

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WHITEWATER
SUGGESTED CHANGES TO BYLAWS – 2011 LAST REVISION

ARTICLE V. Officers, Section 1

CURRENT WORDING:

Enumeration and Election of Officers

“The Officers of the LWV of Whitewater shall be a President, a first Vice President, a second Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer who shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting and take office immediately. The President, the first Vice President and the Secretary shall be elected in even numbered years. The second Vice President and the Treasurer shall be elected in odd numbered years”.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Enumeration and Election of Officers. The Officers of the LWV of Whitewater shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer who shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting and take office immediately. The President, the Vice President and the Secretary shall be elected in even numbered years and the Treasurer shall be elected in odd numbered years.

EXPLANATION:

This eliminates the office of second vice president as we no longer have two vice presidents, and assures that there is continuity on the Board by specifying which year each officer would be up for election.

SECTION 3.

Eliminate this section: The Vice Presidents.....

EXPLANATION:

See explanation above.

Section 4. now becomes Section 3.

Section 5. now becomes Section 4.

ARTICLE VI, Financial Administration

Section 2. Dues

CURRENT WORDING: Annual dues shall be payable at the Annual Meeting. When two members reside at the same address in a common household a payment for the two members shall be one and one-half times the single member assessment. Any member who fails to pay her/his dues within four months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Delete this complete paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph: **Dues. Annual dues for single and household members shall be set by the Board of Directors and approved by the general membership at the Annual Meeting. Any member who fails to pay her/his dues in the time period before the following December 31 shall be dropped from the membership.**

EXPLANATION: This clarifies more specifically how dues are set and how it is presently being done. It also sets more definitively when dues must be paid to remain a member.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT to Section 3. Budget.

CURRENT WORDING:

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.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Combine Section 3 and Section 4 to read:

Section 3. The Treasurer of the Board shall prepare a budget for the ensuing year and submit it to the Board for approval. Upon approval the budget will be sent to all general members one month before the Annual Meeting where it will be submitted for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.

This eliminates Section 4.

Explanation: This clarifies better how the budget for our League is arrived at and who is responsible for preparing the proposed budget. We have not had a Budget Committee.

ARTICLE VII. Meetings

Section 3. Quorum. Add: (members) “present” so the sentence will read: A simple majority of the members present shall constitute a quorum at all meeting of the LWV of Whitewater.

Explanation: We rarely have a majority of the total membership at any given meeting which would make it difficult to transact business.

ARTICLE VIII. Nominations and elections.

Section 1. Nominating Committee. Change the number of members on the Nominating Committee from five to three, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. Members will be appointed by the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting,

This section will now read: The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. Committee Members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Suggestions for nomination for Officers and Directors may be sent to this Committee by any voting member.

Explanation: This brings this section up to date on our current practice.

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

Delete: "and the members of the succeeding Nominating Committee", so the 1st sentence will read: **The report of the Nominating Committee for its nominations for Officers and Directors shall be sent to all members one month before the date of the Annual Meeting.** The rest of the paragraph stands as is: The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member providing the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

Explanation: This brings the Bylaws in line with Section 1.

Section 3. Elections. Change this to read: **The elections shall be by voice vote unless there are nominations from the floor, in which case the vote will be taken by ballot.** The rest of the paragraph stands as is written.

ARTICLE IX Program

Section 1. Authorization:

Change “principles” to “priorities” so the sentence reads: **The priorities adopted by the National Convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for adopting of the Program.**

Section 2. Program

Change to read: **The Program of the LWV of Whitewater shall consist of:**

- a. action to implement the governmental principles of the National , State and Local Leagues, and**
- b. those League issues chosen for concerted study and action.**

Explanation: We tried to clarify this section.

Section 3. Delete. Explanation: We do not decide on our programming until after the Annual Meeting.

Submitted by:
Bylaws Committee
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