



**Monthly Member Meeting July 17, 2017**

**Tonight's agenda:**

- Welcome new members
  - Announcements and updates
  - Vote on a new recurring meeting day (beginning in September)
  - Subcommittee updates
  - Adjourn to subcommittee meetings
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Welcome from President

Several new members! Welcome!

John Binder modeled his Register to Vote shirt. We briefly discussed making shirts as a fundraiser and/or identification for when we begin our registration drives.

**Welcome and Updates**

- Update on membership
  - Are you receiving email from us? If you gave us your email address and didn't hear from us, please stop at the membership table to be sure we have correct contact information.
  - State Convention Update: Ellen Kiusmeier & Jane Rogers
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**Update on Membership**

As of 7/11/17 we have 81 members

This is a huge testament to the strength of this city!

Note on please correct us on your email if you hadn't received a meeting notice today.

Note about no-more-google-calendar

**Non-profit statement** will come from LWV regarding tax deductible donation for membership dues.

**Press release** - yes we did it. Printed today. We'll try to get press releases and agendas out a few days prior to the meetings. We may also try to get releases in the Sheboygan Sun - add our events to the calendar in the Sun

**Welcome & Updates...continued**

- Verification of nonprofit status: membership dues and other contributions ARE tax deductible.
  - As suggested in previous meetings, we created a press release and sent to the Sheboygan Press prior to this meeting.
  - Select and vote on a new day for our monthly meetings, beginning in September.
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**Regular meeting:** New meeting date should be picked for September and beyond.

August meeting will remain the 2nd Thursday - Aug. 10.

Vote was taken to determine best times/days.

2nd and 3rd Wednesdays seem the best.

A survey will be sent to the full membership via email.

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**Joan and Ellen: State Convention Report (attached)**

18 chapters represented plus 2 interleague organizations

Connections made: Ozaukee cty and Fond du Lac and Manitowoc were interested in working with us - joining forces. Manitowoc does Great Decisions in Feb and March Mondays.

**Ideas:**

Voter registration in high schools, civics classes, libraries. Partner with AAUW, land conservancies, rotary groups, and other chapters.

Emphasized a strong social media presence on Facebook,

Instagram, Linked In and Twitter.

**National Meeting in 2018 in Chicago** - Lake Michigan meeting will be that same weekend. With national and international speakers

**Wording change:** use the term Fair Voting Maps instead of redistricting. More descriptive and positive.

See notes attached  
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**Aug 26, Saturday, 10-1pm**

Granny caucus is celebrating Womens' right to vote  
Fountain Park  
Jane shared Bilingual brochures from 2004

**Goal of monthly meetings** business meeting is 30 minutes with time/space devoted to subcommittees.

**Business card or flyer** or handout in development so we have materials to hand out at our outreach events  
Where to start:

**Ruth:** history of league presentation background -- Carrie Chapman Catt - "the vote is the emblem of your equality. Women of America..." get this from Ruth

<https://www.thoughtco.com/carrie-chapman-catt-quotes-3530051>

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**Call for Committee report out:**

Environmental group: 10 members met at Paradigm, 7/11 - \*\*get list and notes from Stephanie

Air quality deregulation

Feed lots

Kohler golf course

Water testing of mysterious tidal pool - 11 year

Lead pipes

No other reports

Adjourn: Motion Ruth Rank  
2nd Joan Rogers  
7:12pm

**Sheboygan Chapter Action Priorities: Subcommittees**

- Voter registration and voting access:
  - Photo ID requirements: expanding hours at DMV to include evening availability
  - Online registration drive
  - Expand early voting
  - Make sure polling stations are accessible and located in voters' neighborhood of residence.
- Education:
  - Candidate and issue forums
  - Civic engagement / "Civics 101"
  - Redistricting
  - Health care
- Environment:
  - Lake Michigan Watersheds education project

Are there reports from any of these groups tonight?

**Subcommittees: Getting Started**

Support for subcommittee work:

- Subcommittees will have the opportunity report on their activity at each monthly meeting.
- Whenever possible, time will be allotted at the end of each monthly meeting for subcommittees to meet.
- We are developing a business card or handout for members to use in their committee work and community outreach; if you are design-inclined and interesting in helping, please see Stephanie.

Where to start:

- Identify goals for the group and what will be accomplished this year. This might include:
  - sponsor speakers
  - develop white papers
  - hold candidate or issue forums
  - partner with other organizations
  - meet with government officials

**Next Meeting**

August 10, 2017

6:30 pm

Mead Public Library

Noted: we'll send out agenda the day prior to the next meeting

# Wisconsin League of Women Voters - Annual Meeting

Revised 7-13-17

Recap from Joan Rogers and  
June 9-10, 2017  
Green Bay

Wisconsin State LWV Presentation      Transformation

## Vision

To unabashedly reclaim the League of women Voters Role in the American elections process by 2020 so that:

- We are known as the organization to register and turn out new citizens and the next generation of women to vote.
- We are the authoritative voice on election reform.
- We create an electorate that is Representative of the Diversity of the U.S. population.

## Mission

Impact: on the individual, community and systemic level

Relevance: develop new engagement model driven by audience needs

Visibility: expand the league's visibility on a national scale

Funding: Increase revenue by expanding revenue channels

Culture: align our organizational culture and structure to enable success

## Social Media

A strong presence on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter is highly recommended, especially to attract the younger generation. Milwaukee LWV is available to assist us at any time.

It was suggested by the LWV state team to use the words "Fair Voting Maps" thereby replacing the word "redistricting" in our messaging.

Breakout Session - Discussion Group on Poverty (Economic Inequality)

Ashland/Bayfield LWV completed a 2.5 year focused study on poverty in their communities.

[lwvabcwi.org/Local](http://lwvabcwi.org/Local) Study

It is in that spirit that the LWV/ABC moves to analyze ways in which public economic policies, especially in the last three decades, may have resulted in economic disadvantage for residents of the Chequamegon Bay region. It is hoped that this study may also provide context for local decision making regarding the promise of livelihoods and economic abundance with the Penokee Mine.

There are excellent materials available for review, including Wisconsin economic statistics compiled by the UW-Center for Strategies for WI ([COWS](#)) - Center On Wisconsin Strategy - A think-and-do tank promoting equity, sustainability and democracy.

Manitowoc LWV - [lwvmanitowoc.org/studies](http://lwvmanitowoc.org/studies)

Currently working on a 2015 Poverty Study for Manitowoc County.

Several references listed in their study.

Mental Health Study completed 2013

**Keynote Speaker:** Erica Nelson, Director of Race to [Equity.net](http://Equity.net)

Wisconsin Council on Children and Families

A project to reduce racial disparities in Dane County

- Graduation rate for white students was 93%; African American students was 66% (2010 census)
- Wisconsin is at the top of the list for the ten worst states for incarceration of African American Men (2010 US Census) at 12.8%
- More recent Wisconsin numbers: Children in Poverty in Wisconsin:
  - 44% are African American
  - 33% are Latino
  - 41% Native American
  - 10% White

Moving toward greater equity at the State and Local Levels: acknowledge that to make change and improvements in well-being for children and families of color across the state of Wisconsin:

Race Matters                      Place Matters

Class Matters                      Policy Matters

Culture Matters

Three areas of focus: 1) Enhancing Employment and Earnings

2) Supporting Working Parents

3) Assuring Success in School

**Race to Equity's Major Conclusions:** Dane County is home to some of the widest Black/White disparities of any place in America and 2) African Americans in Dane County fare worse than blacks elsewhere in the nation.

**How can the League of Women Voters help?**

Voting    ACA and Medicaid

Investment in Public Education    EITC-Earned Income Tax Credit

Water Quality, Climate Change

What we are facing today is not sustainable for a state in the 21st Century.

**Making Progress is in all of our interests:**

“Addressing racial disparities is critical, not only as a matter of simple justice, but also for our collective well-being. Narrowing racial resource and opportunity gaps will help to level the playing field for all citizens and, in turn, will make the communities we live in and surrounding areas a more supportive environment for high achievement by all our children and families, including those of color. This is not only the right thing to do morally, it is the smart thing to do economically. Unless all our communities are thriving, the long term social, cultural and economic fate of our communities will be far less promising.”

“A community is not resilient if it is not equitable.” Angela Glover Blackwell

## **Suggested sources for information:**

### **On-Line or TV:**

Great Decisions: [Great Decisions on PBS - greatdecisionsonpbs.com](http://greatdecisionsonpbs.com)

National grassroots foreign policy discussion programming.

Iron Jawed Angels - movie

tells the remarkable and little-known story of a group of passionate and dynamic young women, led by Alice Paul (Hilary Swank) and her friend Lucy Burns (Frances O'Connor), who put their lives on the line to fight for American women's right to vote- 1912-1914

### **Dream On film**

[-www.pbs.org/wnet/dream-on/](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/dream-on/)

DREAM ON investigates the perilous state of the American Dream after decades of rising income inequality and declining economic mobility.

I Am Not Your Negro documentary; suggested by keynote speaker Erica Nelson

### **Recommended Reading:**

UNITED WAY - ALICE STUDY- Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

Evicted by Matthew Desmond -WINNER OF THE 2017 PULITZER PRIZE FOR NON-FICTION 'Essential. A compelling and damning exploration of the abuse of one of our basic human rights: shelter.'

Janesville - An American Story - regarding the closing of the G.M.plant by Amy Goldstein

Dark Money by author Jane Mayer

Hand to Mouth: Living in Bootstrap America - by Linda Tirado

The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality by Angus Deaton

# LWV Sheboygan Environment Subcommittee Meeting

Wednesday, July 12th

## Minutes

*Attendees (going counterclockwise around the table):*

Stephanie Szemetylo, Chris Riley, Julie Johnson, Linda Shimon, Luan Burton, Deb Sabol-Williams, Kim Marggraf, Paul Pickhardt, Kristin Casey-Booth, Jo Johnson

## General Notes

- The group brought up many topics for general discussion: air and water quality, watershed education, Kohler golf course, concentrated animal feeding operations
- General agreement around focusing on local/county environmental topics for this year as a first step and to engage and educate the community
- General agreement that we need to further investigate topics before we jump onto anything
- For now, Stephanie will be the facilitator of the meetings until someone else wants to lead the committee :)

## Next Steps

We identified about 6 local topics to research (collecting background information, relevant environmental data, understanding who/what is influencing the issue) and understand how our chapter might want to act.

Topics and assigned person(s) to investigate:

- Down-grading of Air Quality standards--Kristin
- Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs)--Luan
- Kohler Golf Course--Linda, Jo
- Testing of mysterious tide pool on Lake Michigan on the north side of town (6th street)--Kristin, Julie
- Watershed issues/education--Julie
- Lead Pipes--Deb

Other research actions:

- Check for resources on the above topics--Kim
- Learn how these topics tie into LWV Regional, State, and US positions and initiatives--Stephanie
- Contact Clean Wisconsin--Julie

Resources Mentioned During the Meeting:

- Wi Dept of Natural Resources: <http://dnr.wi.gov/>
- Wi State Lab of Hygiene: <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/>
- Clean Wisconsin: <http://www.cleanwisconsin.org/>
- UWM School of Freshwater Sciences: <http://uwm.edu/freshwater/>

*Goals for next meeting--Wednesday, August 2nd 5:30-7pm*

- Have each member share what they learned on their topic,
- Decide upon 1-2 goals for our committee this year
- Brainstorm on what kind of activities we can do to support our 1-2 goals

**Next meeting will be Wednesday, August 2nd at 5:30-7pm, Location TBD**

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## Agenda

Introductions

Discuss Environmental Topics of Interest

- Lake Michigan Watershed Research Project
- Clean Air Act
- Clean Water Act
- Great Lakes Restoration Funding
- From LWV Lake Michigan Region
  - Green Waters: Algae Blooms
  - Stormwater Education Project
  - Coal Tar Sealants
  - Native Plants
  - Watershed Education
- Local organizations to get involved with?
- What are other local chapters doing on this topic?
- Stephanie's suggestion--let's review the LWVUS, LWVWI, LWVLMR, and local environmental efforts/issues/topics, write up a brief summary of each and how our local chapter may want to get involved.

Begin to set goals, timeline, and calendar of events

Discuss when/how often the committee would like to meet

Discuss who would like to lead the committee