



**League of Women Voters  
Of  
Orange, Durham and  
Chatham Counties**

**2006-2007  
Annual Meeting Workbook**

**Board of Directors, 2006-2007**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| President:                  | Jan Richmond  |
| First Vice President:       | Bessie Carrington   |
| Second Vice President:      | Else Bolotin  |
| Secretary:                  | Carol Sherrod   |
| Treasurer:                  | Barbara Hardison  |
| Nominating Committee Chair: | Gay Eddy  |
| Directors:                  | Evelin Brinich, Membership<br>Joyce Colaiace, Programs<br>Kay Hunt, Special Projects<br>Carol Rist, <i>The Voter</i><br>Cynthia Wertz, Web Master |



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## **League of Women Voters Mission Statement**

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages 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.

## **Rules for the 2007 Annual Meeting**

**Composition:** The Annual Meeting is open to members of the League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties (LWVODC), their guests and visitors.

**Debate:** Only members of the LWVODC have the right to speak. Members may not speak twice to the same question so long as a member who has not spoken wishes to speak.

**Motions:** The Secretary or Chair may request that motions of amendments of substance be put in writing.

**Parliamentary Procedure:** Robert's Rules of Order will control the general conduct of the meeting, except where superseded by the Bylaws or Annual Meeting Rules.

**Proposed Program:** A majority vote is required for adoption of all program recommendations.

**Quorum:** Ten percent of the paid local membership constitutes a quorum.

**Rules Change:** These rules may be amended, rescinded, or suspended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting.

**Voting:** Only members of the LWVODC in good standing may vote. A majority vote of those present and voting shall be required for adoption of any measure, except where the Bylaws specify otherwise.

## 2007 Annual Meeting Agenda

Dinner & Speaker     John Dancy  
Television News is for People who Watch Tele  
vision: Why TV can't cover politics

### Business Meeting

Call to Order     LWVODC President - Jan Richmond

President's Remarks  
Announcements  
Recognition of Board  
Credentials report-Joyce Colaiace  
Parliamentarian  
Adoption of Agenda and Rules

Minutes of 2006 Annual Meeting     Cynthia Wertz

Treasurer's Report for 2006-2007     Barbara Hardison

Proposed Budget for 2007-2008     Carolyn Epstein

Proposed Program for 2007-2008     Jan Richmond

Nominating Committee Report     Gay Eddy

Nominations from the floor  
Election of Officers and Directors

Remarks from the Incoming President

Directions to the Board from Membership

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjournment

# Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties

May 24, 2006

The LWVODC Annual Meeting was held at the Governor's Club Clubhouse in Pittsboro, NC from 6:00 – 8:50 p.m. **Jan Richmond**, President, welcomed the members and thanked **Barbara Salamy** for arranging for the Governor's Club Clubhouse for the annual dinner and business meeting. She also thanked **Joyce Colaiace** for the evening's program. **Jan** asked **Joyce** to introduce the speaker, **Dr. Ann Dunbar**, who is an Associate Professor in the Department of African and Afro-American Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill. **Dr. Dunbar** spoke on "Muslim Women and Political Change." A historian specializing in African social history, she focused on two case studies on women, law and women's civic organizations primarily within Muslim communities in Africa south of the Sahara.

Following the question and answer session for the speaker, the business meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by **Jan Richmond**.

## Announcements and Remarks

**Jan Richmond** presented a donation to the Hargraves Center in Chapel Hill. The donation was for the use of the Hargraves Center for the 2005 – 2006 LWVODC General Meetings. **Robbin Jones** accepted the donation on behalf of the Hargraves Center and thanked the League for its gift.

**Richmond** highlighted the year's activities when she thanked individually each of her Board Members for their contributions and accomplishments during the year, and at the end of her remarks, she had them stand together for recognition.

- o **Joyce Colaiace**: Recognized for her efforts in planning and arranging the logistics and speakers for the fiscal year programs, which included General Meetings, four quarterly meetings (including the fabulous Mix and Mingle evening with NC Senate and House Representatives), and the Annual Meeting.
- o **Bessie Carrington**: Recognized for her efforts as the VOTER editor, which produced an electronic version of the VOTER that provided substantial cost savings for the League, and the inclusion of photos and an election calendar in the VOTER.
- o **Eve Barkley**: Recognized for her leadership and organization as Voter Service Director in producing five very successful candidate forums - one fall forum for school board candidates and four spring candidate forums, including one in Hillsboro, N.C. to reach more rural voters. **Jan** also noted **Eve's** successful partnering with the Chapel Hill Carrboro School PTA, Democracy N.C., and the Civic Engagement Task Force as co-sponsors of several of the candidate forums.
- o **Cynthia Wertz**: Recognized for her efforts at improving the LWVODC Website by enhancing the content and changing the website address to make it easier to remember.
- o **Betty Mutran**: Recognized for her commitment to increasing membership, which included holding a fall Membership Orientation Meeting, recruiting new members, and updating the LWVODC membership databases.

- o **Beverly Hanly:** Recognized for her efforts at increasing League visibility through special projects such as co-chairing the UN People Speak 2005 forum on Poverty, Hunger, and Health, which had over 100 people in attendance, and the UNC-TV Spring Fundraising Festival, which realized over \$12,000 in pledges with the help of 21 LWVODC members, friends and spouses, who answered the phones.
  - o **Anne Bodner:** Recognized for her leadership as Chair of the Chatham County Unit and her organization of the very successful Chatham County Board of Commissioners Candidate Forum.
  - o **Pat Watts Hill:** Recognized for her leadership as Chair of the Money and Politics focus group, which developed a program for the April General Meeting program.
  - o **Dorothy Mahan and Carol Rist:** Recognized for their efforts, as co-chairs of a new focus group on the Supreme Court, in planning and organizing the Supreme Court November 2006 forum on the pros and cons of court reform.
  - o **Nancy Salmon:** Recognized for her efforts in updating the 2006 Citizens Guide, which is a major source of income to the League.
  - o **Robbie Willmarth:** Recognized for her leadership as First Vice President, PR Director, and officiating for Jan when she was unable to be at a meeting.
  - o **Else Bolotin:** Recognized for her leadership as Second Vice President and her many contributions during the year, such as providing support to the Supreme Court focus group, writing the summaries of the General Meetings for the VOTER, and her contributions as a member of the Nominating Committee.
- Barbara Hardison:** Recognized for efforts and attention to details as Treasurer and her support of other League activities and functions.

**Richmond** asked the past LWVODC Presidents to stand for recognition. Vicki Boyer, Bev Kawalec, Nancy Salmon, and Judie Burke were in attendance.

**Richmond** reminded the members in attendance that it was time to renew their membership.

**Richmond** called on **Joyce Colaiace** to present the credentials report. **Colaiace** reported that there were 46 members present. **Richmond** declared this a quorum, with greater than 10% of the paying members present. **Nancy Salmon** was named parliamentarian.

**Richmond** requested a motion to adopt the Annual Meeting Agenda contained in the meeting workbook. Acceptance of the Agenda was so moved and seconded and the motion was carried. She then requested a motion to adopt the Annual Meeting Rules contained in the meeting workbook. Acceptance of the Rules was so moved and seconded and the motion was carried.

#### **Minutes of 2005 Annual Meeting**

**Richmond** asked for additions or corrections to the Minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting. There being none, she declared them accepted as submitted.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

**Barbara Hardison** presented the Treasurer's Report located in the meeting workbook and asked for questions. No questions were asked, and **Richmond** declared the Treasurer's Report accepted as presented.

### **Proposed Budget for 2006-2007**

**Kay Hunt**, Chair of the Budget Committee, presented the proposed budget for 2006-2007. The budget projects Total Income of \$10,880 and Total Expenses of \$10,880. She pointed out that because many members chose to receive the electronic version of the VOTER; this represented a big savings to the League's budget. She referenced information on Page 12 in the meeting workbook as to how projected income and expenses for the upcoming fiscal year were decided. Projected income was based on estimated dues from 2006-07 membership, and projected expenses were based on projected actual expenses of the current fiscal year. **Hunt** moved that the Budget be accepted as presented, **Else Bolotin** seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **Proposed Positions for 2006-2007**

**Richmond** informed the membership that the LWVODC local positions had been reviewed and updated at the February 16, 2006 General Meeting for discussion and approval at the May Annual Meeting. **Richmond** then asked for comments or questions. **Kay Hunt** noted that the membership had done a terrific job on updating the local positions but questioned the clarity of the statements under the Growth and Development Position on Page 29 of the meeting workbook. She pointed out that paragraphs one and two were the same, and thus the third paragraph should become the second paragraph of the position. Also, **Hunt** felt that the word "facilities" in the third paragraph should be replaced with the word "infrastructure" as it did not connote for her areas such as roads. However, **Vicki Boyer** objected to the changing of the wording. **Boyer** felt that the intent of the league members, who originally approved the position many years ago, was that the word "facilities" meant to include infrastructures such as roads, water, sewer, etc. The consensus was to delete paragraph two and replace with paragraph three and keep the word "facilities." A motion was then made and seconded to accept the Proposed Positions for 2006-2007. The membership voted unanimously in support of the proposed positions. After the vote, **Judie Burke** recommended that all local positions should be identified as revised in 2006, which will be done. Another question was raised as to whether we needed the approval of state and national Leagues to work on areas under their positions. **Richmond** responded that local Leagues could participate in activities supported under state and national positions.

### **Proposed Program for 2006-2007**

**Richmond** presented the following 2006-07 Proposed Program:

- Educate and Advocate
  - Civil Liberties
  - Separation of powers
  - National, state, and local issues
  - Non-partisan candidate forums
- Advocate Good Government
  - Sunshine Laws
  - Observation of state & local board & government agencies
  - Campaign finance reform
  - Lobby Reform
- Promote Voter Empowerment
  - Support Same Day Voter Registration
  - Promote Fair Elections

Promote entitlement, one person, one vote through impartial districting  
Support voter registration  
Increase Membership  
Increase LWVODC membership and membership diversity  
Increase LWV impact in community

**Richmond** moved to adopt the Proposed 2006-2007 Program; **Beverly Hanly** seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

#### **Nominating Committee Report**

**Judie Burke**, Chair of the Nominating Committee recognized the members of the Nominating Committee (**Eve Barkley, Else Bolotin, Betty Mutran, and Carol Sherrod**) and thanked them for their work and for attending all the committee meetings. The proposed slate of LWVODC Officers and Directors were as follows:

**LWV Officers – 2006-2007:** President, **Jan Richmond**; 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice President, **Bessie Carrington**; 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice President, **Else Bolotin**; Secretary, **Carol Sherrod**; Treasurer, **Barbara Hardison**; Nominating Committee Chair, **Gay Eddy**

**Directors – 2005 – 2007:** **Joyce Colaiace**, Program; **Betty Mutran**, Membership; **Anne Bodner**, Chatham Unit

**Directors – 2006 – 2008:** **Carol Rist**, VOTER Editor, **Eve Barkley**, Voter Service, **Cynthia Wertz**; Webmaster/IT Consultant

**Burke** asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, she called for a vote and the list of nominees was elected.

#### **Remarks from the Incoming President**

**Jan Richmond** thanked **Judie Burke** and her committee for their efforts. She expressed her appreciation at being elected and stated that she and the Board would work harder and do even better things this next year. To this end, she would be holding a retreat this summer where the Board would identify their plans for achieving the goals, objectives, and program planned for next year. She noted that she also needed the help of members and their suggestions in going forward to recruit more members. Jan also expressed her appreciation for the contributions of all League members.

#### **Directions to the Board from the Membership**

**Richmond** asked for directions from the membership. There were no directions provided.

#### **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

#### **New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **Adjournment**

**Richmond** asked for a motion for adjournment and the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Wertz, Secretary

May 31, 2006

## President's 2007 Annual Report

### Jan Richmond

The board began its work last summer with a retreat focusing on the goals we would address throughout the year. The tasks selected for emphasis were redistricting, membership recruitment and an independent judiciary.

In the fall, shouts of revolution brought visibility to the League when we cosponsored a benefit performance of the musical *1776*. This fundraiser successfully netted over \$1600 for our treasury. In addition to providing funds for forums and educational events, it offset increasing membership dues. And, membership recruitment was an added bonus of this exposure.

Another opportunity for recruitment and education was the presentation made to sixty members of the Newcomers' Club. Entitled "Making Your Vote Count", the forum and discussion helped those new to the area learn about North Carolina voting laws and issues in Orange, Durham and Chatham counties.

The Supreme Court forum was a great success with approximately 100 attendees. This educational forum focusing on issues related to an independent judiciary targeted one of the board's primary areas of emphasis for the year. The program was chaired by Dorothy Mahan and Carol Rist with Else Bolotin and Laurie Ferris assisting. A grant was written and received by this focus group which continued from the previous year. Our own Paul Carrington debated with Kevin McGuire, a UNC professor, on their perspectives of the Supreme Court. Particular attention was given to the question of whether there should be term limits for Supreme Court Justices.

Following up on an independent judiciary, Bessie Carrington created and published a pamphlet to help explain the judiciary system.

Another eventful occasion occurred when the LWVODC took a position on the redistricting referendum that appeared on the Chatham County ballot for Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. Using national and local League positions on redistricting, the board adopted a resolution that **The League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties take action to oppose the referendum on the November 7, 2006 ballot because it dilutes the effective representation of minority citizens.** This action was followed by a press release and is particularly noteworthy as the first pro-active stance taken by the local board since I have been a member.

Orange County also had a referendum regarding redistricting. We were asked by Moses Carey, Orange County Commissioner, to help hold two educational forums to address the pros and cons of this issue. Enlisting Will Raymond, a local Chapel Hill activist, who held an opposing view of redistricting added some real spark to the forums.

Many of you helped to present the two Orange County forums as well as two held in Durham. In Durham we held a Law & Order Forum which included the candidates for US House of Representatives, state legislative positions, district attorney and judges. And, in the spring the fo-

rum dealing with Bail Bond issues was held on April 24, 2007. We partnered with Time Warner Cable once again to bring candidate presentations to the public via taped presentations. The three minute tape presentations included comments from candidates for U.S. congressional districts, NC legislative races and county commissioner races.

Our general sessions this year included expert speakers who covered topics such as lobbying reform, redistricting, voting rights and immigration. We concluded these monthly meetings with a presentation on redistricting and minority voting rights.

League visibility at special events, fairs and conferences in the three counties has helped us to recruit new members. One such notable event was our participation in Sunshine week. Work on this project elicited wide visibility through press coverage as our members sought to acquire information legally accessible to the public. In particular, the non compliance (to date) of Durham Public Schools, resulted in several news articles and a lively discussion during our visit with NC Legislators in March.

The viability and credibility of our League are also evidenced by the many voters who contacted our email address or phone number requesting information from LWVODC. The League is a trusted name and it was reassuring to receive the calls, send information and take voters to the polls regardless of their political affiliation.

With the help of a dedicated Board of Directors, we have achieved our goals highlighting redistricting, membership recruitment and an independent judiciary. And, to further attest to our success, at the conclusion of the 2007 year we have 191 members, continuing our lead as the largest local league in the State of North Carolina.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's 2007 Annual Report**

### **Bessie Carrington**

Fall elections prompted interest in information about partisan and non-partisan election issues. To help Newcomers understand the NC judicial system, we prepared a tri-fold handout on how judges are chosen and how court responsibilities are divided.

In an effort to return to some LWV roots, I tried to recruit observers at public meetings in the three counties; many think this is a good idea, but few volunteered. Some meetings are broadcast on the local public TV stations and/or rebroadcast on websites.

In conjunction with the Durham District Court and the UNC Institute of Government, LWVODC sponsored the forum, *Bail Bonds, Innocence and Public Safety*. Judges, magistrates, members of the Bar, bondsmen and law enforcement officers each explained their responsibilities in the arrest, warrant and bail process. About 100 people attended.

## **2nd Vice President's 2007 Annual Report Else Bolotin**

A primary activity this year was working with a task group to present a Supreme Court Forum. This included writing a proposal for grant money to support the program, which was received from the National League of Women Voters. This educational forum was attended by approximately 100 people, who heard the pros and cons of reforming the Supreme Court discussed by legal experts Paul Carrington and Paul McGuire.

I also prepared summaries of the speaker presentations delivered during General Meetings, which were published in the Voter.

## **Membership Chair's 2007 Annual Report Evelin Brinich**

The membership data base was updated locally and nationally on a regular basis. Three listservs were developed, one for each county, to facilitate electronic mailing of the VOTER and other League communications. The LWVODC Membership Directory was updated and added to the LWVODC website with password protection. The Directory is updated regularly to reflect the most current membership status.

New local, national, and prospective members received welcome packets including a personal letter, LWV brochure, recent VOTER, Citizens Guide, and Membership Directory (members only). A membership orientation was held in the spring to introduce new local, national, and prospective members to the League's activities.

The January 2007 Per Member Payment (PMP) numbers which were provided to the Treasurer to report to the National League were 99 individual local members, 15 local member households at 2 members each, 7 local honorary members, 1 local student, 39 individual national members, and 2 national member households with 2 members each.

# Treasurer's 2007 Annual Report (Income and Expenses)

## Barbara Hardison

Beginning Balance  
(Checking Account)

5007.35

|                              | ACTUAL<br>MONTH<br><u>30-Apr-07</u> | ACTUAL<br>YEAR-TO-DATE<br><u>1 Jul thru 30 Apr</u> | 2006-2007<br><u>BUDGET</u> | <u>DIFFERENCE</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b><u>INCOME</u></b>         |                                     |  |                            |                   |
| Transfer CEF                 |                                     |  |                            |                   |
| Citizens Guide               | 25.00                               | 955.00   | 2,300.00                   | 1345.00           |
| Contributions: LWV           | 218.00                              | 1,763.36   | 1,200.00                   | (563.36)          |
| Contributions: Other         |                                     | 305.00   | 380.00                     | 75.00             |
| Dues                         | 22.50                               | 5,955.00   | 6,960.00                   | 1005.00           |
| 1776' (Net)                  |                                     | 1,804.70   | -                          | (1804.70)         |
| <b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>   | <b>265.50</b>                       | <b>10,783.06</b>                                   | <b>10,840.00</b>           | <b>56.94</b>      |
| <b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>       |                                     |  |                            |                   |
| Copying                      | 104.61                              | 1,632.47   | 2,644.00                   | 1011.53           |
| Voter                        | 104.61                              | 436.74   |                            |                   |
| Other                        |                                     | 1,195.73   |                            |                   |
| Miscellaneous                |                                     | 160.00   | 250.00                     | 90.00             |
| P.O. Box                     |                                     | 72.00  | 68.00                      | (4.00)            |
| PMP's                        |                                     | 3,848.40   | 3,728.00                   | (120.40)          |
| State                        |                                     | 1,872.00   |                            |                   |
| National                     |                                     | 1,976.40   |                            |                   |
| Postage                      | 35.40                               | 374.73   | 350.00                     | (24.73)           |
| Voter                        |                                     | 201.41   |                            |                   |
| Other                        | 35.40                               | 173.32   |                            |                   |
| Rooms-Speakers               | 81.46                               | 528.97   | 700.00                     | 171.03            |
| Subscriptions/Pubs           |                                     | 52.70  | 50.00                      | (2.70)            |
| Supplies                     | 51.76                               | 204.96   | 500.00                     | 295.04            |
| Telephone                    | 62.85                               | 615.28   | 750.00                     | 134.72            |
| Travel-Meetings              | (145.00)                            | 885.00   | 1,300.00                   | 415.00            |
| TV-Video                     |                                     |  | 500.00                     | 500.00            |
| <b><u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u></b> | <b>191.08</b>                       | <b>8,374.51</b>                                    | <b>10,840.00</b>           | <b>2,465.49</b>   |

**OTHER ASSETS**

|                                    |                 |          |  |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|--|
| <u>Civics 101/Bail Bond</u>        |                 | 300.00   |  |
| Bail Bond Alliance                 | 500.00          | 500.00   |  |
| Expenses-Bail Bond                 | (262.50)        | (262.50) |  |
| <u>Ending Balance</u>              |                 | 537.50   |  |
| <br><u>Judiciary Grant-LWVUS</u>   |                 |          |  |
| Beginning Balance                  |                 | 425.00   |  |
| Expenses                           |                 | (765.77) |  |
| 2nd Installment                    |                 | 425.00   |  |
| <u>Ending Balance</u>              |                 | 84.23    |  |
| <br><u>Ending Balance for 4/07</u> | <u>5,319.27</u> |          |  |

| <u>T-S SCHOLAR FUND (Included in Assets)</u> |         |
|--|---------|
| Beginning Bal.                               | 375.00  |
| Donations                                    | 65.00   |
| Scholarship                                  | (45.00) |
| Ending Bal.                                  | 395.00  |

| <u>CEF</u>     |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Beginning Bal. | 4,110.36   |
| Donations      | 450.00     |
| LWV-US PMP     | (1,976.40) |
| Ending Bal.    | 2,583.96   |

## **LWVODC *VOTER* Editor's 2007 Annual Report**

### **Carol Rist**

The LWVODC *VOTER* has been published since the beginning of this League year under the editorship of Bessie Carrington for the June-July issue, and the remaining issues for the year by current *VOTER* editor, Carol Rist.

An electronic copy of the *VOTER* was sent to:

- all League members except those who pay \$10 per year to receive a hard copy
- city councilpersons and alderpersons in Orange, Durham and Chatham counties
- presidents of North Carolina Local Leagues
- prospective members (for three months)

A hard copy of the *VOTER* was sent to:

- all League members who pay the cost of printing and mailing the *VOTER*
- all members of the NC General Assembly who represent either Orange, Durham or Chatham County
- U.S. Congressmen Etheridge and Price
- local mayors
- all County Commissioners in Orange, Durham or Chatham County
- local libraries
- local newspapers

Thanks to membership chair Evelin Brinich, who created the listserv which simplified sending the *VOTER* electronically, and to Anne Heuer, who folds, labels and stamps the hard copies.

## **Program Director's 2007 Annual Report**

### **Joyce Colaiace**

Duties of the Program Director include planning and organizing general meetings and special events throughout the fiscal year and the Annual Meeting in May. This involves planning the date and place for each meeting, as well as identifying and inviting speakers who will address specified topics. Activities for 2006-2007 are listed below:

- September 21, 2006—Members participated in a discussion session on the projects and special program areas of emphasis for the year.
- October 8, 2006—Members and guests attended a benefit performance at the ArtsCenter in Carrboro of the musical "1776," followed by refreshments and fellowship, where new members were recruited. The event also was a fund raiser for LWVODC.
- October 11, 2006—This was a joint meeting with members of the Newcomer's Club to familiarize them with NC voting laws and the voter registration process.
- October 19, 2006—Louisa Warren, Director of the NC Coalition for Lobby Reform was the speaker.

- November 16, 2006—Jonathan Weiler, UNC Professor of Curriculum in International Studies spoke on “Why People Vote Like They Do.”
- December 13, 2006—The Holiday Party was held with dinner and speaker Hodding Carter, UNC Professor of Public Policy.
- January 18, 2007—General Meeting was cancelled due to bad weather.
- February 15, 2007—Ilana Dubester, Executive Director of the Hispanic Liaison of Chatham County was the speaker.
- February 26, 2007—A Mix and Mingle event was held with elected city mayors and county commissioners of Orange, Durham, Chatham counties.
- April 19, 2007—Anita Earls, Director of Advocacy UNC School of Law Civil Rights Center was the speaker.
- May 16, 2007—Annual Meeting was held with dinner and speaker John Dancy, former NBC news correspondent.

Other activities and duties included attending the LWV State Convention in Carthage, NC, participating in the coalition with the NC Press Association records audit of government agencies and public institutions, and providing announcements of events to the VOTER Editor, Website Mistress and Barbara Hardison to publicize upcoming events.

## **Special Project Director’s 2007 Annual Report**

### **Kay Hunt**

The duties of the Special Projects position are determined by the President, the Board, and the person serving in the position. In 2006-7, rather than executing a special event, forum, or seminar, much of my time was taken up assisting in other Board activities as needed, due to manpower needs.

In the fall I focused on Chatham County activities, due to the many contentious issues surrounding the commissioners’ election. On my recommendation, LWVODC took a position opposing a redistricting referendum which appeared on the November 7 Chatham County ballot. This position was based on an existing LWVUS public policy position. It was the Board’s belief that if passed, this referendum would dilute the effective representation of minority citizens in Chatham County.

At Jan Richmond’s suggestion, I took a close look at a special project, “Running and Winning”, that was first designed and successfully executed by the Camden County, NJ League, and later by the LWV of Greater Tucson. The goal of this project is to educate young girls about the need for their involvement in politics in the future. It was highlighted at the LWVUS national conference last year. The LWV of Wake County plans to begin implementing it in their League next fall. After much discussion, the Board decided this project was beyond our scope at this time, due to manpower issues.

The Board had several major discussions this winter around the manpower issue. Although

our membership numbers are good, we have experienced increasing difficulty getting people to take responsibility for initiating and coordinating special projects around our Annual Program. Sign-up sheets at membership meetings and e-mail and VOTER appeals have had minimal response. Out of these discussions, we saw the need to put together a New Member Initiative, following suggestions from LWVUS. We decided that our target audiences should be:

1. Recent retirees who have relocated to the ODC area, who now have the time and interest to be active volunteers, who may have had some past involvement with LWV in another part of the country.
2. Young women with family obligations, financially secure enough to be able to stay home while their children are young, looking for worthwhile volunteer activities.
3. Mid-career working women whose home responsibilities are not overwhelming, who want to “give back”, and are now searching for a meaningful community involvement outside of work.

Initial efforts will concentrate on recent retirees.

I will coordinate this effort until the end of the current League year, and initial recommendations for the 2007-8 Board will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

In February I attended a meeting sponsored by Triangle Community Foundation highlighting a new Community Grant-making Program with a focus on civic engagement. At TCF staff’s urging, and with help from Carol Sherrod and Linda Stryker-Luftig, I wrote and submitted (deadline April 2) a proposal requesting funds to execute a series of five forums in 2007-8 on the subject of immigration. The LWVODC Proposed Program for 2007-8 includes a priority to participate in the LWVUS National Immigration Study, and these forums will help next year’s Board put together recommendations to send to LWVUS, as they have requested. The TCF grant decisions will be announced on June 6, 2007.

## **Website Director’s 2007 Annual Report Cynthia Wertz**

This year the LWVODC website has been greatly expanded to include *The Citizens Guide*, as well as our “Local Positions” and the VOTER. All content is updated routinely and made available to both league members and the public. The average number of web pages requested per day is 158. From November 11, 2004, when LWVODC went online with its website, to March 7, 2007 there have been 141,586 requests for information from the this website.

As the Planning Chair for a Technical Workshop held at the LWVNC State Convention, I worked with Eve Barkley to develop a program which focused on effective uses of technology to promote local League’s programs. Topics addressed included: websites, electronic newsletters, and alternatives to face-to-face meetings and forums.

## ***Citizen's Guide 2007 Report*** **Nancy Salmon**

The 2007 *Citizen's Guide* was distributed in the *Chapel Hill News* on Wednesday, February 21, 2007. The print order was for 36,000 copies (24,000 to CHN, 12,000 to LWVODC) at a cost of \$1128.98. Copies were distributed by LWVODC members to multiple sites in the community in bundles of 150 copies. Sponsorships totaling at least \$1200 were received from agencies and organizations in Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties.

As always, many League members helped to check facts and distribute the Guides. Carolyn Webb of the *Chapel Hill News* did the layout for the updated information and Brenda Larson, Editor-in-Chief, arranged for printing, insertion and distribution in the newspaper. And, we appreciate and greatly value our collaboration with the *Chapel Hill News* on this project.

## **Nominating Committee 2007** **Report of Proposed Candidates** **Gay Eddy, Chair**

### **Proposed Slate of Candidates**

#### **Officers 2007-2008**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| President   | Vicki Boyer   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President                          | Carol Sherrod   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President                          | Joyce Colaiace  |
| Secretary   | Barbara Nettesheim  |
| Treasurer   | Bessie Carrington   |
| Nominating Committee Chair                              | Jan Richmond  |
| Directors (2007-2008 unexpired term)                    | Evelin Brinich  |
| Directors (2007-2009)                                   | Barbara Hardison<br>Brenda Schoonover<br>Linda Stryker-Luftig |
| Directors Continuing<br>Second Year of Term (2007-2008) | Carol Rist<br>Cynthia Wertz                                   |

**LWV-ODC PROPOSED  
2007-2008 BUDGET**

|                              | <u>2004-05</u><br><u>Budget</u> | <u>2004-05</u><br><u>Actual</u> | <u>2005-06</u><br><u>Budget</u> | <u>2005-06</u><br><u>Actual</u> | <u>2006-07</u><br><u>Budget</u> | Projected<br><u>2006-07</u><br><u>Actual</u> | Proposed<br><u>2007-08</u><br><u>Budget</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| <b><u>INCOME</u></b>         |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |  |   |
| Transfer: CEF                | 1,084                           | 2,625                           | 2,153                           | 200                             |                                 |  |   |
| Citizens Guide               | 2,500                           | 2,315                           | 2,750                           | 2,300                           | 2,300                           | 2,300  | 1,200*                                      |
| Contributions: CEF           |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |  |   |
| Contributions: LWV           | 950                             | 2,007                           | 1,250                           | 1,227                           | 1,200                           | 1,545  | 1,200                                       |
| Contributions: Other         | 90                              | 25                              | 500                             | 380                             | 380                             | 305  | 305   |
| Dues                         | 8,965                           | 8,242                           | 8,520                           | 6,880                           | 6,960                           | 5,933  | 6,000                                       |
| Fund Raising                 | 1,110                           | 551                             |                                 |                                 |                                 | 1,805  | 1,367**                                     |
| <b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>   | <b>14,699</b>                   | <b>15,765</b>                   | <b>15,173</b>                   | <b>10,987</b>                   | <b>10,840</b>                   | <b>11,888</b>                                | <b>10,072</b>                               |
| <b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>       |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |  |   |
| Copying                      | 4,100                           | 3,782                           | 2,925                           | 2,751                           | 2,644                           | 1,848  | 1,800                                       |
| Miscellaneous                | 225                             | 216                             | 200                             | 230                             | 250                             | 160  | 250   |
| P.O. Box                     | 76                              | 68                              | 68                              | 68                              | 68                              | 72   | 72  |
| PMP's                        | 6,598                           | 6,638                           | 6,480                           | 4,228                           | 3,728                           | 3,848  | 4,500                                       |
| Postage                      | 800                             | 733                             | 700                             | 250                             | 350                             | 350  | 400***                                      |
| Rooms-Speakers               | 500                             | 76                              | 700                             | 420                             | 700                             | 628  | 1,000****                                   |
| Subscriptions/Pubs           | 50                              | 0                               | 50                              | 30                              | 50                              | 53   | 50  |
| Supplies                     | 500                             | 145                             | 500                             | 57                              | 500                             | 153  | 200   |
| Telephone                    | 650                             | 652                             | 800                             | 976                             | 750                             | 740  | 600*****                                    |
| Travel-Meetings              | 900                             | 648                             | 2,500                           | 1,000                           | 1,300                           | 1,030  | 1,000                                       |
| TV-Video (Forums)            | 300                             | 0                               | 200                             | 0                               | 500                             |  | 200   |
| Fund Raising                 |                                 | 455                             |                                 |                                 |                                 |  |   |
| Voter Registration           |                                 | 130                             |                                 |                                 |                                 |  |   |
| <b><u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u></b> | <b>14,699</b>                   | <b>13,543</b>                   | <b>15,173</b>                   | <b>10,010</b>                   | <b>10,840</b>                   | <b>8,882</b>                                 | <b>10,072</b>                               |

**INCOME:**

\* Projected Citizens Guide income decreased to reflect decreased interest during 2006-2007.

\*\*Fund Raising required to balance budget.

**EXPENSES:**

\*\*\*Postage increased to reflect anticipated price increase.

\*\*\*\*Rooms-Speakers increased to reflect possible charges for meeting spaces other than Hargraves.

\*\*\*\*\*Telephone decreased to reflect using cell phone service versus land line.

## LWVODC Proposed Program 2007-2008

In keeping with the principles of LWVUS, each year LWVODC adopts the program proposed by the Board at the Annual Meeting. The adopted program then becomes the guideline for the issues of emphasis for the Board and membership, but not to the exclusion of all other League interests and positions. Rather it is a statement of what we think we can realistically accomplish, given our finite resources.

It is proposed that we adopt the following program priorities:

### **Support:**

1. Measures allowing greater autonomy to county and municipal governments in raising needed revenue at the local level.

How: Advocate and Educate

Example: Forums on land transfer fees, impact fees, local taxes

2. Tax check-off of state income tax forms.

How: Advocate and Educate

Example: Partner with Democracy NC for greater participation

3. Affordable healthcare for all.

How: Advocate and Educate

Example: Partner with the Committee to Defend Health Care.

4. Affordable housing for all.

How: Advocate and Educate

Example: Partner with the Housing Trust Fund to press for change.

5. Public Education.

How: Advocate and Educate

Example: Partner with local organizations concerned with education.

### **Study:**

6. Immigration

How: Participate in the LWVUS Immigration Study

## **LWVODC Local Positions**

Each level of the League develops positions on issues of importance. A position is a stand or commitment made by the League at the local, state or national level. Acting under positions from another League level is sometimes referred to as vertical action. If the LWVODC Board deems that its members are knowledgeable and support the action to be taken, it can undertake action at the local, regional and-or state level under a national position or positions without clearance from LWVUS Board.

The following positions are those that have been adopted by the LWVODC. The date of initial adoption is indicated in parentheses.

### **CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

The LWVODC supports Lobby Reform on the State and Local level. We support an independent ethics commission to review the reporting process of the legislative and executive branches of government (2006).

### **COUNTY BUDGET PROCESS**

Support for a long-range Orange County budget plan that includes establishment of goals and priorities, both for operating expenses and for capital improvements (1988).

Support for clear communication in the Orange County budget process (1988).

Support for a long-range local government budget process that includes establishment of goals and priorities, both for operation expenses and for capital improvements (2006).

Support for clear communication in the budget process (2006).

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

Support for action to increase citizen safety by decreasing the number of drunken drivers (1983, 2006).

### **EDUCATION**

Support for the Chapel Hill School Board in its assignment of pupils on a non-discriminatory basis (1960).

Support redistricting policy that maintains racial balance and continuity of individual educational experience. Support improvement of quality of integration within the schools and individual classrooms (1978).

Support of action to improve the safety, efficiency and reliability of the Chapel Hill/Carrboro school bus transportation system (1979).

Support for adequate funding of the capital needs of Chapel Hill/Carrboro and Orange County school systems (1984).

Support redistricting policy that maintains racial balance, continuity of individual educational experience and supports the quality of integration within the schools and individual classrooms (2006).

Support actions to improve the safety, efficiency and reliability of school bus transportation systems (2006).

Support for adequate funding of the capital needs of local schools (2006).

### **ELECTION LAWS**

The LWVODC supports same-day registration at one-stop sites. This legislation will allow a person who misses the cut-off for registration (25 days before the election) to go to a one-stop voting site when they are open, show proper ID, register and vote (2006).

### **GREENWAYS**

Support for the greenways system and open space (1984, 2006).

### **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

Support of a sound planning program through which public improvement, policies, and regulations are coordinated for the orderly and attractive development of the community (1964, 2006).

Support of joint planning as the best process for managing growth cooperatively in the areas of Orange County surrounding Chapel Hill and Carrboro (1986).

Support for joint planning as the best process for managing growth cooperatively in our districts (2006).

Public facilities should be adequate before new development is permitted (1987).

### **INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES**

The LWVODC recommends education of the public on the particulars of the Patriot Act and the impact on their civil liberties. We advocate for changes in the law to protect our civil liberties through emails, visits and calls to our federal representatives and senators (2006).

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Local governing boards should adopt written ethics codes and local municipalities should adopt the state statute for candidates reporting all campaign contributors who give more than \$100.00 (1989, 2006).

### **PUBLIC RECREATION**

Support for public recreation for the Chapel Hill area (1961, 1974).

Support for public recreation (2006).

### **REDISTRICTING REFORM**

The LWVODC believes that redistricting locally should be representative of and apportioned

on population and effectively represent minority citizens. We strongly believe that the public should be educated regarding partisan gerrymandering (2006).

**TAXES**

The LWVODC supports an Earned Income Tax Credit and supports an equitable and efficient system of taxation (2006).

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF ORANGE, DURHAM AND CHATHAM COUNTIES**

BYLAWS  
Revised May, 2004

**ARTICLE I. Name**

Section 1. *Name.* The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties, hereinafter referred to in these Bylaws as LWVODC. This local league, consisting of three units representing the three counties, is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and of the League of Women Voters of North Carolina, hereinafter referred to in these Bylaws as LWVUS and LWVNC respectively.

**ARTICLE II. Purpose and Policy**

Section I. *Purpose.* The purpose of the LWVODC shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. *Political Policy.* The LWVODC shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

**ARTICLE III. Membership**

Section I. *Eligibility.* Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. *Type of Membership.* The membership of the LWVODC shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

- a. Voting members shall be citizens of voting age.
- b. Associate members shall be all others who are not eligible for membership according to the provisions of Section 2.a.

**ARTICLE IV Officers**

Section 1. *Enumeration and Election of Officers.* The officers of the LWVODC shall be a President, a First Vice president, a Second Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall be elected by the general membership at the Annual Meeting and. take office at the beginning of the fiscal year. Two persons may hold any of these offices. Each person may vote on the issues.

Section 2. *Terms of Office.* All officers shall be elected for one-year terms. They may, however, be re-elected to the same or another office after their term of office expires.

Section 3. *The President.* The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors. The President may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes. The President shall be an ex-officio 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.

Section 4. *The Vice Presidents.* The Vice Presidents in order of their rank, shall, in the event of absence, disability or death of the President possess all the powers and perform all the duties of the office, until such time as the Board of Directors shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy. If neither Vice President is able to serve as President, the Board shall fill the vacancy from among the elected Directors. The Vice Presidents shall perform such other duties as the President and Board shall designate.

Section 5. *The Secretary.* The Secretary shall keep minutes of all general meetings of the League and of all meetings of the board of Directors. The Secretary shall notify all officers and directors of their election. The Secretary shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 6. *The Treasurer.* The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the President or the Board. The Treasurer shall present financial statements to the Board at its regular meetings and an annual financial report to the Annual Meeting.

#### **ARTICLE V. Executive Committee**

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the President, First and Second Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer. The Executive Committee shall exercise such power and authority as may be delegated to it by the board and shall report to the board on all actions taken by it between regular meetings of the board.

#### **ARTICLE VI. Board of Directors**

Section I. *Number. Manner of Selection and Term of Office.* The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the league, six elected Directors and not more than six appointed Directors. Three Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional Directors, not exceeding six, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the league. The terms of the office of the appointed Directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting. The appointed directors shall have the same rights and responsibilities as the elected directors, and will attend board meetings, and be part of the quorum for voting.

Section 2. The immediate past President shall remain on the Board for the next year following his or her term as an ex-officio Board member. No ex-officio Board member shall be counted for the purpose of staying within the number of board members allowed. An ex-officio board member will be part of the quorum for voting.

Section 3. *Qualifications.* No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless that person is a voting member of the LWVODC.

Section 4. *Vacancies.* Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Three consecutive absences from a Board meeting of any member without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall assume the responsibility to fill a vacancy where upon it shall be voted by the board.

Section 5. *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, subject to the instructions of the voting membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program 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 6. *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 shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board.

Section 7. *Quorum.* A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE VII. Nominations and Elections**

Section 1. *Nominating Committee.* The nominating Committee shall consist of a Chair nominated by the current Nominating Committee and elected at the Annual meeting and three persons from the membership appointed by the president with one member from each unit. The Nominating Committee Chair should attend board meetings and shall have voting privileges at said meetings. An additional member from the Board of Directors shall be chosen by the Board. Suggestions for nominations for Officers and Directors may be sent to this Committee by any voting member.

Section 2. *Report of Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor.* The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors, and Chair of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members one month before the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented at the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made

from the floor by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

Section 3. *Elections.* The election shall be by ballot, except that when there is but one nominee for each office, the secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot for each nominee. A majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

## **ARTICLE VIII. Financial Administration**

Section 1. *Fiscal Year.* The fiscal year of the LWVODC shall commence on the first day of July each year, beginning July 1, 1988.

Section 2. *Dues.* Annual per member dues shall be determined by the membership. Dues shall be the same for voting members and for associate members. When two or more members reside at the same address in a common household, annual dues for them shall be one and one-half the per member dues. Dues shall be payable by July 1. Any member who fails to pay dues by October 1 of any fiscal year shall be dropped from the membership rolls. A member transferring to the league from another League, which has a different rate of membership renewal, will be assessed a pro-rata share of our membership fee to cover any time elapsed between the end of the membership year of the former League and the beginning of the Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties League's membership year.

Section 3. *Budget.* A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League of Women Voters on all its levels of activity.

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 proposed budget shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer or the Finance Chair shall not be eligible to serve as chair of the Budget Committee.

Section 5. *Distribution of Funds on Dissolution.* In the event of dissolution, for any cause, of the LWVODC, all monies and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the absolute control of the LWVODC shall be paid to the LWVNC after the Board of Directors has paid or made provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the LWVODC. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal or mixed which may at a the time be owned by or under the control of the LWVODC shall be disposed of by any officer or employee 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 Directors of LWVODC.

## **ARTICLE IX. Meetings**

Section 1. *Membership Meetings.* There shall be at least four meetings of the membership each year, with additional meetings to be called at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. *Annual Meeting.* An Annual Meeting shall be held during the month of May, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. It shall:

- a. adopt a local program for the ensuing year;
- b. elect officers and directors and the chairman of the Nominating Committee;
- c. adopt an adequate budget; and
- d. transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. *Quorum.* One-tenth of the members shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings of the LWVODC.

## **ARTICLE X. Program**

Section 1. *Authorization.* The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for adoption of Program.

Section 2. *Program.* The Program of the LWVODC shall consist of action to implement the principles and those local governmental issues chosen by the Annual Meeting for concerted study and action.

Section 3. The Annual meeting shall act upon the program using the following procedures:

- a. The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a proposed program.
- b. The proposed program shall be sent to all members at least 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 proposed program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.
- d. Recommendations for Program 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 majority vote.
- e. Changes in the Program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made provided that:
  - i. Information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting;
  - ii. Final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Section 4. *Member Action.* Members may act in the name of the LWV only when authorized to do so by the appropriate Board of Directors.

Section 5. *Local League Action.* The LWVODC may act only in conformity with, or not contrary to, the position taken by the LWVUS as stated in the principles.

## ARTICLE XI. National Convention, State Convention and Council

Section 1. *National Convention.* The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the national office shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted the LWVODC under the provisions of the bylaws of the LWVUS.

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 the LWVODC under the provisions of the bylaws of the LWVNC.

Section 3. *State Council.* 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 council in the number allotted the LWVODC under the provisions of the bylaws of the LWVNC.

## ARTICLE XII. Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. *Parliamentary Authority.* The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

## ARTICLE XIII. Amendments

Section 1. *Amendments.* These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual meeting using the following procedures:

- a. All recommendations shall be submitted to the membership in writing at least one month before the Annual Meeting.
- b. A two-thirds vote of all voting members present and voting shall be required for adoption of amendments.