



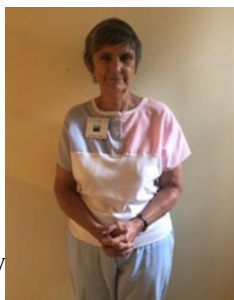
THE VOTER

Quarterly Newsletter

A Message From The President

By Eleanor Green

The last few months have been filled with activities involving the 2022 midterm elections —our League has indeed been extremely busy! Voter registration and information activities continued around the city both at Baltimore City public high schools and the Baltimore City Community College as well as at farmers’ markets and other community events. The second edition of the *Voters’ Guide*, oriented toward the general election, was published and distributed. It’s always extremely well received, and its information about charter and ballot questions is particularly useful since there’s usually not much information about them otherwise. Delegate Odette Ramos cited the *Guide* in her most recent newsletter.



Our new website is currently up and running. While we’re still working on editing and updating the text, the site now has a very attractive design and will serve us well in advertising the League and its activities.

We’re also pleased to welcome Lois Moseley as our newest board Director. Our board provides the leadership and oversight for our activities and authorizes funding and publicity materials for all our events and publications. Each of our directors is involved in numerous League undertakings.

Now that the midterms are behind us, we’re looking forward to moving ahead with many other activities, both new and ongoing. I expect that 2023 will be a productive year—many thanks to everyone who makes our League so very important to the community!

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Treasurer's Corner:

Dues & Donations

by **Barbara Dent, Treasurer**

Members of the League of Women Voters must pay annual dues in order to remain in good standing, hold office, and be able to cast votes on League issues. Renewals are due one year after the previous dues payment. LWV Baltimore City notifies members whose dues are about to expire via an automated email message sent from our NationBuilder database. In addition, I usually send out a reminder notice via email. Our new website has a direct link if you want to renew online or you may mail a check to our office.

My heartfelt thanks to those of you who renew your dues promptly when you know they are about to expire! Our Board recognizes that annual dues of \$60 is a substantial amount and we truly appreciate your support.

What you may not know is what happens to your dues payments. When you make a payment to us, you also become a member of LWV United States and of LWV Maryland. Therefore, out of your \$60 individual dues payment, \$32 goes to LWVUS and \$14 goes to LWVMD to support their activities. Just \$14 of your dues remains with LWV Baltimore City.

The dues we collect amount to just 21% of our current operating budget. This budget (approved at the Annual Meeting) supports rent for our office and satellite space at Open Works, payroll expenses for our part-time Office Administrator, and other ongoing costs. To meet these expenses, we must rely on donations to the operating account, fundraising efforts, and transfers from our Endowment Fund (which has taken a major hit in today's economy).

In addition to our operating or general fund account, we maintain a separate account for the Sadie Crockin Memorial Fund, Inc. (SCF). The SCF is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) entity that supports our voter education and registration activities (Time Is Now, Voters' Guide, candidate forums, etc.). Many individuals (members and non-members alike) make tax-deductible donations to the SCF. In addition, we receive grants from organizations such as Baltimore Votes and the John J. Leidy Foundation and also rely on transfers from our Endowment Fund. The annual budget for the SCF is also approved at our Annual Meeting.

If you are able to do so, we would appreciate donations of any amount to either the general operating account or to the SCF. Please know that donations to the operating account are not tax deductible but are no less important.

Our revised website makes it easy for you to make an on-line donation to either account. To donate to our general fund account, go to <https://www.lwv-baltimorecity.org/donate> . To donate to the tax exempt SCF account, go to https://www.lwv-baltimorecity.org/sadie_crockin_memorial_fund. Or you may mail a check made out to either LWV Baltimore City or to the Sadie Crockin Memorial Fun to our York Rd. office.

Thank you for your consideration of this appeal.

INTRODUCING:

New to the Board and League



Lois Y. Mosely - Board Member

Term 2022-2024

For seventeen years I have been a social studies teacher for the Baltimore City School system. Currently I am lead content teacher for American Govt at Mergenthaler Vocational High School.

I have been an active member at New Psalmist Baptist Church for the past twenty-seven years. I have served with the Hospitality ministry for over twenty years and currently have the role of team coordinator for the ministry. I am also a member of the social activism ministry at the church. I have been a member of the League of Women Voters for over a year and have participated in the Voter Ambassador program and voter registration drives.

WELCOME NEW LEAGUE MEMBERS

Maggie Osborn

Ramona Williams

James Peyton

Anita Hendrix

Maria Thompson

Marjorie Kanof and Jim Fackler

Interested in joining the Baltimore City League? Click [here](#).

We recognize that these are challenging economic times and LWV Baltimore City expresses it's sincere gratitude to the following individuals for their generosity to the League:

Thank you for a grant from the John J. Leidy Foundation, Inc., in support of the Sadie Crockin Memorial Fund

Also: Thank you for Donations to the League Operating Account and to the Sadie Crockin Memorial Fund since August

Evelyn Herzog

Eleanor Green

Toni Moore-Duggan

Alice Brown

Rosemary Faulkner

Duncan W. Keir

Barbara Dent

Mary Cooper and the Cooper Family Fund in Honor of Serena Baum

LEAGUE SOCIAL MEDIA

We are excited to share that the League [website](#) is now live! In addition to our website improvements, we want to take a minute to call attention to our other social media platforms. You can now find the League of Women Voters Baltimore City on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

We encourage all members to post pictures of themselves involved in League activities. Simply take a photo, post to your own Facebook or Instagram account and include the hashtag: **#lwbaltcity**



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**Empowering
Voters.
Defending
Democracy.
[Join Us](#)**



Front page of the new website. Click [here](#) to view.



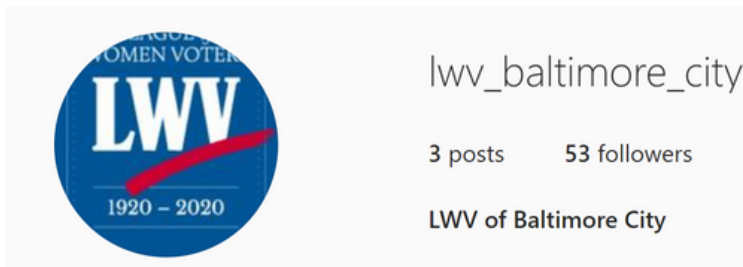
League of Women Voters of Baltimore City

@LWVBaltimoreCity • 5 1 review • Nonprofit organization

[Send message](#)

Hi! Please let us know how we can help.

LWV Baltimore City [Facebook Page](#)



LWV Baltimore City [Instagram Account](#)

VOTER REGISTRATION

The Voter Registration committee went to work for the City this election season at over 35 events and over 16 volunteers. We thank EVERY volunteer who supported our many registration events. We could not do this work without you!



Voter Registration drive with Barbara Corbin, Dr. Jason Johnson, and VP Deanna Ikhinmwim (r) at Morgan State University's School of Global Journalism and Communication

National Voter Registration Day at Frederick Douglas



Partnering with Baltimore Votes-Party at the Polls



Setting up Day Spring Gardens and at music in the park



Oct 11- Voter registration and volunteer recruitment at the No Boundaries Coalition Meeting

The Voter Registration Committee is taking a much needed holiday break for the month of December. Thank you for being a part of our many registration activities, The Time Is Now committee, and the Leaguers in the Library. May you and your loved ones take the time to appreciate the blessings in your lives, and have a peaceful, safe and happy holiday.

Best wishes,
Deanna Ikhinmwim

VOTER REGISTRATION

2023 PRIORITIES

by Deanna V. Ikhinmwin, 2nd Vice President

Former Incarcerated Persons' Voter Registration--

At this time, the League does not have relationships with any criminal justice organizations or incarcerated/formerly incarcerated people. To rectify this, we have partnered with the University of Maryland Baltimore County's Program Director for Community Leadership, Dr. Sally Scott. Through this Master's program, a capstone student from the Community Leadership program has volunteered to assist us in developing an engagement plan, scope, and strategy for outreach to this community. This student is already focused on criminal justice policy and reform and has built relationships with criminal justice oriented community organizations. Our hope is to build a long-standing partnership with this and/or other criminal justice related organizations for this effort and beyond. We also intend to have the voice of this community in our leadership, at our meetings, and directly involved in our future advocacy efforts. We see this as an important aspect of our DEI initiatives in the League.

This project is the third that LWV Baltimore City has partnered with UMBC on. Previous collaboration included The Time is Now and building Hispanic voter education, materials, and outreach in the Lakeland Community. We value our relationship with this vital community partner and hope to continue partnering on other projects in the future.

Revised Program for 2023: High School Voter Ambassador

The League of Women Voters of Baltimore City has created an exciting Voter Ambassador service learning program to encourage high school students to participate in the election process, register, and vote. Information concerning the high school Voter Ambassador education program is located below:

The theme will be the ABC's of Voting and will focus on establishing a partnership with four high schools during the 2023 Spring Semester. We plan to enroll 20 students per school who will be 16 years old or older.

The voting topics we will teach are: Voter Ambassador, Primary Election, General Election, and Poll Worker. The students will be registered to vote and be involved in planning school-wide voter registration activities.

Click [here](#) to volunteer for either program.

One-Year History:

The Time Is Now High School Voter Program

by Deanna V. Ikhinmwin, 2nd Vice President

The Time Is Now High School Voter Ambassador program was developed by the League of Women Voters in Baltimore City to address the voting concerns of young people in high school. Because youth have ideas, energy, and creativity but most importantly, are problem solvers, 10 committee members developed five interactive and innovative voter education components. The components are titled:

1. Why Vote--- Paige Bacon
2. Voter Registration--- Barbara Corbin
3. Baltimore City Elections--- Vicki Franco
4. Elections in the State of Maryland--- Megan Shook
5. Voting in the United States--- Meri Robi-Craven

2021 Fall semester, the voter education program occurred on Saturdays at the League's small office with twelve (12) students from Baltimore City College high school (BCC). In the 2022 Spring semester, the Voter Ambassador program moved to Mergenthaler Vocational (Mer Vo) high school. At this high school, the student enrollment in the Voter Ambassador program increased to thirty (30) students. The number of high school students was larger because the principal allowed the League to hold the Voter Ambassador program at Mergenthaler (Mer Vo) high school on Tuesdays during school hours.

Throughout the interactive Voter Ambassador program, students from both high schools were engaged in creative voter education activities. At the conclusion of the Voter Education Program, the Voter Ambassadors at both high schools organized two separate schoolwide massive Voter Registration Festivals during the 2022 Spring semester.

As a result of their hard work, hundreds of high school students at both schools are registered, as voters. Additionally, all the Voter Ambassadors received seventy-five (75) service-learning hours, a League of Women Voters award, and a City of Baltimore Certificate of Recognition from the mayor of Baltimore City.

In the Fall 2022 school year, the League of Women Voters took the Voter Ambassador Program to Franklin Douglass High School. The following voter education activities occurred.

A. Lunchtime Recruitment

1. Nineteen (19) students applied to be Student Ambassadors
2. Thirty (30) students became registered voters

B. Five (5) Thursday Voter Education sessions took place in October and November

C. A Voter Registration School-Wide Fair will be held in April 2023

2022 General Election

Voter's Guides

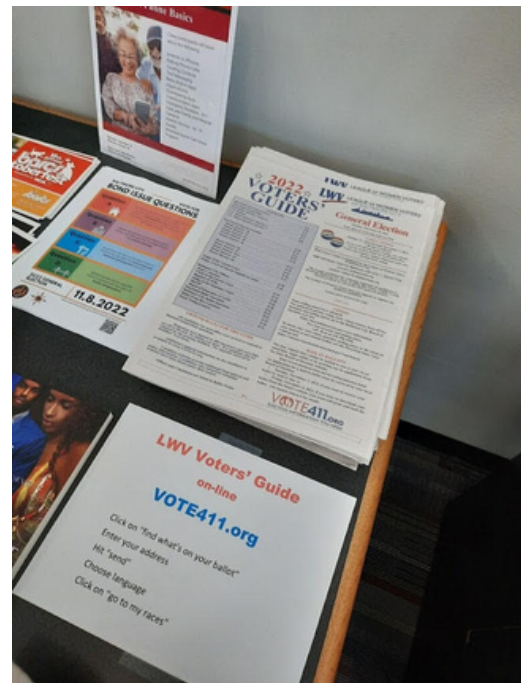
LWV Baltimore City thanks the Voter's Guide Committee for all their hard work this election season. We were able to distribute 5,000 voter guides across churches, neighborhoods, farmer's markets, libraries, and registration events. Due to the committee's diligence, the voter's guide was also available early in the election season on Vote 411. This work is vital to the League's mission to enable informed civic engagement in our community.

The following feedback from a city resident reflects the importance of this mission:

"I am writing to thank LWV MD and Baltimore City on the voter's guide information available on Vote 411. I live in Baltimore City but I am an absentee military voter in another state. I received my absentee ballot and was overwhelmed with all the offices that I need to make a decision on. I went to Vote 411 and searched for my home of record address and received a message that the voter's guide would be published later. I was curious and entered my Baltimore address and found the answers I was looking for, even understanding ballot questions (if I were voting in Maryland!). I am sure this same information will come out for my state at some point and I am grateful because it will support me in being an informed voter."



Delivering voter guides



League volunteers partner with Friends Of the Enoch Pratt Library to give away books at Graffiti Church Festival

2022 General Election

Candidate Forums

Thank you to our friends, LWVMD, who generously provided an update on the candidate forums conducted for the 2022 General Elections.

LWVMD co-hosted general election candidate forums for governor and comptroller and conducted individual interviews with the candidate for attorney general. Below are summaries of each forum, including attendance rates and links to videos of the forums and interviews. We are grateful to our co-sponsors—UB Schaefer Center for Public Policy, Maryland Nonprofits (MANO), MD Reporter, MD Matters, and MD Latinos Unidos—for their support in organizing and promoting these forums.

Comptroller Forum: The candidate forum for comptroller was held on October 6, 2022. Barry Glassman, Republican and Brooke Lierman, Democrat participated. Henry Bogdan, Policy and Advocacy Director at MANO hosted and John Kurtz, Maryland Matters moderated the forum. Link to the general election Comptroller Forum: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZDfSaZ6040>

Gubernatorial Forum: The gubernatorial candidate forum was held on October 13, 2022. Candidates Dan Cox, Republican, David Harding, Working Class Party, David Lasher, Libertarian, and Nancy Wallace, Green Party participated. Wes Moore, Democrat, was invited but declined. Ann Cotten, Director of the Schaefer Center for Public Policy at University of Baltimore hosted, and Len Lazarick, Maryland Reporter, and John Kurtz, Maryland Matters moderated the forum. Link to the general election gubernatorial forum: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6FDFz1MT0cI>

Attorney General Interviews: To accommodate a candidate's request, separate interviews were conducted with each candidate. The interview with Anthony Brown, Democrat took place on October 10, 2022. Michael Anthony Peroutka, Republican was interviewed on October 11, 2022. Nancy Soreng, LWVMD hosted and Len Lazarick, Maryland Reporter moderated both interviews.

- Link to Peroutka interview: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8AFr9x_XiSM
- Link to Brown interview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4P7cz3Jxyew>

Gubernatorial Forum at the Lewis Museum: The LWVMD also partnered with the Reginald F. Lewis Museum, Baltimore Votes, Black Girls Vote, NAACP, Out for Justice, and Greater Baltimore Urban League to sponsor a hybrid gubernatorial forum on October 3, 2022. Wes Moore (Democrat), David Harding (Working Class Party), David Lasher (Libertarian), and Nancy Wallace (Green Party) participated. Dan Cox had a scheduling conflict and declined. The forum was in person at the Museum with a virtual streaming option. Link to the Lewis Museum gubernatorial forum: <https://streamyard.com/ajf65a9ems8i>

Inclusionary Housing

by Vickiana Franco and Charmeda McCreary

The Baltimore Branch of the NAACP, Baltimore Renters United, Beyond the Boundaries, BRIDGE Maryland, Inc., Citizens Planning and Housing Association (CPHA), Community Development Network, SEIU 1199, and the Public Justice Center (PJC), are amongst numerous Baltimore area nonprofit and community organizations, volunteers along with Councilwoman Odette Ramos (District 14) to form a nonpartisan coalition, the Inclusionary Housing Coalition in support of Council Bill 22-0195, the Inclusionary Housing Bill. The former law sunsetted/expired on June 30, 2022. The coalition is working to pass an effective, equitable bill that produces units, free from loopholes. The LWV Baltimore City is proud to join this coalition.

Why it Matters: CB 22-0195 proposes a number of updates to Baltimore City's now-expired inclusionary housing law, to include:

- Eliminate the loopholes and waivers in the prior inclusionary housing law that made it a failure.
- Require every residential project over 20 units that receives major city subsidy or rezoning to set aside 10% of units as affordable. “Affordable” means that a household earning less than 60% of Area Median Income (AMI) (about \$55,740 for a family of two) would pay rent that is no more than 30% of their income.
- If the developer receives more subsidies, they must make units affordable to even lower incomes.
- Every inclusionary development must market affordable units to residents who have historically
- been excluded from new developments, including Black families, persons who use vouchers and
- other residents who have experienced discrimination.
- Enhances accountability and enforcement mechanisms
- Use affirmative marketing to market to marginalized communities including protected classes

The Coalition has been fighting alongside the Councilwoman to pass an effective law. Currently the IHC is in negotiations after a nearly 10 month fight with numerous City agencies and developers to pass an effective law.

This coalition meets weekly on Friday's at 10 am with councilwoman Ramos strategies, events, and legislative support required to move the Inclusionary Housing bill forward. The Inclusionary Housing Coalition often has social media action weekly. Follow #BmoreEquitable and #BmoreInclusionary. Board Member Argentine Craig will be the League spokesperson but we are looking for other League members who are passionate about housing issues in the city to join us in this advocacy. If you are that person, click [here](#) to provide your information and a League member will contact you with next steps.

Inclusionary Housing

What Do We Do About It? We will be sending out our first call to action requesting your support to contact your City Council representative to support CB 22-0195. Keep an eye out for the information email.

Take Action

Join the Real News Network & the Inclusionary Housing Coalition for the Tax Broke Documentary covering Baltimore City's tax credits program. Mon, December 12, 230pm-430pm. Register [here](#).

The Coalition also seeks to fill the Council on 12/12 @ 5 pm during the work session in-person. Arrive early at 4:30 p.m. and bring your Drivers License or Government ID.

Click [here](#) for the initial op-ed on this topic.

Click [here](#) for a quick overview of the bill by WMAR Channel 2.

Click [here](#) to track the Baltimore City legislative process for this bill.

Click [here](#) for the recent Inclusionary Hearing, held on November 17.

Click [here](#) for a fact sheet on the bill.

COMMITTEES

Please email info@lwvbaltimorecity.org if you are interested in learning more and/or would like to get involved.

The League is heading into another exciting year of service to Baltimore City. See the list below for all League of Women Voters Committees 2022-2023 to get involved.

Endowment Management Committee

Sally Grant (Chair)
Eleanor Green (ex officio)
Barbara Dent (ex officio)
Virginia Richardson
Paul Walker

Budget Committee

Barbara Dent (ex officio)
Eleanor Green (ex officio)
Sally Grant (ex officio)
Sherry Phillips

Finance Committee

Sally Grant (Chair)

Nominating Committee

Flo Valentine (Chair)
Lois Hybl (elected)
Nancy Lawler (elected)
Millie Godfrey (elected)
(Paige Bacon (appointed)
Vickiana Franco (appointed)
Deanna Ikhinmwin (appointed)

Communications and Online Services Committee

Vickiana Franco (Chair)
Makeda Scott

Voter Data Analysis Project

Nancy Lawler
Flo Valentine
Sam Novey
Dawn Teele

Membership Committee

Billie Roberts Spann (Chair)
Flo Valentine
Sam Novey
Karin Kendrick
Toni Moore-Duggan
Roslyn Smith

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Toni Moore-Duggan (Chair)
Mary Ellen Vanni
Flo Valentine
Teresa Leslie
Sally Grant
Sam Novey

Voter Registration and Recruitment Committee

Deanna Ikhinmwin (Chair)
Juliet Aze Paige Bacon Joyce Chapman
Barbara Corbin Vicki Franco
Nancy Lawler Akosua Lee Megan Shook
Meri Robie-Craven Lois Moseley Roberta Van Meter

Committee to Prepare Voters' Guide (election years only)

Nancy Lawler Sam Novey
Toni Moore-Duggan Lu Pierson
Billie Roberts Spann Sally Grant Lois Hybl
(Vote 411)

Upcoming Events

21 December 5-7pm: Meet & Greet
1400 Greenmount Ave, Baltimore, MD 21202

Open Works
RSVP here

**League Board meetings are held over Zoom
the first Tuesday of every month.**

All League members are welcome to observe.

Please contact admin@lwvbaltimorecity.org to confirm meeting dates and links!

**For more information on Committees and Events,
please visit www.lwv-baltimorecity.org**

Thank you to all of our
newsletter contributors!

- Vickiana Franco, Newsletter Editor



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