

POLICIES

for the regulation of the **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Roselle-Bloomingtondale**.

[Adopted May 7, 2013; revised May 6, 2014, Amended and readopted: May 5, 2018; amended and readopted May, 2021]

All policies of the Roselle/Bloomingtondale League of Women Voters (LWVRB) shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors biennially at the beginning of the fiscal year, except the Non-Partisan Political Policy, which shall be reviewed annually as required by the LWV of Illinois.

NON-PARTISAN POLITICAL POLICY

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We take action on public policy positions established through member study and agreement (see Note 1). We are political, but we do not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

The League believes that political parties are essential to the American system of government and that informed participation is beneficial to the political parties and to the system. Consequently, the League encourages its members as individuals to be active in the political parties, in finding and supporting candidates for public office, and in seeking election to public office.

Therefore, a board member may serve on any non-partisan public board, commission, committee, or coalition. However, that board member does not represent the League unless officially designated as a League representative by the League board.

Members of the Board of Directors in sensitive positions (President, Voter Service Chair, and off-board members visible in high profile League activities) shall **not** participate in the following activities:

- Making financial contributions to candidates and/or political parties unless they are made anonymously.
- Participating in behind-the-scenes efforts for candidates, such as telephoning, stuffing envelopes, writing position papers, etc.
- Publicly supporting a candidate for elected office, which includes indicating political affiliations or candidate preference at any level of government in the media, including on social networking sites or other public venues that prominently identify her/him as a member of the LWVRB.
- Circulating nominating petitions; petitions for referendums supporting league positions may be circulated.
- Holding coffees or similar events for candidates seeking political office and/or nonpartisan office.
- Attending fundraising functions for candidates or political parties.
- Holding office in another organization that supports or opposes political parties or candidates.

Board members shall participate to the extent that League nonpartisanship is maintained. A board member shall consult with the board to determine if there is a conflict of interest. When a board

member decides to resign from their sensitive position due to a conflict, a press release will be issued by the League.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a board member should be considered separate and distinct from the activities of the board member.

(Note 1) These are definitions from the LWVUS website used in clarification during our board discussion.

Position: A statement of the League's point of view on an issue, arrived at through member study and agreement (consensus or concurrence), approved by the appropriate board and used as a basis for League action.

Consensus: Collective opinion of a substantial number of League members, representative of the membership as a whole, after objective study of an issue.

Concurrence: Agreement by League members with a position on an issue reached by a small group of members or by another League.