



BYLAWS

The League of Women Voters of Downers Grove/Woodridge/Lisle
as amended, May 19, 2012

Article I

Name

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle. This local league is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and The League of Women Voters of Illinois.

Article II

Purpose and Policy

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of The League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, and Lisle shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in Government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. Policy. The League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, and Lisle may take action on local governmental measures and policies in the public interest in conformity with the Principles of the League of Women Voters of the United States. It shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

Article III

Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership. The membership of the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

- a. Voting members shall be citizens at least 18 years old.
- b. Associate members shall be all others who enroll in the League.
- c. Life membership is granted to any voting members of the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle who have attained 50 years as members in the League of Women Voters of the United States. No further dues will be collected and all privileges will be retained as a voting member.

Article IV
Board of Directors

Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection, and Term of Office. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers of the League and elected or appointed directors.

The officers and elected directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional directors as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The term of office of the appointed directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. 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 League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle.

Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancy other than the Presidency, occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of the resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member may be filled until the next Annual Meeting by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board. Three consecutive absences from a Board meeting of any member without providing a reason shall be deemed a resignation.

Section 4. 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 the same, subject to the instructions of the general 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. Each Board member shall be entitled to one vote on each question.

Section 5. There will be at least six (6) regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. Such meetings may be conducted electronically.

Section 6. Quorum. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Article V Officers

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The Officers of the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle may include a president, co-presidents, one or more vice-presidents, a secretary and a treasurer or a secretary/treasurer who shall be elected for terms of one year by the general membership at the Annual Meeting and take office immediately.

Section 2. The Presidents. The Presidents 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, ex-officio, a 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 duties as may be designated by the Board.

Section 3. The Vice-President(s). The Vice-President(s) shall, in the event of absence, resignation, disability or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform such other duties of that office, until the next Annual Meeting. The Vice-president(s) shall perform such other duties as the President and the Board shall designate.

Section 4. The Secretary. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the League if directed by the Board 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 of Secretary.

Section 5. 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 Board. The Treasurer shall present statements to the Board at their regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting.

Article VI Financial Administration

Section 1. The Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle shall commence on the first day of July each year, beginning July 1, 1989.

Section 2. Dues. Annual dues shall be payable at the start of the fiscal year, July 1. The amount of the annual dues for the following fiscal year shall be determined at the Annual Meeting by a three-fifths majority of voting members, present and voting. The amount of the annual dues set for that fiscal year shall cover at least the sum of National and State, per member payments. The Board may offer a senior citizen discount, or a financial hardship

Scholarship. When two members or more reside at the same address in a common household, they may make a joint dues payment equal to one and a half dues.

Any member who fails to pay their dues by the national membership count in January will be dropped from the membership roles.

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 as a whole.

Section 4. Budget Preparation. The Treasurer will prepare a budget for the following year to be voted on by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Section 5. Auditing. The Treasurer's books shall be audited at the discretion of the Board, and a written report submitted to the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of a dissolution for any cause of the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle, all monies and securities owned by the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

Article VII
Meetings

Section 1. Membership Meetings. There shall be at least two to six meetings of the membership each year. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors. These meetings may be scheduled study and discussion groups, open to the membership and the public.

Section 2. Annual Meetings. The Annual Meeting shall be held between April 1 and June 30 each year. The Annual Meetings shall:

- a. Adopt a Local study item(s) for the ensuing year, if the item(s) has been approved by the Board.
- b. Elect officers and directors.
- c. Adopt an adequate budget.
- d. Transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. Quorum. 25% of the membership shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings of the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle.

Article VIII

Section 1. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members, one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The members shall be appointed the Board of Directors. Suggestions for the nomination of Officers and Directors may be sent to this committee by any voting member.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor.

The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers and Directors, shall be sent to all members before the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall also 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 is secured.

Section 3. Elections. The election shall be by ballot or voice vote.

A majority vote of those attending the Annual Meeting and qualified to vote shall elect the slate of Officers. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

Article IX
Program

Section 1. Authorization. The Governmental Principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitutes the authorization for the adoption of the Program.

Section 2. Program. The Program of the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle shall consist of:

- a. Action to implement the Principles and Program of the League of Women Voters of the United States and
- b. Action to implement the Principles and Program of the League of Women Voters of Illinois, and
- c. Those local governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action.

Section 3. Local Study Item(s) Adoption. The Local Study Item(s) shall be limited to such governmental issues as the membership shall choose for action in the following manner:

- a. The Board of Directors shall consider, prior to the Annual Meeting, the recommendations sent in by voting members, and shall formulate a Proposed Local Study Item(s).
- b. The proposed Local Study Item(s) shall be sent to all members ~~one month~~ before the Annual Meeting.
- c. A majority of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of Local Study Item(s) as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors. In the case of a Study Item(s) involving only one local governmental unit, action shall be as follows: those voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting who live in the governmental jurisdiction involved shall vote on the motion to adopt the item. If approved, all voting members present and voting shall then vote on the item.
- d. Recommendations for Local Study Item(s) submitted by voting members prior to the Annual Meeting, but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered and adopted at the Annual Meeting provided that:
 - 1) The Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote of the voting members present and voting.
 - 2) The Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting.
- e. Emergency Additions to Local Study Item(s) – The emergency shall be an unforeseen situation and/or altered condition judged by the Board of Directors to be such that only immediate study for quick action would provide the League with an opportunity to be effective.
 - 1) The proposed emergency item shall be presented to the Board for its consideration and recommendations.

2) The Board's recommendations shall be sent to all members at least two weeks prior to the membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed

3) Following discussion at said meeting, final membership action may be taken; a two-thirds vote of those members present is required for adoption.

Section 4. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the proper Board of Directors.

Section 5. Local League Action. The League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, the position taken by the League of Women Voters of the United States or the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

Article X

National Convention, State Convention, Council, ~~and County Convention~~

Section 1. National Convention. The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which names of the delegates must be sent to the National Office, shall select delegates to that Convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Downer Grove, Woodridge, Lisle under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Section 2. State Convention. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which names of delegates must be sent to the State Office, shall select delegates to that Convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Lisle under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

Section 3. State Council. The President or the President's proxy shall be the delegate to the State Council under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

Article XI
Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws.

Article XII
Amendments

Section 1. Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, provided the Amendments were submitted to the membership in writing prior to the Annual Meeting.

Revised February 9, 2012, and April 9, 2012 by:

Nancy Phelan
Nancy Peraino

The principles that guided our suggestions for amending the Bylaws:

1. A realistic assessment of the procedures we use, taking into account the number of voting members and the many pressures (family, etc.) on members of the Board of Directors and Officers.
2. An attempt to make the Bylaws flexible enough to allow the League to do the work of the League as best we can, and to respond to changing or emergency political situations.

Clean copy: October 8, 2012 Nancy Peraino