

LWVNashville Leadership Team and Portfolio Chairs
2021-2023 & 2022-2024

President, 2022-2024: Lara Webb

Co 1st Vice President, 2021, 2022-2024: Karen Wieckert

Co 1st Vice President, 2022-2024: Melissa Hanson

(The position of 2nd Vice President has been omitted.)

Secretary, 2021, 2022-2024: Elise Lamar

Treasurer, 2021, 2022-2024: Susan Mattson

Immediate Past President, 2022-2023: Madeline Garr

Portfolio Chairs:

Communications Chair, 2021 & 2022-2024: Ophelia Doe

Community Connections Co-Chair, 2021 & 2021-2023: Sabina Mohyuddin

Community Connections Co-Chair, 2021 & 2021-2023: Katelyn Benhoff

Education Co-Chair, 2022-2024: La’Kishia Harris

Education Co-Chair, 2022-2024: Harper-Grace Niedermeyer

Environment Co-Chair, 2020-2022, 2022-2024: Russanne Buch-Fotre

Environment Co-Chair, 2022-2024: Kalen Russell

Fundraising Co-Chair, *(A determination has been made that there is not a critical need to fill this position for the 2022-2023 year.)*

Healthcare/Public Health Co-Chair, 2021, 2022-2024: Clare Sullivan

Healthcare/Public Health Co-Chair, 2021, 2022-2024: Constance Caldwell

Membership Chair, 2022-2024: Reba Holmes

Metro Government Co-Chair, 2021 & 2021-2023: Pat McCauley

Metro Government Co-Chair, 2021, 2022-2024: Jack McFadden

(The Voter is now being done by the Communications Chair.)

Voter Services Co-Chair, 2021 & 2021-2023: Beth Gordon

Voter Services Co-Chair, 2021 & 2021-2023: Allison Hamer

Voter Services Co-Chair, 2021 & 2021-2023: Emily Grohs

Williamson County Representative, 2020-2022, 2022-2024: June Bond

Submitted by the 2021-2022 Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee Co-Chairs: **Senator Brenda Gilmore and Betsy Walkup**

Nominating Committee Members: **Constance Caldwell, Hasina Mohyuddin,
Russanne Buch-Fotre, and Brenda Wynn**

LWVN Strategic Focus (2021-2022)

In addition to the positions adopted by The League of Women Voters at the state-level (LWVTN), the members of the Nashville League (LWVN) have adopted the following positions to guide their Strategic Focus for 2021-2022.

- 1. LWVN provides resources for current and emerging voters:**
 - Voter registration, including outreach to under-represented voters
 - Voter information regarding upcoming elections and candidates
 - “Hot Topics” programs that inform the community about complex issues
 - Candidate forums
 - Support for restoration of voting rights for former felons
- 2. LWVN advocates for free, fair, and transparent election processes:**
 - Secure, accurate voting procedures with voter-verified paper trails
 - Full implementation of the Voting Rights Advancement Act
 - Poll watching and reports for the public
- 3. LWVN advocates for public policies to address needs of Nashville residents:**
 - High quality public education
 - Efficient and accessible transportation options — biking, walking and mass transit
 - Environmentally responsible reduction and management of waste
 - Sustainable approaches to land use, growth, and development
 - Improved access to high quality health care for Nashville residents
 - Sensible gun control measures requiring background checks and restriction of guns in public places
 - Programs to reduce poverty and promote self-sufficiency
 - Efforts to sustain Nashville’s efforts as a welcoming city for immigrants and refugees

Bylaws
The League of Women Voters of Nashville, Tennessee

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Nashville, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as the LWVN or as the League. The LWVN is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and of the League of Women Voters of Tennessee (LWVTN).

ARTICLE II

Purposes and Policies

Section 1. Purposes. The purposes of LWVN are:

1. To promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government.
2. To act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. The policies of LWVN are:

1. Political Policy

- a. The LWVN shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

2. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

- a. LWVN is fully committed to ensure compliance – in principle and in practice – with the LWVUS’ Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policies of the LWVN shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership:

1. **Voting Members.** Persons at least 16 years of age who join the LWVN shall be voting members of the LWVN, the LWVTN, and the LWVUS.

- a. Individuals who live within the area of the LWVN may join the LWVN or any other local League;
- b. Those who reside outside the area of the LWVN may join the LWVN or may be a state member-at-large (MAL);
- c. Those who are older than 85 and who are members of the League are excused from the payment of dues.

ARTICLE IV

Board of Directors

Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection, and Term of Office. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the LWVN and as many as sixteen (16) elected directors serving two-year terms. In order to ensure continuity of the board through overlapping terms of office, half of the directors shall be elected in even-numbered years; half shall be elected in odd-numbered years. All Board members shall serve their designated terms or until their successors have been elected and qualified. Officers and directors shall be eligible to serve for not more than six consecutive years in the same capacity.

Section 2. Qualifications. No person shall be elected or appointed nor shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless he/she is a voting member of the LWVN. No person shall be elected or appointed if he/she holds a political office.

Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of the resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member may be filled by appointment, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Members of the Board are expected to attend all board meetings unless otherwise excused by the President of the Board.

Section 4. Powers and Duties. The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization with full power and authority to manage and conduct same. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the strategic focus as adopted by the National Convention, the State Convention, and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

Section 5. Meetings.

- A. Regular Meetings.** There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The president may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and/or shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board. An executive committee composed of the elected officers shall make necessary decisions between monthly board meetings.
- B. Electronic Meetings.** Although most board meetings will probably take place in person, meetings may be held by electronic means (such as telephone conferencing, video conferencing, or e-mail) provided that the technology is available to all board members. E-mail may be used for “special meetings” only and conducted following LWVN Board procedures adopted to allow discussion and debate. Action taken will be recorded in the minutes of the next regular board meeting.
- C. Quorum.** A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V

Officers

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The Officers of the LWVN shall be president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. They shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting and take office July 1. Nothing herein shall preclude the election of co-presidents.

Section 2. The President. The president shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors. The president may, in the event of the absence, disability, resignation, or death of the treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes. The president shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The president shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the president and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board. In the event of the absence, disability, resignation or death of the president, the two vice-presidents, in the order of their rank (i.e., first or second), shall possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office until the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy, preferably from the Board membership.

In the event of the absence, disability, resignation, or death of a president, the co-president or vice president shall possess all the powers and perform all the duties of the office of the president until the Board shall fill the vacancy, preferably from the Board Membership.

Section 3. The Vice-President. The vice-president shall perform such duties as the president and the Board may designate.

Section 4. The Secretary. The secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors. The secretary shall sign, with the president, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board of Directors and shall perform such other functions as may be incidental to the office of secretary.

Section 5. The Treasurer. The treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due. If approved by the Board of Directors, this responsibility may be delegated to a LWVN administrator as long as the treasurer reviews bank and investment statements, including cancelled checks on a monthly basis. The treasurer shall be the custodian of these moneys and shall disburse them for expenditures authorized in the budget or by the Board. The treasurer shall present periodic statements to the Board at its regular meetings and an annual report to the membership at the annual meeting. An annual financial review shall take place by a committee consisting of at least one board member and one voting member-at-large).

ARTICLE VI

Financial Administration

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

Section 2. Dues.

A. Annual dues shall be determined, on recommendation of the Board of Directors, by a majority of voting membership present and voting at an annual meeting. Any proposal for dues changes must be sent to the membership 30 days before the annual meeting at which the change is to be considered. The amount of annual dues determined in the manner set

forth above shall remain in effect until such time as the amount is changed in accordance with the procedure stated in this section.

B. Annual dues shall be payable July 1. Any member, other than those 85 years of age or older, who fails to pay dues by October 1 shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

C. When two or more members reside at the same address in a common household, the first member shall pay annual dues in the full amount; each other member shall pay dues as shall be determined, on recommendation of the Board of Directors, by a majority of voting membership present and voting at an annual meeting.

Section 3. Budget. A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption and shall be sent to all members one month in advance of the Annual Meeting. The budget shall include support for the work of the LWVN as a whole.

Section 4. Budget Committee. A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The treasurer shall serve as a member, but not as chair, of this committee.

Section 5. Fundraising Committee. The Fundraising Committee shall plan and conduct a drive for financial contributions. The plans shall be coordinated with the work of the Budget Committee subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of a dissolution for any cause of the LWVN, all monies and securities, which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Nashville, shall be paid to the LWVTN after the Board of Directors of the LWVN has paid or made provision for payment of all the liabilities of the LWVN. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed, which may at the time be owned or under the control of the LWVN shall be disposed of by an officer of the organization having possession of same to such person, organization, or corporation, for such public, charitable, or educational uses and purposes as may be designated by the then Board of the LWVN.

ARTICLE VII

Meetings

Section 1. Membership Meetings. The Board is responsible for planning periodic events each year for general membership participation.

Section 2. Special Meetings. The Board may call a special membership meeting and shall call such a meeting upon the written request of one-tenth of the voting members.

Section 3. Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting shall be held between May 1 and July 1, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. Membership shall receive notice of the Annual meeting no less than 30 days prior to the scheduled date of the Meeting. The Annual Meeting shall:

- A. Adopt a strategic focus for the ensuing year;
- B. Elect officers and directors and the chair and two members of the nominating committee;
- C. Adopt an adequate budget;
- D. Transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 4. Quorum. One-tenth of the voting membership shall constitute a quorum at annual meetings of the LWVN.

ARTICLE VIII

Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee. The nominating committee shall consist of at least five members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The two Board members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. The chair and at least two members, who shall not be members of the Board, shall be elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Suggestions for nominations for officers and directors may be sent to this committee by any voting member. The members of the nominating committee may serve for up to six years unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors or the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. Report of Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor.

The report of the Nominating Committee containing its nominations for officers, directors, and three members of the next nominating committee, including its chair, shall be sent to all members one month before the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the nominating committee shall be presented to the Annual Meeting. Immediately following presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee has been secured.

Section 3. Elections. The election shall be by voice acclamation of the nominating committee slate unless there is more than one nominee for each office in which case ballots will be required. A majority vote of voting members present and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE IX

Principles and Strategic Focus

Section 1. Principles. The Principles are concepts of government supported by the LWVUS and are the authorization for adoption of national, state, and local strategic focus. They may be amended by the LWVUS Convention.

Sections 2. Strategic Focus. The strategic focus of the LWVN shall consist of:

- A.** Action to implement the Principles of the LWVUS with the awareness that Leagues may act on any national issue only in conformity with positions taken by the LWVUS;
- B.** Those local governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action;
- C.** Action to support those positions established by member agreement; limited to the area served by the LWVN unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Directors of the LWVTN or the LWVUS.

Section 3. Action by the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Strategic Focus using the following procedures:

- A.** The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations received from voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a proposed Strategic Focus.

B. The Strategic Focus shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting.

C. A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Strategic Focus as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.

D. Recommendations for the Strategic Focus submitted by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by the Annual Meeting, provided that:

- The Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote.
- The Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.

Section 4. Changes in the Strategic Focus. Changes in the Strategic Focus in the case of altered conditions may be made provided that all of the following apply:

A. Information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed;

B. Final action may be taken at the general meeting provided that attendance at said meeting shall constitute a quorum;

C. Proposed change shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting for adoption.

Section 5. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the LWVN only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors; LWVN members may act in the name of the LWVTN or the LWVUS only when authorized to do so by the appropriate board.

ARTICLE X

National Convention, State Convention, and Council

Section 1. National Convention. The Board of Directors shall select delegates to the national convention at a meeting prior to the date on which the names of the delegates must be sent to the national office. The number of delegates is determined by the LWVUS. The local board may elect to send fewer delegates than the allotment.

Section 2. State Convention. The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office, shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted by the LWVN under the provisions of the Bylaws of the LWVTN.

Section 3. State Council. The Board of Directors, at a meeting prior to the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office, shall select delegates to that council in the number allotted the LWVN under the provisions of the Bylaws of the LWVTN.

ARTICLE XI

Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

Section 1. Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

Originally adopted in 1948. Amended April 19, 2005; May 2007; and May 17, 2012.

**League of Women Voters of Nashville Budget
Fiscal Year July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023**

Beginning Balance (est.)	\$65,000
Income	\$32,800
Memberships	15,000
General Contributions – Operating Funds	2,000
General Contributions – Ed Fund (501c3)	10,000
Fundraising Events/Projects	5,000
Youth Voter Grant	800
Expenses	\$40,525
Fundraising Expenses	3,000
General Administration	11,000
Administrative Assistant	8,000
Email Services	600
Text Message Service	200
PayPal Fees	600
Bank Charges & Financial Software	100
P.O. Box Rental	200
Supplies, Printing, Postage	600
Web Hosting & Other Comm. Software	700
Member Services	2,000
Annual Meeting	500
Board Meeting Expense	500
Convention Delegate	1,000
Affiliation Dues to LWVTN and LWVUS	9,725
National	6,224
State	3,501
Voter Services	14,800
Community Forums	2,500
Community Outreach (VOTE411 Promotion)	10,000
LWVUS Youth Voter Grant	800
Hot Topics Programs/ Meeting Space	500
Voter Services (misc.)	1,000
Ending Balance (est.)	\$57,275