



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF COLLIER COUNTY
2008 ANNUAL MEETING
April 21, 2008, 10—11:30AM
Collier Athletic Club

Contents

Report of the Nominating Committee 1
 Proposed 2008-2009 Budget—General Fund 2
 Proposed 2008-2009 Budget—Education Fund 3
 2007-2008 Committee Annual Reports 4
 Proposed Revisions to Bylaws 6
 Proposed 2008-2009 Program—General Fund 7
 Proposed 2008—2009 Program — Education Fund..... 11

LWVCC Nominating Committee Report for 2008-2009

In accordance with LWVCC Bylaws, the following slate of officers and directors is submitted for election by the membership at the Annual Meeting. (**Bold** type = officers/directors proposed in 2008.)

Officers

<i>President</i>	Chris Straton	04/08 - 04/09
<i>1st Vice President</i>	Lydia Galton	04/08 - 04/09
<i>2nd Vice President</i>	Vacant	04/08 - 04/10
<i>Secretary</i>	Kathleen Slobodnik	04/08 - 04/09
	— <i>Completing 2nd year of Jeannette Boucher's term</i>	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Marjorie Joder	04/08 - 04/10

Directors

Marilyn Bogen	04/08 - 04/10
Bernice Schmelz	04/08 - 04/10
Stu Warshauer	04/08 - 04/10
Rose DiBiasi	04/07 - 04/09
Joyce Evans	04/07 - 04/09
Anne Lewallen	04/07 - 04/09
— <i>Completing 2nd year of Carole Soling's term</i>	

The 2009 Nominating Committee

Sheilah Crowley, Chair
Linda Denning
Kathy Ryan

Submitted by the 2008 Nominating Committee: Kathleen Slobodnik (Chair), Joan Byerhoff, Rose DiBiasi, and Joyce Evans.

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PROPOSED BUDGET		LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF COLLIER COUNTY ACTION FUND - 4/01/08-3/31/09			
		BUDGET	PROJECTED	PROPOSED	
		07 - 08	ACTUAL	08-09	
RECEIPTS					
COLLIER COUNTY DUES		\$2,769	75% \$2,505	100%	\$3,250
LUNCH MEETINGS	NET	300	0		0
CONTRIBUTIONS		2,457	1,183		1,200
BRAGGING CONTRIBUTIONS			30		
TOTAL		\$5,526.00	\$3,718		\$4,450
EXPENSES					
RENT-STORAGE	50%	\$720	\$674		\$700
TELEPHONE	50%	240	210		215
SUPPLIES & POSTAGE		200	88		100
INSURANCE	50%	550	558		558
STATE FILING FEES		61	61		61
POST OFFICE BOX	50%	20	20		25
MEMBERSHIP		200	350		350
ROSTER		160	0		160
NAT'L CONV/COUNCIL	50%	500	500		500
SEMINARS/CONF.		900	150		456
VOTER PRINTING		350	300		300
VOTER POSTAGE		175	100		100
COALITION DUES		50	50		50
STATE LOBBY FUND		200	200		200
CONTINGENCY DUES		600	0		0
GOVERNMENT COMM.		250	122		125
SOCIAL COMMITTEE		100	0		0
JUSTICE COMMITTEE		100	0		0
NATURAL RESOURCES COMM		150	218		150
CONTINGENCY FUND					400
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$5,526	\$3,601		\$4,450
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)			\$117		
NAT'L & STATE DUES PAYOUT		\$4,373	\$4,361		\$0
SURPLUS REDUCTION			(\$4,244)		
SURPLUS 3/31/07			10,835		
RETAINED SURPLUS 3/31/2008			\$6,591		
STATE AND NATIONAL DUES PAYABLE 7/1/08 - 08 ARE SHOWN AS LIABILITY ON BALANCE SHEET NOT RECORDED AS INCOME TO LOCAL CHAPTER					

PROPOSED BUDGET	LWV OF CC EDUCATION FUND 4/1/08/3/31/09		
	BUDGET	PROJECTED	PROPOSED
INCOME	07-08	ACTUAL	08-09
COLLIER COUNTY DUE: ES-25%	\$923	\$784	\$0
CONTRIBUTIONS	1,308	2,461	2,000
ADOPT A PRECINCT NET	1,000	1,435	2,400
EDUC. LUNCH MEETINGS NET	900	1,431	1,300
GET OUT THE VOTE CONTEST NET		167	0
TOTAL INCOME	\$4,131	\$6,278	\$5,700
EXPENSES			
STORAGE RENT	\$720	\$674	\$700
TELEPHONE	240	210	215
SUPPLIES/POSTAGE	100	99	100
INSURANCE	550	558	558
STATE FILING	61	61	61
POST OFFICE BOX	20	20	25
NAT'L CONV/COUNCIL	500	500	685
VOTER'S SERVICES	200	25	700
VOTER'S GUIDE	1,000	250	350
WEB SITE FEES	540	557	708
CONTINGENCY DUES INC FL	200	683	683
INC NATL		0	583
PROGRAM			232
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$4,131	\$5,637	\$ 5,700
TENTATIVE- SURPLUS-(DEFICIT)		\$2,641	
NAT'L & STATE DUES PAID	\$1,458	\$1,454	*0
7/1/2007			
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		\$1,187	
SURPLUS 3/31/07		7,430	
RETAINED SURPLUS (TENTATIVE)		\$8,617	
*STATE & NATIONAL DUES PAYABLE 7/1/08 ARE SHOWN AS LIABILITY ON BALANCE SHEET NOT REFLECTED IN INCOME FOR YEAR			

LWVCC COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE — *Submitted by Sandy Parker, Chair*

Under the Education part of our Program, we hosted **Leaders and Lunch** programs featuring County Commissioner Donna Fiala, County Manager Jim Mudd, Superintendent of Schools Dennis Thompson, and Naples City Manager Bill Moss. Thank you to Arlene Shapiro and Jennifer Walker for co-chairing this series. Joyce Evans chaired our **charter government study**, with team members Lydia Galton, Crystal Kinzel, Sandy Parker, Carole Soling and Chris Straton. The goal was to determine the pros and cons of charter government for Collier County and develop criteria that the LWVCC can use to evaluate any proposed Collier County charter. Considerable progress was made, but ultimately the BCC voted not to form a committee to consider charter government at this time. During the legislative session, we held weekly **Coffee & the Capitol Report** discussions of legislative activity in areas of League priorities. C&CR participants include(d) Sheilah Crowley, Chris Straton, Ann DiCamillo, Anne Allen, Anne Lewallen, Asia Alsbree, Joan Byerhof, Rose DiBiasi, Joyce Evans, Judy Salzer, Jutta Parsons, Kate Henry, Kathleen Slebodnick, Evelyn Touhsaent, Wendy Riedel, Kathy Ryan, Linda Penniman, Lydia Galton, Mary Schell, and Nancy White. My apologies if I left anyone out.

Under the Action/Advocacy part of our Program, we initiated an **Observer Corps** to monitor Board of County Commissioners and School Board meetings. Thanks to Susan Bookbinder, Lydia Galton, Barbara Karp, Anne Lewallen, Trudy Rech and Cecile Rivel for attending BCC meetings, and to Rose DiBiasi and Gail DiMaggio for attending School Board meetings. Chris Straton presented League priorities to the Collier County **Legislative Delegation** in December, and Chris and Sandy Parker met with Rep. Garrett Richter and Sen. Burt Saunders to conduct the pre-session **Legislative Interviews** requested by the state League. Kathleen Slebodnick represented us at the LWV of Florida's annual **Legislative Seminar** in Tallahassee. Eight **Action Alerts** received from the national and state Leagues were forwarded by Action Chair Sandy Parker requesting members to write or call their legislators on various League priorities. Finally, Steve Weisberg, Rose DiBiasi and Anne Allen represented the League on the **Collier County Non-Discrimination Coalition**.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE — *Submitted by Nancy Wolfe, Chair*

The responsibility of the Hospitality Chairman was to make arrangements for the monthly general meeting at the Collier Athletic Club. Thanks to Anne Lewallen for her help at the monthly general meetings and taking the responsibility for a delightful Holiday Party. Thanks also to the Athletic Club's staff member, Liz Sanders, for her assistance. Attendance at the monthly meeting at the Collier Athletic Club varied from twenty-five to thirty nine at the buffet luncheon with additional members and guests attending just the programs. LWVCC members need to keep in mind the necessity of canceling lunch reservations in a timely fashion if necessary and to remember that they may attend just the program if it is inconvenient to attend the luncheon.

JUSTICE COMMITTEE — *Submitted by Bernice Schmelz, Chair*

The Justice Committee ended the 2007 season with a very informative visit to the new PACE (Practical Academic Cultural Education) Center for Girls in Immokalee and began the 2007-08 year learning more about PACE statewide from Department of Juvenile Justice Secretary Walter McNeill at the PACE banquet in Naples. The committee continued to learn about juvenile

(Continued on next page)

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(Committee Annual Reports — Justice —Continued from previous page)

justice with presentations from: Michell McCarthy, Circuit 20 Commitment Manager, on various Department of Juvenile Justice commitment programs; Mara Marzano, State Attorney's Office, on juvenile diversion programs such as the new Truancy Court; and Carol Fritsch, Court Administration, who explained Teen Court. In March and April the committee will meet with Judge Lauren Brodie to observe two sessions of juvenile court and discuss procedures and needs of the court and Bill Jordan, Superintendent of the Collier Regional Juvenile Detention Center, for a presentation and tour. Kerri Hixson, Chair of the Collier Coalition Against Human Trafficking, updated the committee on human trafficking issues and local needs.

Committee members Ann Allen, who serves as liaison to the Collier Coalition Against Human Trafficking; Ann Campbell, who serves as our contact with the Collier County Substance Abuse Coalition; Barbara Bartlett, a member of the Collier Regional Detention Center Advisory Committee; and Chris Straton, who has kept us abreast of activities involving restoration of rights of former felons, deserve special recognition for their work and support. In addition, the committee chair serves on the Collier County Juvenile Justice Council and monitors the work of the Juvenile Assessment Center Advisory Committee. Thanks as well to the following committee members who have shown their interest and support: Marilyn Bogen, Sheilah Crowley, Gail DiMaggio, Asia Elsbree, Renee Hansen, Linda Hyde, Anne Lewallen, Lilian Lopes, Sandy Parker, Estelle Rauch, Dorothy Senft, Marty Soffey, Carole Soling, Maureen Sullivan-Hartung, and K.T. Todd.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE — Submitted by Bonnie Michaels, Co-Chair

Efforts this year include implementing a new strategic plan, developing a public natural resources survey, holding a town meeting, monitoring environmental committees such as the Rural Lands Development, Watershed Planning, East 951 Planning, Habitat Conservation Plan, Immokalee Planning and Development, as well as speaking out on environmental issues in Collier County. Some of those issues were the Hussey Mine, the Dunes Boat Dock, the Fertilizer Ordinance, and Pepper Ranch. Thanks to Chris Straton, Sandy Parker, Ann Campbell, Donna Gillroy, Nicole Ryan, and Linda Penniman.

SOCIAL POLICY COMMITTEE — Submitted by Ann Campbell, Chair

Monthly breakfast meetings were held at Crissy's Wild Side Café from November through March with a final meeting of the season to be held on April 9. As usual, our members were impressed with the dedication and quality of the individuals who serve our community in the fields of health care and human services. In November Mary Ann McCarty, RN, brought understanding and perspective concerning funding for SCHIP and the potential impact on Florida's Healthy Kids/KidCare Program. In December, Nicole Howard of Child Care of Southwest Florida talked about the growing pains around the Voluntary Pre-K Program and other issues related to early childhood education. The January meeting focused on two programs of concern to the League that were reportedly being threatened by cutbacks at the federal level: Healthy Start and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). Fortunately, the programs survived, and we learned a lot from Pat Gulley, RN, and Renee Williams, RD, of the Collier County Health Department. In February we took a look at rehabilitation of the mentally ill with the help of David Schimmel of the David Lawrence Center and our own Judith Gartner. Finally, in March, our suspicions about the effects of the downturn in the local

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(Committee Annual Reports—Social Policy — Continued from previous page)

economy were confirmed as we met with Debra Mahr, of the Hunger and Homeless Coalition of Collier County and Karen Morgan, liaison for homeless children in our public schools.

I'm grateful for the support of committee members: Ann Allen, Elinor Bedell, Ann Bleakley, Jeannette Boucher, Sheilah Crowley, Joyce Dowd, Judith Gartner, Pat Lawrence, Joan Byerhof, Dee Senft, Katherine Todd, Nancy Wolfe, Barbara Yeager and President, Chris Straton.

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE — Submitted by Chris Straton, Chair

We conducted a candidate forum in January for the Naples City election. Due to our reputation and long term relationship with the City of Naples, we were the only civic group that was broadcast live. In addition, our candidate forum was broadcast numerous times on the City's cable station. Thanks to Anna Allen, Linda Penniman, Susan Calkins, Bernice Schmelz, Ann Campbell and Anne Lewallen for all their assistance at the forum and developing the questions. I was asked by the librarians at almost every Collier County library to speak about the pros and cons on the January 29, 2008 constitutional amendment. Those that attended were overwhelmingly going to vote no. We notified the Chamber of Commerce in Naples and Marco Island about book closing dates and the issues in the January 29th election. Letter and emails were sent to all the churches in Naples and Marco Island asking for their assistance in getting the word out about the January 29th election. Thanks to Mary Schell, Pat Clancy and Rose DiBiasi for their assistance.

Proposed Revision to LWVCC Bylaws

Lined out material is recommended for deletion.

ARTICLE VI
Finance Administration

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

Section 2. Dues: Annual dues may be automatically adjusted whenever there is a change in state or national dues. The amount for local use shall be set by members at the annual Meeting. ~~and shall be payable by December 31. Dues received from those initially joining after January 31 shall be credited to the amount due the following December 31.~~ Dues for student members, for a second individual or family member who shares the same household and for Associate Members shall be one half of the regular member's dues. Associate members are persons under 18 years of age, non-citizens, and members of other Leagues who are seasonal attendees of the LWVCC.

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Proposed LWVCC General Fund Program 2008-2009

~~Strikethrough is deletion.~~ Underline is addition.

EDUCATION

- Support measures to encourage high academic achievement, educational enrichment, equality of opportunity, and meaningful parent and community awareness and involvement in our schools.
- Monitor the school improvement program at all times.
- Support adequate funding for public education.
- Increase member awareness of challenges confronting Collier County schools and of achievements attained by the District.
- Actively support the inclusion of social studies in the curriculum.

GOVERNMENT

Goal: Educate ourselves and the community about the workings of state and county government and important government issues and influence governmental decision-making through our informed and active participation.

Education

- Meet monthly to select, research and discuss pressing local and regional government issues and decide which of these issues deserve further study. Report findings to the League board and membership for its consideration for advocacy.
- Hold Lunch with Leaders sessions with key county government officials to learn more about issues being addressed by the committee government.
- Hold informal sessions periodically during the state Legislative Session to discuss ongoing legislative action with respect to League priorities and other matters of interest to members.
- Hold "Hot Topic" sessions on "hot" issues the Government Committee may wish to consider for future action/advocacy meetings to address current issues of importance.
- ~~Develop, obtain sponsorship for, and publish a booklet explaining the organization, roles and responsibilities of Collier County Government for distribution throughout the community.~~
- ~~Conduct a study to identify the pros and cons of charter government for Collier County and develop a LWVCC position on the criteria that must be met by a County Charter in order to receive our League's support.~~

Action/Advocacy

- Monitor Board of County Commissioners meetings and other governmental meetings of interest for information of importance to the League and the community/state and make recommendations for LWVCC action.
- Lobby legislators for League legislative priorities at pre-Legislative Session delegation meetings, the annual LWVFL Legislative Seminar in Tallahassee, and other appropriate opportunities.
- Issue and act upon email Action Alerts to influence governmental decisions.

- Participate in the work of the Collier County Non-Discrimination Coalition (www.colliercoalition.org), provide updates to committee and/or Board, and enlist member support as needed.

HOUSING

Goal: Positively influence workforce housing decisions involving a role for Collier County government, by speaking out on proposed proposals utilizing criteria developed in the LWVCC 2006/2007 Workforce Housing Study.

Education/Action

- Monitor and evaluate county workforce housing proposals using local LWVCC positions.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- Monitor and evaluate how the United States is promoting peace in an interdependent world by strengthening international organizations and fostering long term development, with an emphasis on humanitarian policies as presented by LWVUS.
- Maintain a keen awareness of the major world events and stand prepared to respond to appropriate "Action Alerts."

JUSTICE

Goal: Support and influence decisions to assure justice for all Collier citizens by reducing juvenile delinquency, reducing human trafficking and promoting restoration of rights to former felons.

Education

- Organize educational programs relative to the goals for the committee and general membership.
- Monitor the following programs, agencies and organizations in Collier County:
 - ~~adult and juvenile criminal systems with emphasis on rehabilitation, alternatives to incarceration and diversion programs for youth,~~
 - ~~programs for those who have been court referred and who need continuing care and help for substance abuse,~~
 - Youth and Delinquency Services Division of the Collier County Sheriff's Office, and
 - PACE (Practical Academic Cultural Education) Center for Girls.

Advocacy/Action

- Participate in the work of the following groups, provide committee updates and enlist member support as needed:
 - Juvenile Justice Council (CCJJC)
 - Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) Advisory Committee
 - Juvenile Detention Center Advisory Committee
 - Substance Abuse Coalition of Collier County (SACCC) -- (Drug Free Collier)

- Collier County Coalition Against Human Trafficking
- Florida Rights Restoration Coalition

NATURAL RESOURCES

Goal: ~~To~~Influence growth management decisions of the Board of County Commissioners and other Collier County decision makers to protect the quality of life for Collier County citizens. Focus to be on those issues and decision makers, which will have the most significant impact in Collier County.

Education

- Create an information network with all area environmental organizations for the sharing of information.
- Become a central resource of information on key issues and ways to impact government action.
- Develop community and media outreach plan for use in educating the public on growth management.

Action/Advocacy

- Continue to monitor and comment on amendments/revisions to Collier County and City of Naples Comprehensive Plans that affect natural resources.
- Continue to monitor and comment on projects in Collier County and City of Naples that affect natural resources.
- Continue to monitor the progress of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and continue participation in Everglades Restoration through the Everglades Coalition.
- Continue to support efforts to preserve green space.
- Continue to support measures that link land use and water use planning.

SOCIAL POLICY

Goal: Secure equal rights and opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice and the health and safety of all Americans. (LWVUS, LWVF)

- Monitor and support local efforts to provide basic health care to those in all age groups not otherwise covered.
- Monitor and promote programs for Collier County Schools that provide comprehensive health education, health services, and a safe, healthy environment.
- Support measures to provide adequate living and working conditions in Collier County.
- Monitor the privatization of the Department of Children and Families as it affects children in Collier County.

Education

- Invite speakers who are experts in the designated areas to committee meetings and general meetings.
- ~~Write reports for the VOTER or the LWVCC website.~~

Action

- Bring issues to the board when it would be appropriate for the League to speak.
- Submit Letters and op-ed articles ~~with~~ for President's signature.
- Send ~~Individual~~ letters, emails, telephone calls as individuals on local, state or national issues that come under the umbrella of Social Policy in the League of Women Voters.
- Respond to action alerts on related issues.

Education/Action

- Network with groups and agencies with similar interests/concerns, including:
 - Public Health Department
 - Collier Health Services (CHSI)
 - Medical Society of Collier County
 - Collier County Department of Housing and Human Services
 - Collier County Hunger and Homeless Coalition
 - Collier County Public Library Outreach Department
 - Department of Children and Families
 - Naples Alliance For Children
 - Citizens' Foster Care Review Board
 - Collier County Public Schools (School Nurse Program, Health Education)
 - Other local Leagues

Proposed LWVCC Education Fund Program 2008-2009

Strikethrough is a deletion. Additions are underlined.

LEAGUE UNIVERSITY

Goal: Act as a centralized educational resource both internally for League members and externally for the community.

Action/Education

- Develop and conduct:
 - Government 101 curriculum
 - Justice 101 curriculum
 - Natural Resources 101 curriculum
 - Social Policy 101 curriculum
 - Voter Services 101 curriculum
 - ~~Develop League University schedule of courses.~~
- Update and conduct:
 - League 101 curriculum
- ~~Offer League University courses to public.~~

VOTER SERVICES

Goal: Create informed and active voters with focus on underserved. “Get Out The Vote” (GOTV).

Education

- Sponsor televised candidate forums to include circuit and county judicial candidates.
- Monitor LWVFL Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail study.
- Monitor Supervisor of Election and Canvassing Board meetings.
- ~~Create event to celebrate 18 year old Voters.~~
- Create “get out the vote” promotion strategy and integrate into every LWVCC committee.
- Develop a plan to increase voter registration and voter turnout in Hispanic, African-American, and other minority communities.
- Develop voter educational materials to encourage voter education and voter turnout.
- Continue involvement in Know Your County Government Teen Citizenship program.

Action/Advocacy:

Not applicable