on behalf of the League to government officials, specifically on including more diversity in the commission that will draw redistricting lines, providing testimony during public hearings, and coordinating a Redistricting Lunch and Learn with LWVMD's Redistricting Chair, Beth Hufnagel. Shelly Varon also helped advocate for fair and representative maps by speaking with legislative representatives at the state and local level.



In October 2021, the LWVBCo joined the Baltimore County NAACP and the MD-ACLU in sending a letter to the Baltimore County Redistricting Commission over concerns of minority vote dilution in the commission's redistricting plan and the commission's lack of transparency in redistricting process. Later that month, LWVBCo Co-Presidents Ericka McDonald and Tana Hamilton participated in a press conference with the NAACP and ACLU to urge the County Council to reconsider the redistricting proposal and to draw a new map that gives people of color a more representative voice in their government.

After discussions with the LWVUS legal counsel, Ericka McDonald led the effort for our League to join with the Baltimore County NAACP, Common Cause Maryland and individual plaintiffs on a federal lawsuit that challenged the racially discriminatory and unlawful redistricting plan adopted by the Baltimore County Council in December 2021. The plan violated the 15th Amendment of the Constitution, as well as the Voting Rights Act. As a result, a federal judge blocked the implementation of the County's plan and ordered them to submit a new plan that complies with the Voting Rights Act.

**4MORE! 4BALTIMORE COUNTY Steering Committee:** The board voted to change our previous position developed by consensus in 2000 to maintain the current number of seven council districts. By the recommendation of LWVMD and LWVUS, we were advised that since this position was in conflict with the efforts of the League's Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Policy, the board could vote rather than doing a full study to update the position. The board voted "to support increasing the number of County Council Districts" given population growth and increasing diversity.



Co-president Tana Hamilton represents the League on the steering committee, and League member Linda Dorsey-Walker is the chair that initiated the effort with the State Board of Elections. More than a dozen organizations are supporting this effort, including New Horizons Group, Allies for Democracy, Amigos Baltimore County, Hunt Valley Indian Association, and Indivisible Towson. Approximately 2,000 petition signatures were collected by May 1, short of the goal of 4,000 by 50%. If the goal of 12,000 signatures by August 1 is reached, the initiative will be on the November General Election ballot. If passed, the initiative would allow the election of 11 County Council members in 2026.

## Communications: Sharalyn Luciani

**Website:** We spent much of this year analyzing our digital needs to improve our online presence. We began looking for ways to make our website more modern, precise, and easy to search. A news blog and events page were immediately added to keep members informed. We coordinated our website information with our emails, and social media presence.

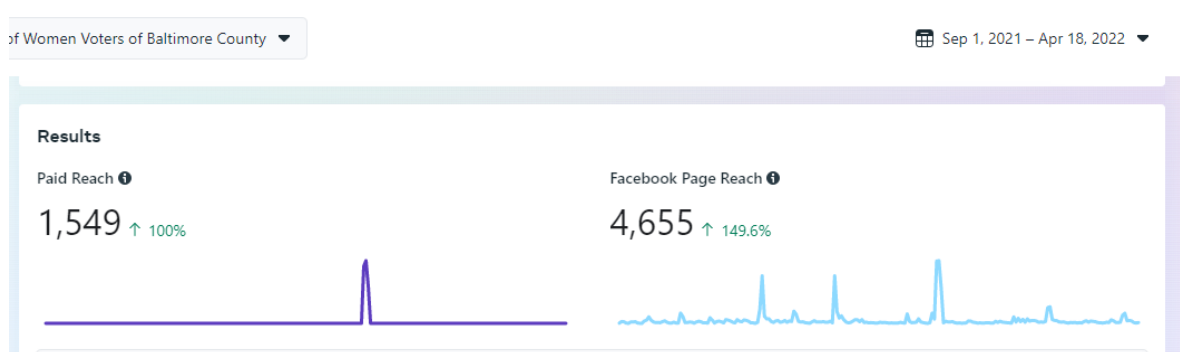
After critically evaluating our website, the committee decided to outsource the creation of a modernized and professional website that can be continuously updated by volunteers. Money for the project is in the 2022-23 budget which will be discussed at the meeting. Training will be available for volunteers to monitor the website and make additions, as necessary. This will be as easy as using Word templates. If you are interested, please contact Sharalyn Luciani, [sharalynlu@lwvbaltimorecounty.org](mailto:sharalynlu@lwvbaltimorecounty.org)

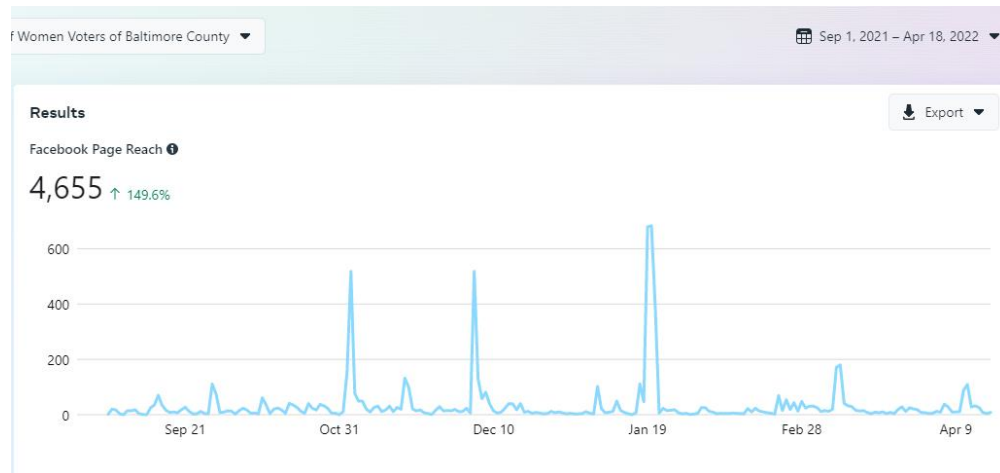
**Email Communications:** This year we remained in touch with our members by email as often as once a week. Emails included event details, coordination with other organizations for advocacy, opportunities for involvement in voter registration, workshops, training, and more. Please note. If you are not receiving LWV Baltimore County emails, then contact our office to make sure we have your correct email address. We hope to continue this important communication tool and need assistance in the upcoming year. If you would like to be part of this email process, please contact Sharalyn Luciani at [sharalynlu@lwvbaltimorecounty.org](mailto:sharalynlu@lwvbaltimorecounty.org) or contact our office.

**The Voter:** By May 2022 we will have circulated ten newsletters helping keep members aware of our league's actions and work on empowering voters. Stacey Morrison continues to create an outstanding document keeping us up to date on local, state, and national advocacy, as well connections and support to other alliances. Newsletter articles are coordinated with our social media feeds and our website. Special thanks to Gwen Wilson and Kathy Skelton, who help out quite a bit on member highlights and proofreading, respectively.

**Twitter and Facebook- Ericka McDonald, Tana Hamilton:** The impact of social media on awareness and support for LWV Baltimore County advocacy is incredibly significant.

Our FB posts provided information about action items, promoted events and action activities on an average of 2-3 posts per week. The charts below show the connections made over this year.





## DEI: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion: Ericka McDonald

**Members:** the members of the task force were Barbara Crain, Tana Hamilton, Maggy Lindgren, Ericka McDonald, Phyllis Panopoulos. We met between April and December. Our goal was to develop a plan to make concrete differences to the diversity and inclusivity of the league in the work we currently do. We came up with a list of priorities for accomplishing this and selected the top three to work on. The Task Force will meet to set additional priorities after the strategic planning process is complete.

**1. Advocate for Racial Justice with Baltimore County Council:** We spoke with Troy Williams, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for Baltimore County about our concern that racial equity be prioritized by the government and County Council. The scope/power of the BC Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Community Advisory Council is not as broad as similar councils in Montgomery and Howard Counties. The League prioritized advocacy on redistricting and police accountability because they are issues that impact systemic inequality in Baltimore County.

**2. Apply DEI Lens to LWVBCo work:** The long-term goal is to integrate DEI into all league work. The Task Force reviewed current league work and made recommendations on how to apply DEI throughout. Changes include:

- Defining processes and goals for committees and events so we verify that we are applying a DEI Lens to them (ex., Annual Meeting planning document).
- Ensuring that a diversity of people is represented in communications (publications, social media, etc.).
- Making connections with advocacy groups that represent people of color (NAACP Baltimore County, NAACP Randallstown, Delta sorority, CASA) and collaborating with them on advocacy and events.
- Include the importance of DEI in the Board orientation meeting.
- Expanding voter services work to neighborhoods with large minority populations (voter registration events, community presentations, etc.).
- Prioritize advocacy work that addresses issues of systemic inequality, such as redistricting and police accountability.



**3. Increase Distribution of Voters Guides to communities with large minority populations:** We discussed ideas for increasing the distribution of guides to neighborhoods with large minority populations. We identified these areas using census data and are creating a plan to distribute Voter Guides to retirement communities, churches, community centers, and Black owned businesses.



## Membership: Vacant

Over the past few years our membership has fluctuated and currently is steady at 197 members. Again, we are challenged to recruit, and more importantly engage, new and seasoned members. We need a membership chair to coordinate this effort. Only with active members can we continue our mission of Engaging Voters, Defending Democracy.

Finally, LWV membership renews in June. Membership includes national, state, and local membership. This year we are streamlining our renewal process and will begin sending renewal reminders by email. Once paid, renewal reminders will no longer be sent.

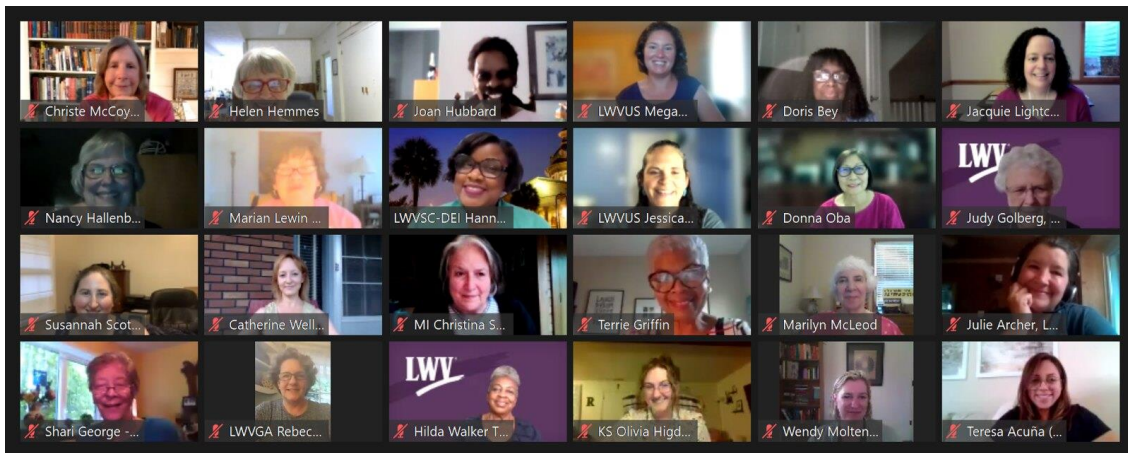
As always, renewals may be paid through our [website](#) with credit or PayPal, or by a check mailed to the office. All donations and renewals are tax deductible.

- Free to all full-time students over 16. (Please call the office for student membership.)
- \$60 per individual
- \$110 household
- \$150 sustaining member (membership and additional donation to support our causes)

## Events Planning Committee: Sharalyn Luciani

The Events Planning Committee held a range of educational and contemporary events to increase member participation, expand the visibility of the league, and attract new members. Initially the group worked for both LWV Baltimore City and County but came under the sole support of LWV Baltimore County.

Again, this year we were fortunate to use the Zoom meeting format provided by LWVMD. We hosted



four nationally recognized speakers and hundreds of attendees. We provided services to our members, gained new LWV members, and nurtured recognition and acknowledgement by national and local organizations.

In October we hosted Barbara Hopkins, Executive Director of NeighborSpace Baltimore County, who demonstrated how community green space increases the livability, walkability, and sustainability of our neighborhoods. Our charge is to understand our history and what is necessary for change. An outstanding presentation that shows how we got here, and where we need to go, why this is critical. [Watch it.](#)

The book [How Democracy Dies](#) was co-written by Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt. In our highest attended event, Steven Levitsky discussed the key indicators of authoritarian behavior and parallels to American democracy. "Democracy no longer ends with a bang—in a revolution or military coup—but with a whimper: the slow, steady weakening of critical institutions, such as the judiciary and the press, and the gradual erosion of long-standing political norms." He also discussed the threats posed by voter suppression and election subversion and how we can address these challenges. [Watch it.](#)

On March 11 Elizabeth Banach, executive director of [Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence](#), presented on the topic of Gun Violence, a complex and multifaceted problem, which is devastating families and communities across the country. Gun-violence prevention laws and interventions are effective at reducing this problem. Maryland's General Assembly, a national leader in gun violence prevention, recently passed legislation that would keep guns out of the hands of children ("Jaelynn's Law"), ban ghost guns, and restrict guns at polling sites. She also addressed the federal legislation introduced a year ago that would require securing firearms at home to prevent children gaining access to them ("Ethan's Law"). [View the presentation](#).

On April 22, 2022, the Maryland State Superintendent of Schools, Mohammed Choudhury discussed neighborhood indicators of poverty and how these can be used to increase opportunities and improve outcomes for students disproportionately affected by concentrated poverty. He described how a multi-dimensional approach to assessing poverty and allocating resources narrows gaps in opportunity and learning. Mr. Choudhury became Maryland's state superintendent on July 1, 2021. Over 190 people registered and 105 attended, over 50% were non-league members. It was an exceptional end for our 2021-22 zoom events with topics of national importance and local interest. The presentation is posted on [https://www.lwvbaltimorecounty.org/event\\_recordings](https://www.lwvbaltimorecounty.org/event_recordings).

Our work has been challenging, but truly a team effort. However, the future of this committee is tentative, and more members are needed to coordinate events this coming year. Training and coaching will be available. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact any board member or [Sharalyn Luciani](#).

Finally, many of our members attended our events and we appreciate your commitment. All events are available through our [website](#) or on our [YouTube channel](#), LWV Baltimore County.

### Treasurer's Report: Neilson Andrews

Neilson Andrews, Treasurer, acknowledged our gratitude for the extremely generous bequests from the estates of longtime members Katherine (Kitty) Stierhoff to our educational pursuits and Camille Wheeler's which was divided between the educational activities and the Jessa Goldberg Endowment fund. We also received a final gift from the Cliff Terry estate which was designated to educational efforts.

The Finance Committee recommended that we move our reserve funds and the endowment to a group that would give us advice. The committee interviewed four investment groups before making a recommendation of Heritage Financial to the board, which approved the recommendation at its March board meeting.

With the input and concurrence of the Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund, it was decided that the Finance Committee should take over stewardship of the endowment following the move to Heritage Financial. The Finance Committee will report to the board quarterly and annually to the membership. On page 19, you will find the bylaw change to cover this change in management. The Board recommends approval of the change.

As of April 1, the Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund had \$160,605.99 in the T. Rowe Price Balanced Fund. As of April 1, the League's reserve accounts in T. Rowe Price totaled \$418,625.75, and we have an additional reserve of \$39,284.90 in a money market account at PNC where our checking account is also.

## Voter Services: Barbara Crain

### **VOTE411.org and preparation of printed Primary Voters' Guides:**

Caroline Seamon, Jane Finneseth and I continue to work on this project for the primary. Phyllis Panopoulos is working on a distribution plan for underserved areas. Anyone with ideas should contact her. Barbara Dezmon, Joe and Sue Garonzik, and Tana Hamilton put in many hours to develop the questions for candidates to contribute to the guides.



**Voter Registration:** Our League's Voting Registration sub-committee offered voting registration services at several community events and libraries this past year. League members also helped register new U.S. citizens at five naturalization swearing-in ceremonies in November 2021. Volunteers for these events included Tana Hamilton, Kathy Jeffries, Phyllis Lansing, Ericka McDonald, Stacey Morrison, Phyllis Panopoulos, Judy Plymyer, Ginny Probasco, Eileen Robier, Shelley Varon, and Carol Wynn.

Another voter registration day is planned for the Housing and Resource Fair in Dundalk on Saturday, May 14, at Heritage Park.

**Upcoming Candidate Forums:** The League is co-hosting 2022 Primary Candidate Forums with the NAACP Randallstown. The Candidate Forum Committee is planning virtual forums to be held in June. The following forums have been confirmed:

- June 13 - Democratic County Executive
- June 14 - Board of Education
- June 15 - Democratic County Council District 1
- June 22 - Democratic County Council District 2
- June 23 - Republican State's Attorney
- June 27 - Democratic State's Attorney
- June 29 - Democratic County Council District 6



## Section 2: 2022-2023

### June 4, 2022 Annual Meeting Agenda

#### Luncheon Agenda

12:00-12:15: Welcome and lunch

12:15-12:45: Speaker – Ruie Marie LaVoie,

Director of the Baltimore County Board of Elections

Photo of outgoing Board



#### Business Meeting 1 p.m.

Call to Order and introductions

Adoption of rules of procedure

Approval of June 13, 2021, Annual Meeting minutes

Message from LWVMD

Treasurer's and Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund reports

Presentation and Adoption of the Management Fund and Operating Budgets

Proposed LWVBCo Goals for 2022-2023 (Program)

Bylaw change

Nominating committee report

Election of officers and directors

Unfinished business

New Business – Looking ahead

Directions to the Board (suggested goals for 2020 - 2021)

Recognition of League members

Adjournment

Photo of New Board

## Annual Meeting Speaker

Ruie Marie LaVoie is the Director of the Baltimore County Election Board. She began her civil service career with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in April of 2011 at the Howard County Health Department. Later that year, she accepted a transfer to the State Board of Elections in the Baltimore County supervising the Judge Department, Training Division, Equipment Management team and assistant to the Director.

In April of 2019, Ruie accepted the position of Director of the Cecil County Board of Elections. As director, through the challenges brought by the COVID-19 Pandemic, she conducted a variance-free successful election during the historic 2020 Presidential Election cycle. In December of 2021, she returned to Baltimore County as Director.

Ms. LaVoie has been active in the Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) since 2011 when she joined several committees including the Constitution and By-Laws, Election Judge, Early Voting, Awards and Conference Planning and Entertainment. She plays a major role in planning and organizing the annual conference and is the Conference Planner. She served as the MAEO “acting” Secretary until officially elected to the position in 2014. She held that office until 2019 when elected the Vice-President. Recently, as one of two Maryland Election Officials, Ms. LaVoie also serves on the US Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Local Leadership Council.

## Proposed Budgets 2022- 2023

### LWV City/County Management Fund 2022-2023

	<b>FY 21/22 Budget</b>	<b>7/1/21-3/31/22 Expenditure</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>FY 22/23 Budget</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
City	<b>\$9,773</b>	<b>\$7,329</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>\$9,775</b>
County	<b>\$9,773</b>	<b>\$9,773</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$9,775</b>
Miscellaneous				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19,546</b>	<b>\$17,102</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>\$19,550</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
rent + CAM(cleaning)	<b>\$14,670</b>	<b>\$11,187</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
telephone & internet	<b>\$1,840</b>	<b>\$1,370</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>
Supplies	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$31</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>\$100</b>
Insurance	<b>\$875</b>	<b>\$600</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>\$900</b>
copier lease	<b>\$1,170</b>	<b>\$1,370</b>	<b>117%</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
Audit	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>\$150</b>
computer reserve	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Miscellaneous	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$10</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>\$300</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19,355</b>	<b>\$14,568</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>\$19,550</b>



## Proposed Operating Budget 2022-2023

Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund as of March 31: \$160,605.99

T. Rowe Price Investment accounts as of March 31: \$418,625.75

PNC Money Market account as of March 31: \$39,285.36

	2021/22 Budget	21/22 Actual	22/23 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>			
Carryover End Fiscal Year (PNC MM)	\$50,000.00	\$	\$35,000.00
Member dues (185 dues-paying members)	11,300.00	11,720.00	12,000.00
Contributions/fundraising***	10,000.00	4,665.00*	5,000.00
Annual meeting (40 member at \$30)	1,600.00	0.00	1,200.00
Holiday gathering	150.00	345.72	150.00
Meetings/trips, etc.	200.00	0.00	200.00
Committees	0.00	0.00	0.00
Polling place evaluations	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising	150.00	0.00	500.00
Money Market Interest	0.00	3.63	5.00
Miscellaneous income	100.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$23,500.00</b>	<b>\$16,734.35</b>	<b>\$92,155.00</b>
Transfer – Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer – Money Market	0.00	15,100.00	0.00
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$73,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 31,834.35</b>	<b>\$92,155.00</b>

<b>Expenses</b>			
PMP LWVUS	5,856.00	4,404.00	6,000.00 **
PMP LWVMD	2,700.00	2,569.00	3,500.00 **
Accounting services	1,200.00	1,125.00	1,200.00
Office manager	6,500.00	4,502.31	7,500.00
FICA	550.00	499.24	600.00
Unemployment tax	200.00	123.18	200.00
Strategic Planning	0.00	0.00	23,000.00
New Website Design	0.00	0.00	5,500.00
Website Management	0.00	0.00	500.00
Management fund	9,700.00	10,409.98	9,775.00
Voters' Guide Printing/layout	4,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
D&O Insurance	750.00	721.00	775.00
Speakers series/County forums	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
General printing	2,500.00	3,548.40	4,000.00
Postage	00.00		
Regular	1,500.00	3,892.03	3,000.00
Voters' Guides	7,000.00	0.00	8,500.00
Technology/Web hosting	30.00	75.00	00.00
Annual Meeting	1,800.00	150.00	1,800.00
Holiday gathering	100.00	276.75	300.00
Trips and gatherings	200.00	0.00	200.00
Legislative Luncheon	400.00	0.00	400.00
Board Retreats	0.00	141.89	300.00

Membership	300.00	0.00	300.00
Social media/advertising	200.00	8.13	100.00
Coalition dues	100.00	0.00	100.00
Review of books and taxes	400.00	450.00	500.00
Fundraising expenses	500.00	0.00	500.00
Convention expenses	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Presidents' discretionary fund	200.00	0.00	200.00
Supplies	200.00	88.94	200.00
PayPal fees	150.00	161.47	200.00
Miscellaneous expenses	100.00	195.00	100.00
Get Out the Vote	0.00	0.00	3,500.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$50,936.00</b>	<b>\$33,341.32</b>	<b>\$90,250.00</b>

\* This includes the year-end solicitation and other contributions including to the Jessa Goldberg Endowment.

\*\* 172 members and 13 households. PMPUS = \$32 and \$16 and PMPMD = \$15 and \$7.50.

\*\*\* We received two bequests totaling \$25,000 from Camille Wheeler and Kitty Stierhoff. Camille's was split between the Jessa Fund and the working capital funds. Kitty's was designated to working/education funds.

We carried over \$54,381.63 in the money market and we currently (3/31/22) have \$39,284.90 in the money market, so we have used \$15,096.73 this year.

## Proposed LWVBCo Goals for 2022-2023 (Programming)

The LWVBCo Bylaws outline our annual process for selecting priorities and goals (Principles and Programs). The principles are adopted by the National Convention and supported by the League at all levels. The "program" consists of action by the league to protect the right to vote and issues chosen for study/action by the members at the Annual Meeting.

The process defined in the Bylaws includes the input from the members prior to the Annual Meeting to create a set of goals for the year that are approved by the Board (Recommended Program). These goals are approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Last year the members approved a broad set of goals that were largely not implemented due to lack of volunteers. The goals included strategic planning, DEI, updating local positions, property assessment and taxation, alternatives to the war on drugs, affordable housing, mental health initiatives, public transit, and food insecurity.

This year the League operated with limited participation from the membership - the Board includes five directors at this time and we have two committee chairs (Voter Services and Education). Committees without leadership include Membership, Action, Events, and Communications. Many committees have not been holding regular meetings.. A significant amount of work fell to a small number of members, which has created stress on the organization. This workload is not sustainable.

In 2020 , we worked on building structure (policies, processes, and procedures) and institutionalizing technology (G-Suite & Zoom). This year we focused on implementing our Membership and DEI plans through advocacy (redistricting, police accountability, etc.) and collaboration (Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, the NAACP, etc.). Additionally, we restructured our financial management, completed a review of our advocacy activities, and began upgrading our website.

Subsequently, we did not have the capability to hold a meeting to plan our goals for the year (program planning). The Board voted to hire Maryland Nonprofits to provide strategic planning, including a focus on Justice, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The strategic planning will include the Board, committee leaders, and current and former League members to develop a plan to increase member involvement.

**For the 2022-23 year, we recommend that the League defer the vote on a new set of goals,** and continue to prioritize strategic planning, continuing our DEI efforts, and the following work that we are already engaged in:

**Voting Rights:** Redistricting, Vote4More! Campaign, Voter Services.

**Elections:** Vote411 and Voters Guides expansion, Candidate Forums, Voter Registration.

**Other Issues:** Police Reform, Education, Reduce Money's Political Influence.

We hope that through strategic planning we will be able to attract more members and engage them in the League's work this coming year.

## Bylaw Change 2022

The Board of the LWVBCo recommends the following bylaw change. If you would like to see the current bylaw sections with the current wording marked for change, additions and deletions go to <https://www.lwvbaltimorecounty.org/bylawchange2022>

The board recommends this change in order to create a single Finance Committee that is responsible for managing and reporting on all LWVBCo investments (those currently included in the Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund as well as those in the General Account), creating an Annual Budget, and advising the Board on financial matters, it is hereby recommended that the following amendments be made to the LWVBCo By Laws: 1) Article XI is amended as reflected below; 2) Article XII referring to the Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund is deleted in its entirety as pertinent sections of Article XII are now included in Article XI, and 3) the headings of Articles XIII, XIV, and XV are changed to reflect the above.

### 1. Article XI is amended as follows:

#### “ARTICLE XI

##### Financial Administration

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

Section 2. Dues. The Board of Directors of the LWVBCo shall determine the amount of annual dues subject to the approval of two-thirds of the voting membership attending the Annual Meeting. One month's notice shall be given to the members of any proposed dues change. Annual dues shall be payable on July 1. Any member who fails to pay her or his dues within three months after they become payable may be dropped from the membership rolls. Dues for a second member residing at the same address in a common household shall be assessed at a reduced rate as approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Section 3. Gifts and Donations. The Board of Directors may receive and accept gifts and donations from the members, the general public or any other source for the League's operational and educational activities. The Board, at its absolute discretion, may decline gifts they deem inappropriate. Money received by LWVBCo shall be deposited in the general funds unless designated or restricted to the Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund and shall be managed by the Treasurer in separate accounts.

- a. Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund - The purpose of the Jessa Goldberg Endowment Fund is to provide additional revenue for league education and service activities and programs. The principal of the fund shall not be disbursed nor invaded except upon an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the Board of Directors of the LWVBCo entitled to vote. Income generated from the fund may be periodically allocated to the general funds of LWVBCo. The amount of income generated from the fund allocated for expenditure or allocated to principal shall be determined by the Board of Directors based on the recommendations of the Finance Committee.

Section 4. Finance Committee. A Finance Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. The Finance Committee shall include (1) one of the LWVBCo Co-Presidents (as determined by them), (2) the LWVBCo Treasurer, *ex officio*, (3) a current LWVBCo Board member appointed by the Board, and (4) a League member (on or off Board) appointed by the Board. The current Board member and League member shall serve a three-year term. The Finance Committee shall elect its own Chair.

The Finance Committee oversees the LWVBCo investments, authorizes purchases, sales, and distributions, advises the board on investment-related matters including suggested league education and service activities and programs, and reports to the LWVBCo Board at least quarterly.

- a. The Finance Committee shall submit a budget to the Board of Directors for review before submission to the Annual Meeting. The proposed budget shall be sent to all voting members one month before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as chairman of the Budget Committee but shall be an *ex-officio* member of the Committee.
- b. The Finance Committee is authorized to retain the services of an Investment Advisor to assist in carrying out its responsibilities. Selection of the Investment Advisor is subject to Board approval.
- c. Notwithstanding the forgoing grant of power, the Finance Committee shall not engage in any prohibited transaction within the meaning of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code (or any subsequent revisions).

Section 6. Distribution of funds on dissolution. In the event of the dissolution or merger of the LWVBCo for any reason all money and securities or other property of whatsoever nature which at the time be owned or under the absolute control of the LWVBCo shall be distributed at the discretion of the Board of Directors, or such other persons as shall be charged by law with the liquidation or winding up of the LWVBCo and its affairs, to any member organization of the League of Women Voters national organization which is exempt under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code; or if none of these organizations are then in existence or exempt under those tax provisions, then, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, to another organization which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under such designated tax provisions.”

**2. ARTICLE XII is deleted in its entirety.**

**3. The headings of the remaining Articles are amended as follows:**

ARTICLE XIII becomes ARTICLE XII, ARTICLE XIV becomes ARTICLE XIII, and ARTICLE XV becomes ARTICLE XIV.



## 2021-2023 Nominating Committee Report

### Slate of Officers and Directors

(Those in Bold Type and *Italics* are the nominees we will vote on this year.)

#### Officers

Co-President	Tana Hamilton (2021-2023)
Co-President	Ericka McDonald (2021-2023)
<i>1st VP</i>	<i>Angel Lee (2022-2024)</i>
<i>2nd VP</i>	
Secretary	Lisa Barkan (2021-2023)
<i>Treasurer</i>	

#### Directors

##### Terms Ending in 2023

*Barbara Desmon*  
*Stacey Morrison*  
 Sue Garonzik  
*Wandra Ashley-Williams*

##### Terms Ending in 2024

*Neilson Andrews*  
*Nora Miller-Smith*  
*Teniola Akinwuntan*  
*Jon Hyman*  
 Ramona Johnson  
 Dr. Cheryl Hill

#### 2022 Nominating Committee

*Leslie Grant, Yara Cheikh*



## Meet the Candidates 2021-2023

### Officers

#### **1st Vice President – Angel Lee (2022-2024)**

Angel Lee is a Baltimore native, and a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, Notre Dame of Maryland University, and Morgan State University. Angel has a long and distinguished career as an educator supporting and serving students in special populations. For the past 20 years, Angel has been a teacher, school administrator, executive director, consultant, and chief executive officer. Presently, Angel is the owner of three businesses, providing services in the areas of insurance (life, accident, and sickness), educational consultancy and advocacy, and behavioral supports.

Angel has been a strong supporter of education and advocacy. While living in District 10, she has served as Community Liaison under the Office of Senator Delores Kelley, she served as Baltimore County Chapter, NAACP Legal Redress Chair, and she served as a board member of the National Council of Negro Women. She serves as the Class Agent/Class President for her graduating class at Morgan state University. She serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Vice-President at Mindworks Collaborative.

#### **Treasurer – (2022-2024)**

#### **Open**

### Directors

**Teniola Akinwauntan - (2022-2024)** Teniola (Teni) Akinwuntan, is a Mind-Transition Specialist, a Transformation Coach, and a Wellness Counselor. Teniola is the President and Founder of Women of Valor, an empowerment center, which enhances the wellness of women of color, in Baltimore, Maryland. She is a Capacity Builder, and an Author. She is Christ - Centered and a worthy visionary. In her role equipping a daring army of forerunners, who will trigger the tipping point on the systems of influence, she directs a propelling vision at PT Consult, and Theeseeds, setting a pace for excellence, and accelerating the tools needed to emerge and to foster humanitarian services as a global premier training center for transformational life coaching that blends spiritual principles with practical real- world application.

Professionally, Teniola earned her bachelor's degree in Computer Science and advanced, for her EMBA in International Relations and Developmental Experience across board, and among other certifications. She is a community leader in Baltimore, a Public Policy Consultant, and a humanitarian with several awards. She received her most recent Achievement Award, in 2021, for her outstanding contributions to the growth and expansion of minority women in the Greater Baltimore region. Teniola is a leading Voice, and a change maker. Teniola is committed as a social savior for the emergence of Global Grace-filled, Game-Changers, that will inclusively rebuild trust as the most valuable currency the world needs.

**Neilson Andrews – (2022 – 2024)** Neilson Andrews has been a member of the Board of the Baltimore County League for several years. She has served as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for two terms and as Treasurer for two terms. She serves on the Finance Committee and the Legislative Lunch. She has worked on publications with Sharalyn Luciani. Neilson and Betsy Sexton chaired the Capitol Steps fundraiser in 2016 and 2020. Neilson was the health reporter for Report on State Circle and substituted in 2013 as the Action Chair for the Maryland League.

She is the former executive director of the Baltimore County Medical Association where she worked for more than 25 years. At the BCMA, she focused on issues pertaining to the physician community and patients including legislative efforts in Annapolis and Washington. Neilson is a graduate of the Bryn Mawr School and Mary Baldwin College where she received a BA in Psychology.

**Wandra Ashley-Williams - 2022-2023:** Wandra Ashley-Williams is an accomplished senior management executive, community activist, and elected official with notable experience in diversified industries as well as public service. She holds key positions in the leadership of several community and civil rights organizations, including National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW), and the Maryland Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program (MEEHP) Advisory Workgroup. She is also Vice President of the Maryland State Conference of NAACP and serves on the NAACP National Board Environmental and Climate Justice Program Committee.

As her community involvement has expanded, so has her recognition as a community activist. She served on the Clean Energy Jobs Initiative Board of Directors where she advocated for the passage of the Maryland Clean Energy Jobs Act and is part of the Maryland Health Care for All! Coalitions. Her present legislative work centers on the Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice (CCEJ) Act and the coalition she has built, the Rebuild Maryland Coalition.

**Barbara Dezmon – 2022–2023:** Dr. Dezmon completed her doctorate in Education Policy, Planning, and Administration at the University of Maryland at College Park. Dr. Dezmon’s research on the impact of school climate on academic achievement of minority students has been cited in studies both nationally and internationally. Her work experience includes classroom teacher, administration, professional development, and community and business relations. Dr. Dezmon served as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Superintendent as well as Assistant to the Superintendent for Equity and Assurance in Baltimore County Public Schools, one of the largest districts in the nation.

Dr. Dezmon has also consulted and presented on a broad array of topics, including strategic planning, diversity, differentiation, student achievement, discipline, and culturally responsive education, to assist school districts and other organizations at local, state, and national levels. In addition to her work on committees and task forces in various arenas, she helped organize and served as chair of the Maryland State Department of Education’s Achievement Initiative for Maryland’s Minority Students (AIMMS) Steering Committee, which provided recommendations to improve practices related to the education of minorities as well as oversight and monitoring of minority student issues throughout Maryland. She has directed the production of a number of publications in Maryland, including the state’s initial landmark report on minority achievement and a succinct guide to school district planning. Dr. Dezmon had been recognized for contributing substantially to Maryland’s reaching a ranking as #1 in education nationally.

She is a long-standing member of the League of Women Voters contributing in a number of capacities. She continues to serve as State Education Chair for the Maryland State Conference NAACP and has provided assistance to the organization locally and nationally. Over the years, Dr. Dezmon’s efforts have been acknowledged by government civic leaders, from the Maryland State House to the White House, for her outstanding service to education as well as to social and civic organizations and activities. Throughout her career as well as personal life, she has worked to bring many positive changes in education for addressing the needs of students from varied racial, ethnic, and socio-economic backgrounds. She has worked tirelessly and undeterred to eradicate barriers and establish positive bonds between peoples. In both her personal and professional life, she has proven profound commitment to equity, civil rights, and the welfare of children.

**Jon Hyman – (2022-2024)** Jon Hyman is a Baltimore native, and a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park. He has had a long and distinguished career as an advertising copywriter and creative director. For the past 22 years, Jon has been a partner in The Breakthrough Group, a marketing and advertising firm located in Towson.

He has been a strong supporter of many of the issues advocated by the LWV. While living in Baltimore City, he was a member of the Right Rail Coalition and served as president of the Canton Square Homeowners Association. He is a member and hike leader for the Mountain Club of Maryland, the state's oldest and largest volunteer hiking organization. Jon's late wife, Sherry Hyman, was a long-time member of the LWV Baltimore County and served as the Treasurer for the State League until shortly before her passing in 2015.

**Stacey Morrison – (2022-2023)** Stacey Morrison has been a member of the LWV Baltimore County since Sept 2021 and currently serves as the editor of the monthly newsletter, *The Voter*, and as the coordinator for the League's advocacy. When she moved to Catonsville 20 years ago, Stacey stopped working for pay and dedicated her time to her family and to volunteering. She feels lucky that she was able to pursue so many interests – researching grants, planning, and executing events and conferences, facilitating foreign student exchange experiences, mentoring a teenage foster child, and managing a local theater's front of house.

Stacey's work has always been with non-profits and educational institutions, such as the ACLU, Herring Run Nursery, and Chesapeake Shakespeare Theater, to name a few. When she's not volunteering, Stacey enjoys outdoor activities, especially hiking and bike riding, as well as reading and watching films and plays. At home, she and her husband have been transforming their suburban yard into a native plant habitat for birds and pollinators.

**Nora Miller Smith – (2022 – 2024)** Nora Miller Smith grew up in New York City, and after graduating college with an English degree in the early 1970's, made the biggest break she could think of from city life and started working on an organic farm in Upstate New York. After getting her RN degree a few years later, she lived in Oregon and Virginia before settling in Baltimore County in the early 1980's, where she has lived with her family ever since.

She received an intensive education in the social determinants of health and health inequities by working for decades in Case Management in a Baltimore City hospital, learning first-hand that having health insurance- and thus reliable access to health care- will likely affect not only your quality of life but also your life expectancy. After retiring, and joining the LWV Baltimore County in 2021, she became lead of the League's healthcare advocacy team, working to improve healthcare access, affordability, and equity for all Maryland residents. She is looking forward to continuing this work with the League in the years to come.

Nora is an education volunteer at the Maryland Zoo and enjoys digging up as much of her lawn as possible to replace it with native plants for the birds, bugs, and butterflies. She is very grateful for everything she has learned and continues to learn from the League and its members.



## Past Presidents of LWV Baltimore County

Since our founding in 1941, volunteers have given their time and talents to the mission of the League of Women Voters in Baltimore County. Below are some of the past leaders of our organization. Although we've only listed presidents, these names represent the boards and members who volunteered during each change of leadership. We thank all our volunteers, with a special thanks to those who served in leadership roles.

1941-1945	Virginia Williamson	1991-1993	Alberta Eidman
1945-1946	Mrs. Lee E. Chadwick	1993-1996	Kay Terry
1946-1947	Mrs. E. Clayton Blake	1996-1999	Anne H. Lee
1947-1949	Mrs. Ervin Huber	1999-2003	Marjorie Slater-Kaplan
1949-1953	Mrs. C. Alfred Perry	2003-2005	Marcia Reinke
1953-1957	Margaret Shock	2005-2007	Caroline Seamon
1957-1959	Ruth Vaden Bosche	2007-2010	Marjorie Slater Kaplan
1959-1961	Mrs. Berthold Mueck	2010-2015	Tracy Miller
1961-1965	Lillian Hildenbrand		Betsy Sexton
1965-1967	Sue Schlenger	2015-2017	Camille Marx
1967-1971	Bert Booth		Caroline Seamon
1971-1974	Gloria Albinak	2017-2019	Camille Marx and
1974-1977	Evelyn Howard		Camille Wheeler
1977-1979	Phyllis Grimm	2019-2020	Camille Wheeler
1979-1981	Nell Richardson		Theresa Lawler
1981-1983	Carole Mackrell	2020-2021	Camille Wheeler
1983-1986	Sue Schlenger		Tana Hamilton Stevenson
1986-1987	Sali Kennedy		Ericka McDonald
	Dorothy Ruyak	2021-2023	Tana Hamilton
1987-1991	Patricia Kelly		Ericka McDonald



# LWV BALTIMORE COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON

*connect - recognize - inspire*

**Saturday, June 4, 2022 – Noon to 2:00 pm**

**Location:** Party Room at Hampton Plaza Apartments – 302 E. Joppa Road, Towson, MD 21286  
(Free guest parking at ground level, enter building from Joppa Road, bear right.)

**Guest Speaker:** Ruie Marie LaVoie, Director of Baltimore County Board of Elections

Cost for a box lunch is \$25 per person and includes salad or sandwich, fruit, dessert, and a drink.

**Reservations must be received no later than May 27, 2022, and may be made in one of two ways:**

Sign up and pay by PayPal or credit card online. <https://www.lwvbaltimorecounty.org/annual2022>

OR complete form below and mail with your check payable to League of Women Voters of Baltimore County, Inc. to the League office, 6600 York Road, Suite 211, Baltimore, Maryland 21212.

Questions? Call or email Maggie Lindgren, Office Manager, at (410) 377-8046 or [contact@lwvbaltimorecounty.org](mailto:contact@lwvbaltimorecounty.org).

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of guests attending: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 per person; check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Select one from the following choices:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Caesar salad with chicken

\_\_\_\_\_ Garden salad with chicken

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken salad with bacon on croissant

\_\_\_\_\_ Virginia baked ham and Swiss on Kaiser roll

\_\_\_\_\_ Veggie wrap, Vegan

\_\_\_\_\_ Caesar salad without chicken

\_\_\_\_\_ Garden salad without chicken

\_\_\_\_\_ Roasted turkey breast on Kaiser roll

\_\_\_\_\_ Rare roast beef and Muenster on Kaiser roll

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuna salad on Kaiser roll