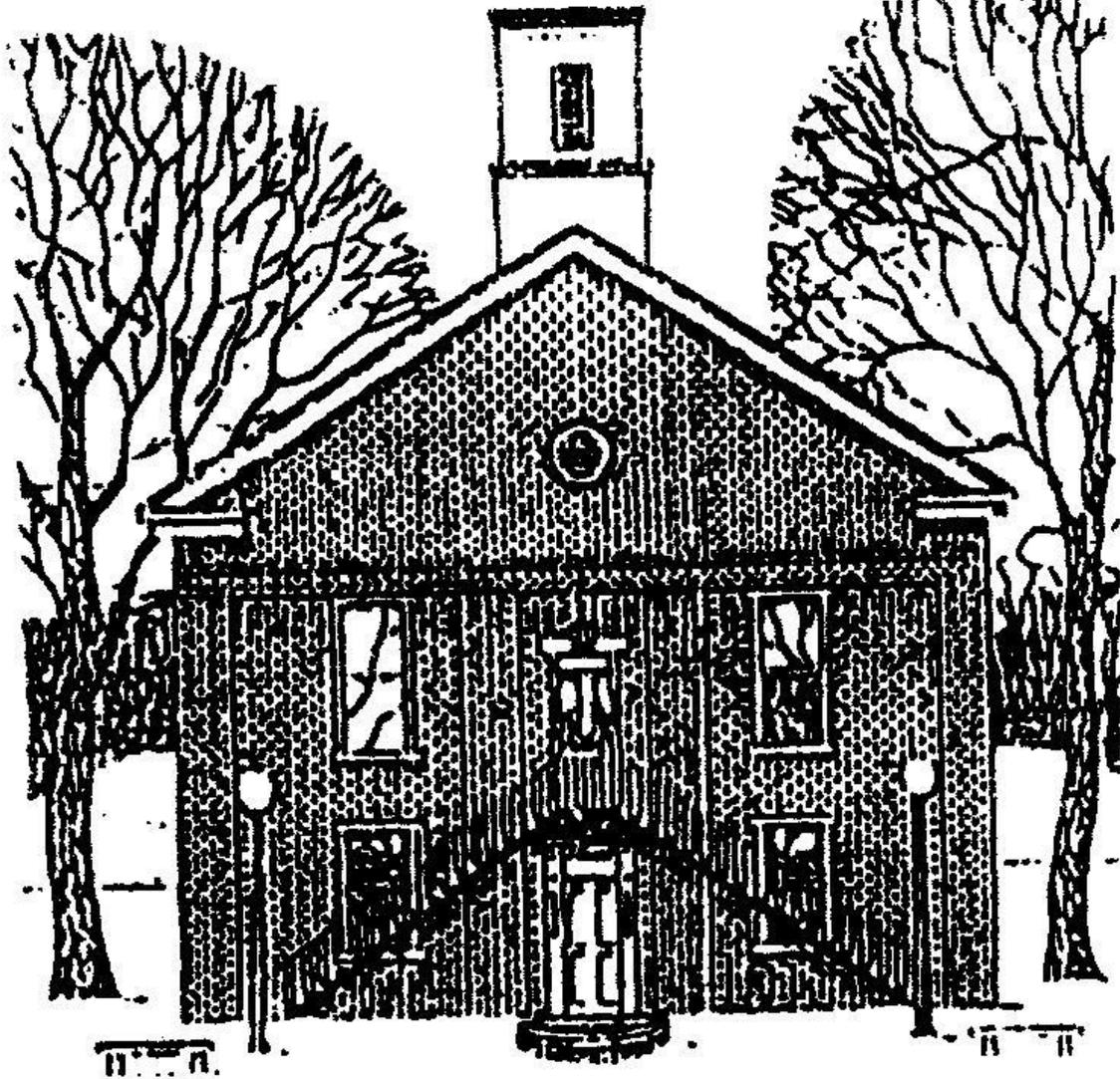


**BROWN CO.**



**LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**MAY 23, 2016**

## **Our Mission**

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

# **THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWN COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING**

**May 23, 2016**

## **Agenda**

- 5:30 pm      Social gathering
- 6:00 pm      Introduction of guests accompanying members and dinner
- 6:45 pm      Guest Speaker

## **Business Meeting**

Review of the rules of the Annual Meeting

Review of the 2015-2016 League Year

Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Report for 2015-2016 Fiscal Year

2016-2017 Budget Presentation and Adoption

Nominating Committee Report and Vote

Presentation of the 2016-2017 Local Program

Member Concerns and/or Directions to the Board

Announcements

Adjournment

# **THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWN COUNTY**

## **RULES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**MOTIONS:** Motions shall be presented by saying: "I move that..."

**QUORUM:** One third of the voting members shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the LWV of Brown Co.

**VOTING MEMBERS:** Voting members shall be those members who have paid dues for the year June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016

**REQUIRED MEMBERS:** A majority vote by voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of items of Program, approval of Budget and elections of officers.

**PROGRAM ITEM:** All Program items will be presented and discussed before the vote is taken for adoption of any item.

### **CONSIDERATION OF NON-RECOMMENDED PROGRAM:**

Recommendation of Program submitted by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting, but not recommended by the board, may be considered by the Annual Meeting provided that the Annual Meeting shall order such consideration by a majority vote.

### **ADOPTION OF NON-RECOMMENDED PROGRAM:**

A two-thirds vote shall be required for the adoption of non-recommended items of the Program.

### **PROGRAM DISCUSSION:**

During discussion of Program, speeches will be limited to two minutes and no one may speak twice until everyone has had an opportunity to speak. Amendments may be proposed for each item. Members may suggest the direction they wish the Board and/or the committee to take.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF LEAGUE YEAR 2015-16

June 2015	Published new version of Who's Where in Brown County
July 2015	First of three Community Conversations on our Vision 2020 Wellness and Heritage Tourism initiative: taking stock  Booths at the 4-H Fair and at BCCF Volunteer Fair
August 2015	Second of three Community Conversations on Wellness and Heritage Tourism, focusing on the Park, Trails and Old Nashville
September 2015	Third of three Community Conversations on Wellness and Heritage Tourism, focusing on the visual and musical arts in Brown County
October 2015	Presentation on Wellness and Heritage Tourism Initiative/Vision 2020 to County Redevelopment Commission
December 2015	Sponsored showing of "Suffragette" at the Playhouse  Voting Table at annual Reality Store  Sponsored talk by Dr. Jody Madeira on watching our legislators and tracking bills
February 2016	Meet the Legislators annual public session
March 2016	Membership review of State Position on Juvenile Justice
April 2016	Newly revised version of "Brown County and Its Government: A Citizen's Guide"  Held three Primary Candidate Forums  Sponsored showing of film "Gerrymandered"
May 2016	Held Community Conversation at Joint County Commissioners-Council Session on new Indiana road funding law, and what options County faces  Interviews with School officials, to gather information for State League development of position on high stakes testing
Entire Year	Committee on Fiscal Study met internally and with government officials for budget and revenue research, support for the Dorothy Stewart Scholarship Fund and for We the People, regular newsletters, observation of public meetings

# **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWN COUNTY**

## **MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING May 27, 2015**

Most of our members and several guests attended this year's annual meeting held at Hotel Nashville. Before the dinner Susanne Gaudin treated us to a Youtube Lady Gaga suffragette video routine to mark the 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of League of Women Voters. The Dorothy Stewart Scholarship was not awarded this year since no one applying met our criteria.

Our keynote speaker was Abbie Oliver, principal of Sprunica Elementary School, which received national recognition as a 2014 Blue Ribbon school and received state 4 star recognition again this year. Abbie spoke about her love of teaching and the special things the staff does to help children be prepared for learning, and then fielded questions from the audience. She made important comments on kindergarten costs and issues, and on the unique financial needs of rural schools, which have maintenance issues and busing expenses that city and charter schools do not.

With the opening of the annual business meeting, Julie Winn, President read the long list of highlights of our last year. Minutes from 2014 Annual meeting were accepted. Treasurer's report and proposed budget were discussed and passed with slight increase for Who's Where printing. The slate for nominations of officers and board was read. New nominations were called for from membership and seeing none – slate was accepted as presented.

### Officers:

President Julie Winn (term expires 2017)

Vice President and Secretary Pam Raider (term expires 2017)

Marge Cook continues as Treasurer (term expires 2016).

Directors: Mary Perez, Robyn Rosenberg-Bowman and Ruth Reichmann continue their term (expires 2016) as board directors

New directors include Judy East, Janet Kramer and Jan Swigert (term to expire 2017).

Appointed directors: Cathy Rountree and Shari Frank continue (term expires 2016). New members Joanne Heimbaugh and Jeanne Lager agreed to serve (term expires 2017)

### Portfolios:

Newsletter: Judy East

Website: Robyn Rosenberg-Bowman

Voter service: Shari Frank, Janet Kramer and Mary Perez

Membership: Pam Raider and Susanne Gaudin

Partnership B.C.: Janet Kramer and Shari Frank

Vision 2020 Initiatives and follow up: Ruth Reichmann, Julie Winn, Susanne Gaudin

Fiscal Study: Julie Winn and Susanne Gaudin

Health: Judy East and Cathy Rountree

Youth Leadership: Claire Dannelley and Tanner Bowman

The membership approved the following local programs:

1. Study the fiscal viability of Brown County, with particular focus on the accountability, transparency and coordination of elected governmental bodies in financial and development decision making. This initiative which has just begun, will seek to achieve member consensus later in 2015 and concurrence in 2016.
2. Build on the work already done by the League to advance the Brown County Wellness and Heritage initiative. Hold at least three Community Conversations on next steps and how best to implement this vision for our county.
3. Explore and partner with other likeminded organizations in a project to make Indiana's Bicentennial in 2016.
4. Follow up to ensure that County defines and implements a plan to correct identified deficiencies in space, security, ADA and other problems for our Historic Courthouse.
5. Plan for and celebrate locally the League of Women Voters' 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.
6. Support the Vision 2020 project and Leading Brown County by supporting the BC Partnership, sponsoring community conversations to implement Vision 2020 and partner with other groups as needed, and desirable to further this project.
7. Revisit and update our position on emergency services.
8. Revisit and update the LWVBC Bylaws as needed.
9. Sponsor primary candidates' forums in advance of the 2016 general election.
10. Support the Dorothy Stewart Memorial Scholarship Fund.
11. Attend and participate in the B.C. Partnership.
12. Voter Services: Sponsor annual Meet Your Legislators – Third House Meeting.
13. Increase membership and visibility in the League and observers for County meetings, including through creation of a Membership Handbook and by further enhancing our Website.

Julie Winn clarified the direction of the fiscal study which is to produce visual aids and flow charts to distribute to elected officials as well as recommendations for training. Keith Baker commented that we need a longer range plan as a second tier to this study. Ruth Reichmann suggests the study should be expanded from county to town and schools plus appointed boards such as planning and zoning and health department.

Wellness and Heritage conversations for economic development should help clarify direction Brown County needs to go. Ruth suggests more local people need to be involved and partnering with like-minded groups and organizations is key to this process.

Courthouse repairs need to be included in Commissioners budget to be submitted by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Under Emergency services we should add water. Susanne Gaudin reminds us that Brown County actually has three watersheds so we need to do further study including Indian Creek and Bean Blossom to our previous study.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Pam Raider, VP/Secretary

**STILL NEEDS UPDATING FOR 2016 ANNUAL MEETING**  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWN COUNTY**  
**Treasurer's Report May 1, 2015—April 30, 2016**

**BEGINNING BALANCE April 30, 2015: \$**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budgeted 2015-16</b>
Membership Dues		
Donations (general)		

**TOTAL INCOME**

**EXPENSES**

PMP – National  
PMP – State  
Postage and Printing Fund  
Who's Where Printing  
Government Booklet Update  
Community Conversations  
We the People Contribution  
Fair Booth  
State/National Meetings  
Dorothy Stewart Contribution

**TOTAL EXPENSES**

**Balance April 30, 2016 \$**

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWN COUNTY

## PROPOSED BUDGET May 1, 2016 thru April 30, 2017

### INCOME

Membership Dues	\$ 3,300.00
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<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>3,300.00</b>
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### **OTHER ASSETS**

LWV Ed Fund	\$660.00 *
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Balance in Treasury as of April 30, 2015	(to be entered in final)
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### EXPENSES

PMP – National	\$1,140.00
PMP – State	600.00
President's Postage and Printing Fund	100.00
Community conversations	200.00
We the People contribution	500.00
Fair Booth	125.00
State and National Meetings	100.00
Legal	500.00
Miscellaneous	100.00

### **TOTAL EXPENSES**

\* Note that this figure will go down in final budget, as application is underway to draw some of this to pay for printing of Brown County Guide last month

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWN COUNTY

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: May 2016

The members of the Nominating Committee submit the following slate:

<b>OFFICERS</b>		<b>Term Expires</b>
President	Julie Winn	2017
VP/Secretary	Pam Raider	2017
Treasurer	Jeanne Lager	2018

### **DIRECTORS (elected)**

Robyn Rosenberg-Bowman	2018
Cathy Rountree	2018
Shari Frank	2018
Jan Swigert	2017
Judy East	2017
Janet Kramer	2017

### **DIRECTORS (appointed)**

Mary Perez	2018
Ruth Reichmann	2018
Marge Cook	2018
JoAnne Himebaugh	2017

<b>Newsletter</b>	Judy East
<b>Website</b>	Robyn Rosenberg-Bowman
<b>Voter Services</b>	Shari Frank, Janet Kramer, Mary Perez
<b>Membership</b>	Pam Raider
<b>Partnership B.C.</b>	Janet Kramer, Shari Frank
<b>Vision 2020 Initiatives and Follow-Up</b>	Ruth Reichmann, Julie Winn
<b>Fiscal Study</b>	Julie Winn, Jan Swigert
<b>Health</b>	Judy East, Cathy Rountree
<b>Youth Leadership</b>	Claire Dannelley and Tanner Bowman

# **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWN COUNTY**

## **State and National Programs 2016--2017**

### **LWVUS:**

At Convention this year, the LWVUS Board will recommend retaining all current LWVUS positions in the areas of Government, International Relations, Natural Resources and Social Policy. The LWVUS Board will also recommend a League-wide campaign on “Making Democracy Work”, i.e. protecting, educating and engaging voters, reforming money in politics, and advocating redistricting processes and enforceable standards that promote fair and effective representation at all levels of government with maximum opportunity for public participation. They will also consider concurrence with Behavioral Health position advocating access to affordable behavioral health care on a parity with physical healthcare.

### **LWVIN:**

State positions on the following have been retained: Nomination of Candidates, Voter Registration, Dissemination of Voting Information, Poll Workers, Election Recounts, Great Lakes Ecosystem, Election Procedures, Local Government, Local Government Finance, Property Tax Exemption, School Finance, Pre-Trial Release, Unified Courts and Merit System, Mandatory Kindergarten, Children at Risk, Domestic Violence, Health Care and Illegal Substances.

The Juvenile Justice position is under study. Concurrence question responses were submitted statewide as of April 1, 2016, and are now being analyzed.

Restudy of the General Assistance position shall continue.

A statewide study related to Public Education, with emphasis on high-stakes testing, is underway.

# **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWN COUNTY**

## **Local Program 2016--2017**

1. Continue to study the fiscal and developmental viability of Brown County, with particular focus on the accountability, transparency and coordination of elected governmental bodies in financial and development decision-making.
2. Build on the work already done by the League to advance the Brown County Wellness and Heritage Initiative.
3. Follow up to ensure that County defines and implements a plan to correct identified deficiencies in space, security, ADA and other problems for our Historic Courthouse.
4. Support the Vision 2020 project and Leading Brown County by supporting the B.C. Partnership, sponsoring community conversations to implement Vision 2020, and partner with other groups as needed, and desirable to further this project.
5. Undertake such projects in line with our positions as recommended by our membership or requested by partners and agreed to by our membership, to include community conversations and other fora aimed at engaging, informing and attracting input from the public.
6. Revisit and update our position on emergency services.
7. Revisit and update the LWVBC Bylaws as needed.
8. Sponsor primary candidates' forums in advance of the 2016 general election.
9. Support the "Dorothy Stewart Memorial Scholarship Fund."
10. Attend and participate in the B.C. Partnership.
11. Voter Services: Sponsor annual "Meet Your Legislators – Third House Meeting".
12. Increase membership and visibility in the League and observers for County meetings, including through creation of a Membership Handbook and by further enhancing our Website.

# **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWN COUNTY**

## **LOCAL POSITIONS**

### **Position on Health:**

Based on an in-depth study carried out in 2012 by graduate students at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, the results of which were presented to the public at two open meetings, the League of Women Voters of Brown County has determined that there are needs not being met in health care for Brown County residents.

The League of Women Voters of Brown County supports:

- health care facilities in BC with affordable services for everyone.
- greater collaboration between health care providers and with consumers
- dissemination of easily readable information about existing health services
- improved transportation to health care facilities
- expand the role of Brown County Schools in offering access to and information on health care.

Adopted May, 2013

### **Position on Planning:**

- I The League of Women Voters of Brown County supports planning and zoning in Brown County through one unified Area Plan Commission. The League does not support two separate planning bodies (one for the County and one for the town.)
2. The League supports the appointment of a citizens' advisory commission to be appointed by the Area Plan Commission for the purpose of studying Brown County's Master Plan and its zoning ordinances and making recommendations to the Area Plan Commission for the updating of that plan and the zoning ordinances.
- 3 The League recommends that a professional planner be hired.
4. The League supports continued and consistent fair enforcement of the zoning ordinances.

Adopted November, 1985  
Amended May 30, 1995  
Amended May 27, 1999  
Amended June 29, 2000

**Position on Lake Monroe Watershed:**

- I The League of Women Voters of Brown County supports resource conservation, stewardship and long-range planning for the Lake Monroe Watershed, with the responsibility for managing natural resources shared by all levels of government.
2. The League of Women Voters of Brown County supports preservation of the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem with the maximum protection of the public health and environment.

Considering that (1) most of Brown County is in the Lake Monroe Watershed, as much or more than all other counties combined, (2) Lake Monroe provides drinking water to many communities in southern Indiana, including parts of Brown County, and (3) the proposed Comprehensive Plan for Brown County makes no explicit evaluation of the effects on water quality of the projected growth of Brown County and its tourist influx and how the Plan might mitigate resultant deleterious effects, the League recommends that the Board of Commissioners solicit opinions of the Plan's potential effects from the government agencies whose mandate includes monitoring Lake Monroe's water quality. Such agencies may include the Federal EPA, State agencies as IDEM, the State Board of Health, and local agencies as the Monroe County Board of Commissioners, Plan Commission/Zoning Boards, County Council, and Boards of Health of both Brown and Monroe Counties.

**Position on Brown County Fire and Emergency Services:**

The League of Women Voters of Brown County supports the establishment of a county wide fire protection district with its own board and taxing capability. This district would have the authority to tax the property of those it serves in order to pay for fire protection.

It would be the responsibility of a Board of Fire Trustees, appointed by the County Commissioners, to develop a county wide plan for staffing and training of personnel on an ongoing basis. This board would also be responsible for providing and maintaining facilities and equipment and for the testing of fire hydrants.

The League supports the employment of a sufficient number of trained, full time fire fighters, along with the current volunteer fire fighters.

It would be the responsibility of County Government (County Commissioners in conjunction with County Council and the plan Commission) to provide long range plans and do periodical reviews and updates of its emergency response network.

The fire chief/department should review subdivision and major building plans for fire protection. All planning should include provision for an adequate fire-fighting water supply and for adequate access (roads, bridges, turnarounds) throughout the county.

The open-burning ordinances are to be strictly enforced.

The League is committed to work for the creation of a fire district, including emergency medical services, for the benefit and well-being of all county residents. To this end the League will hold several information forums, provide input at public meetings, lobby the commissioners and write articles for the newspaper.

Adopted May 14, 1996