



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Board Briefing – Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

The LWVCO Board of Directors met virtually on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Most meeting time was dedicated to discussing revised Policies and Procedures, LWVCO Board portfolios, and announcements about LWVCO's 2021 Convention. Five policies and a Community Shares Fund Sharing Proposal were approved in the consent agenda. Notably, this proposal specifies LWVCO will share 50% of the funds generated through LWVCO's membership in the workplace giving organization, Community Shares, with Colorado chapters. Funds will be divided based on membership numbers as reported to LWVUS each year and shall be used at each Colorado League's discretion; no reporting is to be required. LWVCO expects this revenue will be significant for Local Leagues.

### **Policies Discussion & Votes**

Five policies passed through the consent agenda, and three were removed and discussed in detail.

1. To start, the Board amended language in Policy 109.00 – Membership & Dues to specify free student membership to LWVCO is dependent on being in a degree-seeking program. The Board and staff recognized this isn't a regular challenge, and LWVCO has historically had few student Members-At-Large. LWVCO encourages members to join at the local level.
2. Second, the Board discussed using "Annual Meeting" in place of "Convention" in Policy 110.00 - Annual Meeting. They agreed all references to "Council" and "Convention" in Policies and Procedures will be changed to "Annual Meeting" following the membership's vote on the amended Bylaws at Convention.
3. Finally, the Board discussed Policy 101.01 – Nominating Committee. Irene Tynes led the conversation, reiterating the largest proposed changes to the nominating committee. The Board decisively agreed the nominating committee will be chaired by a member of the LWVCO Board, and this responsibility will be a Board member's full portfolio. Additionally, the nominating committee will operate year-round, and the nominating committee will select their Chair when submitting the slate of proposed Board members prior to the Annual Meeting.

In conclusion, the Board voted to accept all three policies with minor edits.

### **Nominating Slate Discussion & Vote**

Barb Whinery presented the slate of proposed board of directors, as submitted by the nominating committee. The nominating committee considered and interviewed six candidates and have proposed four individuals join the LWVCO Board. Barb spoke about each, noting that LWVCO is still in search of a Development Director.

In addition to outlining the incoming Board members, she announced Bonnie Seals will serve another term as Treasurer, and Rionda Osman, Director of Technology, and Gerry Cummins, Director of Voter Service, will step down from the Board. The Board celebrated Rionda and Gerry's dedication and service to LWVCO.

The Board formally accepted the nominating slate, and it will proceed to a vote by the full membership at LWVCO's 2021 Convention.

### **Convention 2021 Review:**

Barb Whinery presented the LWVCO 2021 Convention agenda in detail. In summary, LWVCO's Convention is a gathering of all members and local leagues to do business, celebrate, and network. Gerry Cummins will serve as

parliamentarian, and Beth Hendrix is working on determining the keynote speaker. The Board excitedly discussed potential options.

### **Local League Support Director Discussion**

The Board discussed the Local League Support Director portfolio and its relevance now that LWVCO's staff team has grown. Despite there being concerns the position is redundant, the Board concluded the portfolio will remain. They believe the position is most relevant when Local League Leadership is lacking, and the LWVCO staff does not have capacity to address those challenges. They determined active outreach to Local Leagues is necessary, even if needs ebb and flow. Finally, Beth suggested introducing a Board mentorship program to support incoming Board members with little League experience.

### **Positions for Action Conversation & Vote**

Toni Larson outlined LWVCO's program planning process and the steps LWVCO needs to take ahead of Convention. LWVCO had asked Local League's to submit new ideas for study and positions, and Toni shared their responses. She additionally shared her proposed responses to each of the Local Leagues suggestions regarding law enforcement, hydraulic fracturing, and healthcare.

- The law enforcement and hydraulic fracturing requests were deemed unnecessary, but additions could be added to LWVCO's Positions for Action & Advocacy. Toni suggested LWVCO remind Local Leagues to use all the positions together and not making these specific changes.
- To address the first of the Healthcare suggestions, Toni suggested expanding the definition of "physician."
- Finally, to address the second Healthcare-orientated suggestion, Toni recommended a limited study to define "science-based public health infrastructure." The Board discussed the necessity of using the word "science" and briefly considered "evidence based."

The Board voted to accept these responses to Local Leagues, and decided to ask LWV of Larimer County, who submitted the Healthcare suggestions, to provide more detail before the Board votes on the "science-based public health infrastructure" suggestion.

### **Long-Term Goals Discussion**

The Board continued their ongoing discussion about setting new long-term goals for LWVCO. Beth reviewed examples and suggestions, and Karen will continue to solicit feedback in the coming weeks. In summary, LWVCO is challenged by LWVUS's current effort to address gerrymandering because LWVCO has already worked to enact Amendments Y&Z. The Board discussed action-orientated goals around equity, including education and broadband access initiatives. Additionally, they discussed LWVCO's role in promoting Colorado's effective voting system to other states and the tribalism LWVCO experiences with other Colorado organizations. Beth Hendrix established a goal to determine LWVCO's new long-term goals in the summer, following the New Board Orientation.

The LWVCO Board of Directors will meet again on May 12<sup>th</sup>.