

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LA PLATA COUNTY

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

May 22, 2018, 4:00 pm

Unitarian Universalist Church, 419 San Juan Dr., Durango

The League of Women Voters of La Plata County (LWVLPC) will hold its annual meeting of members for the purpose of conducting required business of the group on May 22, 2018 at 4:00 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Meeting Hall, 419 San Juan Dr. All members are invited to attend.

A budget for the coming year will be submitted to the members for adoption at the annual meeting, in accordance with Article VI – Financial Administration of the By Laws of the LWVLPC. The budget proposed by the Budget Committee was sent to each member by email on 4/11/18 and is also attached.

The Executive Team submits the following slate of nominees for the Executive Team for the coming year, in accordance with By Laws Article VIII – Nominations and Elections: Jean Aaro, Co-President; Kathleen Adams, Member; Sally Bellerue, Member; Karel Longan, Membership Chair; Leigh Meigs, Secretary; Betsy Norton, Member; Trish Pegram, Co-President. Nominations from the floor will be welcomed. It is especially hoped that a member will accept nomination from the floor for the office of Treasurer, which will otherwise be unfilled.

Article IX – Program, the Bylaws require consideration at the annual meeting of all local Programs. The current Executive Team has proposed no changes to the current local Program and requests the re-adoption of our existing local policy positions with the following titles:

**Desert Rock Energy Project
Library Bond Issue
Health Service District
Vote Center Concept and Its Applicability to La Plata County Affordable Housing**

**Educational Policy:
La Plata County School Districts' Program and Building Needs La Plata County School Districts' Accountability**

Durango City Government Comprehensive Planning

The full text of these positions may be found on our website at http://lwvlaplata.org/Advocacy-2013.html#LWVLPC_positions

No new local study is proposed for 2018-19. No bylaw changes are proposed

LWV US has adopted a new Mission Statement which each local league is required to ratify. The Board has agreed to adopt the statement but with one change. This is the new LWV US statement:

Mission, Vision and Value Statements

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

VISION STATEMENT:

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

VALUE STATEMENT:

We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

After much consideration, and consultations with the LWV CO, your board has taken the position that the last sentence in this proposed statement, titled the "Value Statement" above, is not a value that we in the La Plata league can support and we recommend that this statement not be included in the language adopted by this League. The League of Women Voters is a much different organization today than when it was formed in 1920. As we say of ourselves now, "We are not for women only". In fact, a large portion of our membership is male, and their contribution to League is significant. We believe in their power to create a more perfect democracy, along with all our female members. At the annual meeting, we will ask you to ratify this new Mission Statement from LWV US, excluding this last Value Statement portion. This is a position that several other local leagues in Colorado have taken and which is allowed by LWV CO. We will explain and discuss this proposal at the meeting, and if you have any questions beforehand, please email to trishpegam@gmail.com

In addition to this business program, we will have a panel of local high school students who will share the story of their involvement with students around the country to raise awareness and push for action on gun violence. They will share some details of their process of planning and executing the school walkouts and March for Our Lives and answer your questions.

We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting and to your participation in the work of the LWV LPC in the coming year.

Trish Pegram, Spokesperson

Trish Pegram

