



Presidents Call Minutes
11.20.24 4:00PM to 5:30PM

Welcome/Check In - Skye

A. Post Election Local League Work and Emphasis

Dorothy opened the Call by asking participants to share their post election feelings and future priorities. She shared that in the Northwoods, held a showing of the movie *Bad River* that was particularly moving and relevant.

Participants shared many thoughts including Leagues are shifting their focus to local issues including the nonpartisan Spring elections and commencing local studies as a technique to engage more people and members.

Some Leagues shared that they are actively following the oral arguments in the Supreme Court of Wisconsin including the hearing on whether Meagan Wolfe (WEC administrator) can continue to be carried over in her current position.

Leaders noted that they are seeing a surge in new members since October. New members are bringing new priorities and a variety of interests.

Some Leagues are concentrating on observing local government meetings.

It was noted that given the result of the election, more information on the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025 will be needed. LWVUS is working on guidance. The ACLU has an analysis: [aclu.org/project-2025-explained](https://www.aclu.org/project-2025-explained).

A number of leaders shared that they felt the newly enacted district maps contributed to the change in representation in the Legislature and created competitive races in areas of the state that had not had contested elections.

Small groups are springing up to help members connect to each other and share best practices for taking care of ourselves while confronted by coordinated efforts among young men chanting "Your Body, My Choice". A discussion ensued about the electorate and whether they are educated on policy and other issues to cast an informed vote.

The Driftless area has produced a film called *Purple People*.

Northern Leagues discussed the efforts to coordinate with the Bad River Tribe to oppose the Line 5 expansion and reroute. The DNR has recently granted permits to Enbridge which will trigger new actions and challenges. The American Stewards for Liberty have aligned with Tiffany and Leagues are watching for the impact including changes to County level Comprehensive Plans.

Leagues noted that young people are organizing and are having their voices heard.

A nuts and bolts discussion on specific polling place issues ensued. Eileen Newcomer, enewcomer@lwwi.org, suggested that observers and poll workers that witnessed activities that appear to be outside of election administration statutes should contact Eileen to discuss strategies to rectify in future elections.

Some Leagues reported that their focus may shift to jail voting and felon rights reinstatement. Others may concentrate on judicial integrity and advocacy for NPV.

B. Transformation and New Dues Structure

Brandi was unable to attend so Debra reviewed the information coming from National on the roll out of the new membership system. The structural change (collection of dues at a centralized point of contact) will go into effect on February 1, 2025.

LWVUS is holding trainings for leadership in specific roles:

- [Register for a session dedicated to MEMBERSHIP CHAIRS](#)
- [Register for a session dedicated to PRESIDENTS](#)
- [Register for a session dedicated to ROSTER MANAGERS](#)
- [Register for a session dedicated to WEBMASTERS](#)
- [Register for a session dedicated to TREASURERS](#)

*Sessions will be recorded and made available on the [ChapterSpot Resources page](#) if you're unable to attend

LWVUS will continue to hold monthly office hours addressing questions/concerns regarding the new dues system. [REGISTER HERE](#) If you have any questions regarding your League's responsibilities, please contact the staff at the National office or read through the information on the [ChapterSpot Resources page](#) This is the most accurate source of information you will have access to.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW:

LWVUS has created a checklist for local Leagues. There are a number of tasks you will need to complete.

Each League should: Fill out the League [Membership Questions Form](#). This includes: Current dues rate, existing website, your EIN, your nonpartisan policy and DEI policy, and your Bylaws.

Please ensure that your current roster information is up-to-date, particularly member email addresses, expiration dates, and your current officer list. Each member will need a unique email address. If current household members are sharing an email address, one will need to create a unique email address. The guidance from National on how to do that is attached.

All Leagues will need to create a Stripe account and information on how to do this is provided in the trainings.

As we get closer to February 1, you will need to add the ChapterSpot link to your current website. Specific instructions are provided by LWV.

If you have not already done so, you will need to update your bylaws to include the new dues structure and the setting of dues by the National office and no longer at the local level.

Here are the responses to questions the State League sent to National:

1. What type of demographic information will be collected each time someone joins/renews? Birthdate, gender, and race/ethnicity. These will be mandatory fields but will include a "prefer not to answer" option.
2. What are the basic fields that will be required to complete the join/renew process (First and Last Name, Phone Number, Email, Address?) Yes, that's the list
3. What type of reporting will be available within the new system (ie: renewals, demographics, members by type, etc.) There will be some reports set up based on what we expect Leagues to need, but also it won't be hard to create reports from whatever data we have on members. To your examples, renewals: yes, it will be possible to report on anyone within the renewal window; demographics: this is a bit trickier because demographic data won't be shared on individuals with the local League, but this can be shared back in aggregate; members by type: this isn't really relevant anymore now that we only have members and lifetime members.
4. How will checks be handled? Should they be sent straight to LWVUS? They should be collected by the League treasurer and sent to LWVUS along with a form indicating who they're paying for. Details on this will be provided at training.
5. Is the plan still to batch Leagues or is everyone going onto the new system simultaneously? Everyone simultaneously
6. Have the projections for income been rerun to include the \$20 minimum dues? The projections included this.
7. The original projection included Household membership at \$112.50 with an 8% take up. Will the elimination of the Household membership option change the projections? I don't think so. The recommended rate when a person signs up on behalf of themselves and someone else will be \$150 (a full two members), but we'll be communicating that they can continue to pay at a one-and-a-half rate (\$112.50) or the current household rate at their League if that's what makes the most sense for them, so I think \$112.50 still makes sense as the projection.
8. What is the logic used to determine the target local League? How far from a local League does one need to be to be defaulted into a State MAL status. No one will be defaulted into anything. We're still finalizing the process for determining a local League,

we will go over this at training.

9. What will support look like - setting up Stripe accounts? Website support? Club Express interface? Providing scholarships? **The processes around all of these will be covered at training, and Leagues with questions are encouraged to reach out to membership@lww.org.**

10. How will the elimination of free student memberships impact the diversity of our Leagues? **We do not expect this to decrease age diversity, and we expect the overall dues model to increase diversity on many fronts, including age. For example, a young non-student will now benefit from the option of a lower dues rate that may not have been available to them previously.**

11. How will the elimination of Household members impact the overall number of members? **We do not expect the elimination of household memberships to impact the overall number of members. It will be easy for a member to sign up on behalf of another member, despite the fact that they are no longer classified as a "household membership."**

If you have any questions, contact transformation@lww.org

Here is a useful guide for local Leagues: [Guide](#)

It was noted that ChapterSpot will have both a page for members to pay dues and a page to make a donation. This is important information for all members to know.

C. Program Planning

Debra reviewed the program planning process and reviewed the State League's resources to assist with planning. The training session is available if you did not attend along with the slides and the program making packet itself. Please contact Debra (dcronmiller@lwwwi.org) or Brandi (brodriques@lwwwi.org) if you have any questions.

[Program Making/Position Review Training](#) (recording)

[Program Making/Position Review Training](#) (slide deck)

[Program Making Packet 2024-2025](#) (document)

To submit a study suggestion, you can use either of the following forms:

- [LWVWI Program Making Report Form](#) (Google Form)
- [LWVWI Program Making Report Form](#) (PDF)

Next Call - January 15, 2025 at 4:00P