



## 2021 Chapter Meeting

Sunday, June 13, 2021

12-1:33 PM

Virtual ZOOM Mtg.

|                           |             |                         |                                      |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Meeting called by:</b> | Mandy Yates | <b>Type of meeting:</b> | Monthly Chapter Meeting              |
| <b>Facilitator:</b>       | Mandy Yates | <b>Note taker:</b>      | Natalia Galvan                       |
| <b>Timekeeper:</b>        | Mandy Yates | <b>Running Time:</b>    | Called at 12:02pm, Adjourned: 1:33pm |

Attendees: Board Members & Committee Chairs: Mandy Yates (president), Abby Ang (Vice President), Natalia Galvan (Secretary), Shruti Rana (Director of Legislative Action), Julie Hardesty (Director of Membership), and General Membership and Guests

Minutes:

### Chapter Business:

- **Mandy/President:** Mandy kicked off with Save the Date and gave a swag/purchase announcement.

### UPCOMING DATES

1. NOW 55th Anniversary Virtual Celebration (06/30 AT 7pm) - [Register here](#).
2. NOW National Conference (07/24, 25, 31, 08/01, 07, and 08) - [Register here](#).
3. July Chapter meeting (07/25 12-1:30pm) - topic TBA
4. NO AUGUST MEETINGS!
5. Spencer Pride (10/16)

### National News-

NOW National Conference (07/24, 25, 31, 08/01, 07, and 08) [Register here](#). It is going on NOW.

### Committee Reports:

- **Shruti/Legislative Action-**  
Shruti gave a concerning update on Roe. Please contact Shruti or send MCNOW an email if you would like to get involved. [legactiondirector.mcnw@gmail.com](mailto:legactiondirector.mcnw@gmail.com)

- **Julie/Membership-** She is sending out monthly reminders to renew if your membership is expiring. Please join by August 15th to vote for upcoming local NOW elections. We do have a sliding scale membership if needed. We have a new member signup form you can access below. She will start reaching out but please email her at [membership.mcnow@gmail.com](mailto:membership.mcnow@gmail.com) or you can find the form here:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdySgxCP7-dkHVImgy5teVlpgv0rwYc3\\_TNv0vffchHvSEiig/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdySgxCP7-dkHVImgy5teVlpgv0rwYc3_TNv0vffchHvSEiig/viewform)  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScjvNXut4MaqHGcCtRzP-sIFqq0xbfn1alnow.org/renew>  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdySgxCP7-dkHVImgy5teVlpgv0rwYc3\\_TNv0vffchHvSEiig/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdySgxCP7-dkHVImgy5teVlpgv0rwYc3_TNv0vffchHvSEiig/viewform)

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**Presentation: “Working for Fair Voting Maps in Indiana” a presentation by League of Women Voters and City of Bloomington’s District 6 Councilmember Stephen Volan’s “Citizens’ Redistricting Advisory Commission.” Questions and Answers Followed.**

About “Working for Fair Voting Maps in Indiana:” every 10 years, state electoral districts are redrawn following completion of the U.S. Census. This fall, the Indiana legislature will redraw maps that could either give voters another 10 years of gerrymandered districts or respond to growing public sentiment for “fair maps,” drawn in a transparent process with citizen input. The movement for fair maps is gaining momentum statewide because more Hoosiers realize that a process controlled by one political party is not independent and is more likely to result in another 10 years of single-party control.

A local Bloomington group decided it was time to join the public conversation. At first this group included just members of the local League of Women Voters. We decided to produce a video to spread the word about this looming threat: What is gerrymandering? Why the funny name? How does it subvert representative government? What can we do about it? We decided to call the video presentation “Working for Fair Voting Maps in Indiana” because that was indeed the intent.

The task of producing the video and all the supporting activities was immense. It wasn't a matter of simply throwing together some slides. We needed to develop follow-up materials and provide ways for the public to participate directly with their legislators. As a venerable 100-year organization, the League's mission is to encourage informed and active participation in government. We also have a history of working with other nonpartisan groups because we know that “going it alone” does not work when widespread awareness is needed. We began to reach out to other local nonpartisan organizations, seeking their input and voices. The result? A breath of fresh air, an influx of new ideas, and a growing partnership confirming that citizens working together can do more than an organization can on its own.

District election maps, now drawn to suit majority legislators, can easily be drawn to reflect Indiana's voters more accurately if we all become involved and demand this from our legislators.

Along the video journey, more and more organizations have become involved. Our nonpartisan partners now include the Bloomington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.; the Monroe County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); the Monroe County chapter of the National Organization for Women; Reverse Citizens United of Monroe County; and the Leagues of Women Voters of Bloomington-Monroe County, Brown County, South Central Indiana, and Indiana. All these organizations encourage readers to contact their state legislators and urge them to support a fair and transparent redistricting process by going to [iga.in.gov/legislative/find-legislators](http://iga.in.gov/legislative/find-legislators).

### **City of Bloomington's District 6 Councilmember Stephen Volan's "Citizens' Redistricting Advisory Commission."**

Councilmember Steve Volan has lived in Bloomington since 1986, and since 2004, he has held the sixth of six district seats on the Bloomington city council, representing approximately 12,000 constituents. Bio below.

On December 16, 2020, Ordinance 20-30 was passed 9-0 that was written by Councilmember Volan that created a nine-member Citizens' Redistricting Advisory Commission.

Member, District VI, 2004 - Present

Council President 2020

Parliamentarian 2009, 2010, 2016 - 2019

Vice-President 2007

Chair, Standing Committee on Land Use, 2018 - 2019

Member, Parking Commission, 2017- Present

Member, Board of Directors,

Monroe County Solid Waste Management District, 2004-2017

President, 2012, 2013, 2014

Secretary, 2015, 2016

Current Projects:

- [Budget Priorities for 2022 and ARPA Funds](#)

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- [Become an MC NOW member](#) and get a free t-shirt! To renew, please visit [now.org/renew](http://now.org/renew). Need to affiliate with our chapter? Visit the [NOW Chapter Affiliation Form!](#)
- Want to receive our monthly newsletter? [Email our Communications Director](#) to be added.
- Donate to Monroe County NOW!
  - Venmo: [www.venmo.com/MonroeCountyNOW](https://www.venmo.com/MonroeCountyNOW)
  - PayPal: [https://paypal.me/MCNOWtshirts?locale.x=en\\_US](https://paypal.me/MCNOWtshirts?locale.x=en_US)
- Order your MC NOW t-shirt at <https://forms.gle/CBwsmSM5qn1ZTdLx9>! \$20 each; limited supplies left.

Meeting adjourned at 1:31pm.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRJZDPuYIR4>

