

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF ATLANTA-FULTON COUNTY**



**98th ANNUAL MEETING
May 20, 2018**

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Ninety-Eighth Annual Meeting Agenda
League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County, Inc.
 May 20, 2018
 Home of Mary Carole Cooney

| | | |
|---------|---|--------------------------|
| 3:00 PM | Registration & Refreshments | |
| 3:30 PM | Annual Business Meeting: | |
| | Call to order | Karlise Grier |
| | Adoption of Agenda | Karlise Grier |
| | Adoption of Rules of Annual Meeting | Karlise Grier |
| | Presentation of the 97th Annual Meeting Minutes | Mary Carole Cooney |
| | Presentation of Treasurer's Report | Kayron Bearden |
| | Presentation of Budget Committee Report | Nichola Hines |
| | Adoption of Local Budget | |
| | Presentation of Bylaws Committee Report | Karlise Grier |
| | Adoption of Amended Bylaws | |
| | Presentation of Program | Nicole Smith |
| | Recommended Items | |
| | Adoption of Local Program | |
| | Vote to Continue Existing Positions | Karlise Grier |
| | Presentation of Annual Reports | |
| | President's Report | Karlise Grier |
| | Fundraising Report | Lauren Barrett |
| | Membership Committee Report | Darlene Kimes |
| | Voter Services Committee Report | Cecilia Houston-Torrence |
| | Program Committee Report | Nicole Smith |
| | Presentation of Nominating Committee Report | Nicole Smith |
| | Election of Officers and Directors | Karlise Grier |
| | Direction to the Board | Members |
| | Announcements | Karlise Grier |
| 5:00 PM | Adjournment | |

Rules for Annual Meeting

1. The agenda shall be followed.
2. Any speaker wishing to be recognized by the Chair shall stand and give his or her name when recognized.
3. Debate shall be limited to two minutes for each speaker, and no person shall speak twice on any subject until all wishing to speak have had the privilege of the floor.
4. Main motions or motions of significant length must be written and handed to the Recording Secretary.
5. The privilege of making motions and voting shall be limited to voting members.
6. Only those items on the non-recommended list may be offered for consideration.
7. A member may move for consideration of a non-recommended program item by making a statement, not to exceed five minutes, explaining reasons for requesting consideration and recommending adoption.
8. A majority vote is required for consideration of a non-recommended program item.
9. If a non-recommended item is voted for consideration, the Board of Directors will present an official negative immediately following the vote.
10. Discussion of recommended items and non-recommended items voted for consideration is controlled by Rules 2 through 5.
11. Total time for program debate shall not exceed 30 minutes.
12. Each item to be considered shall be discussed in turn for a maximum of 5 minutes, then the relative merits of the items may be considered for the remaining time.
13. The motion for adoption of the non-recommended items which have received consideration will be considered before the motion for adoption of the recommended program.
14. Each member shall vote for not more than 2 local program items. Vote results shall not be announced until all items have been voted on.
15. Not more than 2 local program items shall be adopted. If more than 2 items receives their respective required votes, the 2 items with the largest vote shall constitute the program.
16. In all cases not covered by the By-laws of the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be observed.

**Minutes of the 97th Annual Meeting
League of Women Voters Atlanta-Fulton County**

May 21, 2017

Attendees:

Onyinye Akujuo, Lauren L. Barrett, Kayron Bearden, Crystal Branch, Park Cannon, Mary Carole Cooney, Chinye Enurah, Jerra Ferguson, Karlise Y. Grier, Charis Johnson, Janelle Jones, Darlene Kimes, Kimberly Leach, Janet Prioleau, Nicole Smith, Bill Striplin, Cindy Striplin, Kendra Taylor, LaBertha Taylor, Sherry B. Williams

Call to Order: On behalf of President Karlise Y. Grier, Mary Carole Cooney called the meeting to order at 3:21 p.m. and acted as presiding officer. A quorum is present. The official time keeper is Kayron Bearden; the recording secretary is Mary Carole Cooney; and the parliamentarian is Charis Johnson.

Adoption of Rules and Agenda: The Agenda was reviewed and adopted by the membership, and the Rules for Annual Meeting were read aloud by Cindy Striplin. Kendra Taylor moved to adopt the Rules. The motion was seconded by Kayron Bearden, and passed unanimously.

Minutes of the 96th Annual Meeting: Secretary Mary Carole Cooney presented the minutes of the last annual meeting, which had been read and approved by Corliss Baker, Barbara Hibbard and Janet Prioleau, a committee of readers appointed for that purpose. A motion to accept the minutes as approved by the committee of readers was made by Darlene Kimes, seconded by Janelle Jones and adopted unanimously.

Minutes of the 97th Annual Meeting: The presiding officer appointed Jerra Ferguson, Cindy Striplin and Sherry B. Williams to a committee to read and approve the Minutes of this 97th Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Kayron Bearden presented the Treasurer's Report, which reflects net income of \$1,572.70, after expenses, from our 2016-2017 fiscal year, and a total balance in our checking and savings accounts of \$12,731.66. We didn't meet our budget goals but stayed within the black. The Treasurer's Report was accepted and placed on file for financial review by Anna Armstrong.

Budget Adoption: Bill Striplin, chairperson of the Budget Committee, presented the proposed budget, projecting income of \$19,205.00, and net expenses of \$19,205.00. Cindy Striplin made a motion to adopt the budget as proposed and Janet Prioleau seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Bylaws: No changes to the Bylaws were proposed.

Nonpartisanship Policy: The presiding officer asked the membership to review the League's non-partisanship policy, as stated in the Annual Meeting written materials. Park Cannon asked the membership to consider changing references from "his or her" to the term "their," to indicate inclusion of LGBTQ individuals. Charis Johnson asked that action on this matter be deferred and revisited once we determine the position of National LWV, since our language derives from their written policy. Kendra Taylor's motion to approve the non-partisan policy as is was seconded by Sherry B. Williams and approved by the membership.

Recommended Program 2017-2018: Nicole Smith, Vice President for Program, led the discussion for adoption of the recommended program for 2017-2018. One recommended program item was proposed by the program planning committee on March 2, 2017 and subsequently presented to the Board for consideration. There were no non-recommended program items. Having been approved by the Board, the following item was recommended to the membership for adoption: *Engage and educate voters on finding accurate information on key national, state and local issues.* The recommended program item was adopted by the membership unanimously.

League Positions: The meeting participants discussed whether and how to amend League positions to retire out-of-date positions and update others. Kayron Bearden moved that the LWVAF continue existing local positions. Charis Johnson seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

President's Report: The presiding officer read aloud President Karlise Y. Grier's written letter to the membership, in which she thanked the membership for electing her to the first year of a two-year term, and expressed her

appreciation for everyone's kindness and support. She reviewed projects and initiatives of the last program year, including participation in the Scarecrow In The Garden competition in the Atlanta Botanical Garden, and reminding people in advance of the November 2016 elections "Why Not Voting Is Scary." We partnered with the Gate City Bar Association in October, 2016 to educate voters on "Why Voting Is Not Enough." We partnered with the Center For Civil and Human Rights on programs including "Bills On The Ballot" and "The Electoral College." We co-hosted a mayoral forum with a local Panhellenic council which was attended by more than 400 people. We had a very successful new-member drive at the home of Mayor Kasim Reed and First Lady Sarah-Elizabeth Reed. Karlise's goals for the coming year include moving into donated office space and securing a VP of Fundraising. She concluded by asking for the membership's continued support.

Committee Reports

Membership Report: Presented by Vice-President for Membership Darlene Kimes in addition to her written report: Darlene reported that throughout the LWVAF year, the committee assisted in increasing League visibility in the community through membership efforts, forums and participation in various signature program events. We ended the year with 45 renewals and 47 new members. We completed the National LWV pilot membership program, which dictated that \$20 from each membership dues payment stay with LWVAF, the remainder going to state and national League. We hosted two successful membership drives in partnership with Atlanta host committees, a Fall Membership Drive and a Christmas Holiday Party. The committee has identified areas for improvement, particularly ways in which technology can improve the overall process. Specifically, the committee will work to identify a manageable system to send automatic personalized thank-you letters to new and renewal members; to develop an accompanying letter highlighting the League's history and the responsibilities of League committees; to continue to scrub membership data for easy maintenance, access and renewals; and to find funds to provide membership cards, buttons, etc.

Voter Services Report: Presented in the absence of Vice-President Cecilia Houston-Torrence through her written report. The report included co-hosting, with the Marietta-Cobb County League, the April 3, 2017 forum with candidates for the 6th Congressional District; and co-hosting the mayoral forum on March 26, 2017 with the Atlanta NAACP and the National Panhellenic Council. The committee plans to host two additional forums in preparation for the November 6, 2017 elections.

Program Report: Presented by Vice-President for Program Nicole Smith, along with her written report: The Program Committee's activities over the past program year include the forum "How Is Your Vote Protected?;" a program reviewing Bills on the Ballot; the screening of a documentary entitled "Citizen Koch;" a Coffee Talk on "Women In Politics;" a program on the Electoral College; and the Doris VonGlahn Legislative Review.

Nominating Committee: Nominating Committee Chairperson Janet Prioleau presented the proposed slate of officers and board members for 2017-2018, who were elected by unanimous vote, including Lauren Barrett, whose name was added to the slate as VP for Fundraising. The following, including those whose terms have not expired, are the officers and board members for 2017-2018:

- President – Karlise Y. Grier (term expires 2018)
- Voce-President, Fundraising – Lauren L. Barrett (term expires 2019)
- Vice President, Membership – Darlene Kimes (term expires 2018)
- Vice President, Programs - Nicole Smith (term expires 2019)
- Vice President, Voter Services – Cecilia Houston-Torrence (term expires 2018)
- Secretary - Mary Carole Cooney (term expires 2019)
- Treasurer – Kayron Bearden (term expires 2019)
- Director - Charis Johnson (term expires 2018)
- Director – Cassandra Kirk (term expires 2018)
- Director – Debbie Shockley (term expires 2018)
- Director - Cindy Striplin (term expires 2018)
- Director - Drennell Thomas (term expires 2019)

Director - Diane Powell-Larché (term expires 2018)
Director - Janet Prioleau (term expires 2018)
Director - Oninye Akujo (term expires 2019)
Director - Janelle Jones (term expires 2019)
Director - Monica Johnson (term expires 2019)

This slate of officers and directors was elected by unanimous vote.

Direction to the Board:

- Cindy Striplin reminded the Board of the importance of committees, and getting them to come together because they provide the opportunity to reach out to people and to urge them to be part of the League's efforts. We're a working board. Each of us needs to volunteer for a committee.
- Janet Prioleau asked the Board to be mindful that this is the only recognized organization that has to be neutral and non-partisan. If we're not, we're just like everyone else.
- Charis Johnson said that we give people the pro's and con's of issues; we should inform the public by giving them both sides. She suggested that the Board consider having a Tech committee, for which we identify some tech-savvy members.
- Sherry B. Williams said that we need to rally around a "theme" in 2018 when we ask people to become members. In addition, we should have a "theme" every year which we can rally around and use to build momentum to get new members while sustaining current members.
- Park Cannon suggested reviewing local positions to have some on public safety. The LGBT community would be interested in our work but don't see themselves represented in the League. She offered to avail herself to the Board.

Announcements: Karlise reminded the Board of its upcoming event at the Nelson Mullins law firm on June 27.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Submitted by Mary Carole Cooney, Board Secretary

Read and approved:

- Jerra Ferguson
- Cindy Striplin
- Sherry B. Williams

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Treasurer's Report 2017-2018**

Account Balances

**May 2,
18**

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Checking/Savings | |
| BB&T Checking | 2,242.38 |
| BB&T Money Market | 831.47 |
| Kathy B. Ashe Scholarship Fund | 209.97 |
| LWVA-F Ed Fund | <u>657.57</u> |
| Total Checking/Savings | 3,941.39 |

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Treasurer's Report 2017-2018
Profit and Loss Budget Comparison**

| | <u>May '17 - Apr 18</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>\$ Over Budget</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Income | | | |
| A-CONTRIBUTIONS | | | |
| 1-Member | | | |
| Ed Fund | 50.00 | 175.00 | -125.00 |
| Op Fund | 418.90 | 175.00 | 243.90 |
| Total 1-Member | <u>468.90</u> | <u>350.00</u> | <u>118.90</u> |
| 2-Board | | | |
| Ed Fund | 0.00 | 150.00 | -150.00 |
| Op Fund | 350.00 | 150.00 | 200.00 |
| Total 2-Board | <u>350.00</u> | <u>300.00</u> | <u>50.00</u> |
| 3-Nonmember | | | |
| Ed Fund | 0.00 | 400.00 | -400.00 |
| Op Fund | 0.00 | 400.00 | -400.00 |
| Total 3-Nonmember | <u>0.00</u> | <u>800.00</u> | <u>-800.00</u> |
| 4-Ed Fund Reim | 1,369.68 | 2,755.00 | -1,385.32 |
| Total A-CONTRIBUTIONS | <u>2,188.58</u> | <u>4,205.00</u> | <u>-2,016.42</u> |
| B-DUES | | | |
| 1-Renewal | 3,634.27 | 7,500.00 | -3,865.73 |
| 2-New | 853.71 | 1,500.00 | -646.29 |
| Total B-DUES | <u>4,487.98</u> | <u>9,000.00</u> | <u>-4,512.02</u> |
| C-FUNDRAISERS | | | |
| Fundraiser Net Income | 0.00 | 6,000.00 | -6,000.00 |
| Total C-FUNDRAISERS | <u>0.00</u> | <u>6,000.00</u> | <u>-6,000.00</u> |
| D-OTHER INC. | | | |
| 6-Interest Earned | 0.12 | 0.11 | 0.01 |
| Total D-OTHER INC. | <u>0.12</u> | <u>0.11</u> | <u>0.01</u> |
| Total Income | 6,676.68 | 19,205.11 | -12,528.43 |
| Expense | | | |
| 1-ED.ACT. | | | |
| b-Voter Svc | 1,515.14 | 2,000.00 | -484.86 |
| d-Program Committees | 104.04 | 500.00 | -395.96 |
| Total 1-ED.ACT. | <u>1,619.18</u> | <u>2,500.00</u> | <u>-880.82</u> |
| 2-MEMBERSHIP | | | |
| President's Outreach | 0.00 | 200.00 | -200.00 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a-PMP Natl | 2,400.00 | 4,800.00 | -2,400.00 |
| b-PMP State | 3,450.00 | 3,450.00 | 0.00 |
| d-AnnMtg | 0.00 | 100.00 | -100.00 |
| f-Bd Retreat | 0.00 | 100.00 | -100.00 |
| Membership Activities | <u>148.48</u> | <u>750.00</u> | <u>-601.52</u> |
| Total 2-MEMBERSHIP | 5,998.48 | 9,400.00 | -3,401.52 |
| 3-TRAVEL, AFFIL | | | |
| d-State Conv | <u>0.00</u> | <u>250.00</u> | <u>-250.00</u> |
| Total 3-TRAVEL, AFFIL | 0.00 | 250.00 | -250.00 |
| 4-DEVELOPMENT | | | |
| Seed Money | <u>0.00</u> | <u>1,500.00</u> | <u>-1,500.00</u> |
| Total 4-DEVELOPMENT | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | -1,500.00 |
| 5-POSITION SUPP | | | |
| b-Advocacy | <u>131.25</u> | <u>250.00</u> | <u>-118.75</u> |
| Total 5-POSITION SUPP | 131.25 | 250.00 | -118.75 |
| 6-ADMIN COSTS | | | |
| Storage Unit Rental | 2,100.00 | 1,200.00 | 900.00 |
| Rent & Parking | 160.00 | 175.00 | -15.00 |
| c-Telecommunications | 497.46 | 500.00 | -2.54 |
| f-Postage | 49.00 | 150.00 | -101.00 |
| g-Stationery&OfcSupp | 0.00 | 100.00 | -100.00 |
| i-Eqt.Maint | 0.00 | 500.00 | -500.00 |
| j-Insurance | 1,186.36 | 2,000.00 | -813.64 |
| k-Taxes & Licenses | 30.00 | 30.00 | 0.00 |
| l-Bank charges | 25.21 | 50.00 | -24.79 |
| Online Services | 250.00 | 300.00 | -50.00 |
| q-Credit Card fees | <u>0.00</u> | <u>300.00</u> | <u>-300.00</u> |
| Total 6-ADMIN COSTS | 4,298.03 | 5,305.00 | -1,006.97 |
| Ed Fund - Transfer Out of Chkng | <u>25.00</u> | <u>310.00</u> | <u>-285.00</u> |
| Total Expense | <u>12,071.94</u> | <u>19,515.00</u> | <u>-7,443.06</u> |
| Net Income | <u><u>-5,395.26</u></u> | <u><u>-309.89</u></u> | <u><u>-5,085.37</u></u> |

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Proposed Budget 2018-2019**

| Category Description | Budget 2018- 2019 Amount |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| INCOME | |
| A-CONTRIBUTIONS | |
| 1-Member | \$400.00 |
| 2-Board | \$325.00 |
| 3-Nonmember | \$500.00 |
| 4-Ed Fund Reim | \$215.00 |
| TOTAL A-CONTRIBUTIONS | <u>\$1,440.00</u> |
| B-DUES | |
| 1-Renewal | \$7,500.00 110x\$75 |
| 2-New | \$1,500.00 20 @ \$75 |
| TOTAL B-DUES | <u>\$9,000.00</u> |
| C-FUNDRAISERS | |
| Fundraiser Net Income | \$6,000.00 |
| TOTAL C-FUNDRAISERS | <u>\$6,000.00</u> |
| D-OTHER INC. | |
| 2-Sales | \$0.00 |
| 6-Interest Earned | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL D-OTHER INC. | <u>\$0.00</u> |
| TOTAL INCOME | <u>\$16,440.00</u> |
| EXPENSES | |
| 1-ED.ACT. | |
| b-Voter Svc | 2,000 |
| d-Program Committees | \$500.00 |
| TOTAL 1-ED.ACT. | <u>\$2,500.00</u> |
| 2-MEMBERSHIP | |
| a-PMP Natl | \$3,104.00 |
| b-PMP State | \$2,231.00 |

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| d-AnnMtg | \$100.00 |
| f-Bd Retreat | \$100.00 |
| Membership Activities | <u>\$500.00</u> |
| President Outreach | <u>\$200.00</u> |
| TOTAL 2-MEMBERSHIP | <u><u>\$6,235.00</u></u> |

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 3-TRAVEL, AFFIL | |
| a-Natl Council | \$0.00 |
| b-Natl Convention | \$0.00 |
| c-State Convention | \$0.00 |
| d-State Council | <u>\$150.00</u> |
| TOTAL 3-TRAVEL, AFFIL | <u><u>\$150.00</u></u> |

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 4-DEVELOPMENT | |
| Seed Money | <u>\$1,500.00</u> |
| TOTAL 4-DEVELOPMENT | <u><u>\$1,500.00</u></u> |

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 5-POSITION SUPP | |
| b-Advocacy | <u>\$250.00</u> |
| TOTAL 5-POSITION SUPP | <u><u>\$250.00</u></u> |

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 6-ADMIN COSTS | | |
| Storage Unit | \$2,400.00 | 12x\$200; currently \$175/month |
| b-Rent&Parking | \$175.00 | P. O. box rental |
| c-Telecommunications | \$500.00 | Vonage \$40/mo |
| f-Postage | \$100.00 | |
| g-Stationery&OfcSupp | \$100.00 | |
| i-Eqt.Maint | \$500.00 | need to replace computer/software for LWV PC |
| j-Insurance | \$1,500.00 | |
| k-Taxes & Licenses | \$30.00 | annual registration with SOS |
| l-Bank charges | \$50.00 | |
| q-Credit Card fees | \$150.00 | |
| Online services | <u>\$300.00</u> | LWVCA for web hosting |
| TOTAL 6-ADMIN COSTS | <u><u>\$5,805.00</u></u> | |

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| TOTAL EXPENSES | <u><u>\$16,440.00</u></u> |
|----------------|---------------------------|

| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Net Income | \$0.00 |
|-------------------|--------|

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Proposed Bylaws Amendments**

No amendments were proposed to the bylaws.

BY-LAWS LEAGUE OF THE WOMEN VOTERS OF ATLANTA-FULTON COUNTY, INC.
P. O. Box 420705, Atlanta, Georgia 30342

(as adopted in March 1961 and amended in March 1962. 1964, 1966, 1968, 1973, 1974, 1975. 1976, 1978, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984. 1985, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1993, 1994, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2011, 2012, 2016)

**ARTICLE I
NAME AND PLACE**

Section 1 - Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County, Inc., hereinafter referred to in these By-laws as LWVAF. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and the League of Women Voters of Georgia, Inc. (LWVGA)

**ARTICLE II
PURPOSES AND POLICIES**

Section I - Purpose. The purposes of the LWVAF are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2 - Political Policy. The LWVAF shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the LWVAF shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership.

(a) *Voting Members.* Citizens at least 18 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local Leagues, state Leagues and of the LWVUS; (1) those who reside outside Fulton County may join LWVAF; (2) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues.

(b) Associate Members. All others who join the League shall be associate members.

**ARTICLE IV
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1 – Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers of the League, up to ten but not less than six elected Directors and a number of appointed Directors not to exceed the number of elected Directors. Up to one more than half of the elected Directors shall be selected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional Directors, not to exceed ten, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the LWVAF. The terms of office of the appointed Directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.

Section 2 - Qualifications. No person shall be elected or appointed, nor shall any persons continue to serve as Officers or Directors of this organization, unless they are voting members of the LWVAF, nor shall any person continue to serve as an Officer or Director if a candidate for partisan elective office.

Section 3 – Vacancies, Resignations and Removals. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors by reason of

the resignation, death or disqualification of an Officer or an elected member may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. The appointment shall be for the remaining term of the office being filled. Three consecutive absences or four missed meetings in a twelve-month period from Board meetings of any member without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation. Any officer or director may be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors whenever in its judgment the best interest of the LWVAF will be served thereby.

Section 4 - Powers and Duties. The Board of Directors shall manage and supervise the business affairs and activities of the LWVAF, subject to the instructions of the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program as adopted by the National Convention, the State Convention and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary and shall perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws

Section 5 - Meetings. There shall be regular monthly meetings of the Board of Directors. The President or a Co-President may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board. Members of the Board shall be notified of the time and place of special meetings at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Section 6 - Quorum. Forty per cent (40%) of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 1 - Enumeration and Election of Officers. The Officers of the LWVAF shall be President or Co-Presidents, Vice Presidents (number to be determined by the Board), President-Elect in alternate years, Secretary, Treasurer and an Assistant Treasurer, if desired. The Officers, except President-Elect shall be elected for terms of two years by the General Membership at an Annual Meeting and take office immediately. The President, one Vice President and the Secretary shall be selected in odd-numbered years. The President-Elect, Treasurer, additional Vice Presidents and Assistant Treasurer, if any shall be elected in even-numbered years. The President-Elect shall be elected for a one-year term at an Annual Meeting and shall take office immediately. One current or previous board member shall be nominated to be President-Elect in those years that the President is not elected.

Section 2 - The President. The President, Co-President or President Elect shall preside at all meetings of the Organization and of the Board of Directors. The President or Co-President may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes. The President shall be, ex-officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, shall have such usual power of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and shall perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board. In the event of the absence, disability, resignation or death of the President and President-Elect, the Vice Presidents possess all the powers and may perform all the duties of that office until such time as the Board of Directors shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy of President.

- (a) Advisory Trustee – The President may nominate for approval by the majority of the sitting board any number of individuals to serve in an advisory capacity to the Board. The position of advisory trustee shall carry no voting privileges.
- (b) Past President – The immediate past president of the LWVAF shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Board, with all responsibilities and privileges of a Board member, for one year following his or her term of office; provided, however, that the past president may serve instead as an advisory trustee, at his or her written request.

Section 3 – President-Elect. The President-Elect shall assist the President at the latter's discretion and upon the expiration of the term of the President upon election shall become President. The President-Elect, if there is one, shall assume the office of President, with all of the duties and powers pertaining thereto in the absence of the

president. The President-Elect may also take the appropriate actions to prepare for his or her term. In years when a President-Elect is elected, at least one Board member at the time of nomination shall be nominated for the President-Elect.

Section 4 - Vice Presidents. The Vice President(s) shall perform such other duties as the President and the Board shall direct.

Section 5 - The Secretary. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the LWVAF and of all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall notify all Officers and Directors of their elections. The Secretary shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other duties as the president and board shall direct.

Section 6 - The Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due, and shall be the custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the Board. The Treasurer shall present statements to the Board at its regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting. The financial records shall be audited or reviewed annually by a committee of not less than three people elected at the Annual Meeting, or a Certified Public Accountant. No member of the Executive Committee for the prior year or for the current year may serve on the audit committee.

Section 8 - Executive Committee. The board may appoint an Executive Committee consisting of no fewer than four members of the board. The Executive Committee shall exercise such power and authority as may be delegated to it by the board and shall report to the board on all actions taken by it at the next board meeting. A majority of the Executive Committee must be present to transact business. If the business involves the expenditure of funds not otherwise authorized, the Treasurer must be present during the discussion and vote.

ARTICLE VI FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 1 - Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the LWVAF shall be from May 1 to April 30 of the following year.

Section 2 - Dues. Annual dues shall be payable on the first day of the anniversary month of the member joining the LWVAF. Any member who fails to pay dues within three months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

Section 3 - Budget. A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption.

Section 4 - Budget Committee. A budget committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the next fiscal year. The proposed budget shall be sent to voting members at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting and shall be presented for adoption at the annual meeting. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as chair of the budget committee.

Section 5 - Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of the dissolution of the LWVAF, all moneys and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the LWVAF shall be paid to the LWVGA after the state and national per member payments and other obligations have been met. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed that may at the time be owned or under the control of the LWVAF shall be disposed of to such person, organization, or corporation for such public charitable or educational use and purposes as the board in its absolute discretion may designate.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

Section 1 - Membership Meetings. There shall be at least three meetings of the membership each year, including the Annual Meeting. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The membership shall be notified of the time and place of all meetings at least ten days prior to such meetings. Special meetings of the members may be called by the president, the board of directors or upon written request of ten percent of the voting members.

Section 2 - Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting shall be held during the month of May, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting shall: adopt a local Program for the ensuing year; elect Officers, Directors and members of the Nominating Committee; adopt a budget; and transact such other business as may properly come before it. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

Section 3 - Quorum. Those voting members present shall constitute a quorum at all membership meetings of the LWVAF, provided notice of the meeting is sent to the membership at least one week in advance.

ARTICLE VIII NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1 - Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. Nominations for those offices shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. The other members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by majority vote of the Board of Directors. Suggestions for nominations for Officers and Directors and members of the Nominating Committee may be sent to this committee by any member.

Section 2 - Nominating Process. The chair of the Nominating Committee shall solicit nominations from the membership no later than 60 days before the Annual Meeting.

Section 3 - Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor. The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors and members of the succeeding Nominating Committee, shall be sent to all members at least 30 days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Annual Meeting. Immediately following presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee shall have been obtained.

Section 4 - Elections. Election shall be by ballot, except that if there is only one nominee for an office, it shall be by voice vote. A majority vote of those present and voting shall constitute election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE IX PRINCIPLES and PROGRAM

Section 1 - Principles. The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of the Program.

Section 2 - Program. The Program of the LWVAF shall consist of action to implement the Principles and those governmental issues chosen at the annual meeting for concerted study and action as follows:

- (a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting, and shall formulate a proposed Program. It shall include a recommendation that any item on which there has been no study, consensus, concurrence or action within the past six years shall be

dropped unless two-thirds of the general membership present at the Annual Meeting vote to keep it. In this case, positions under the item must be reviewed by the Board and the membership.

(b) The proposed Program shall be sent to all members at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

(c) A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.

(d) Recommendations for Program submitted by voting members at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered and adopted by the Annual Meeting provided that, (1) the Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote, and (2) the Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.

Section 3. Changes in the Program in the case of altered conditions may be made, provided:

(a) information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least 14 days prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed, and,

(b) such changes shall be adopted by a majority vote of the general membership present and voting at a succeeding meeting.

Section 5 - Member Action. Members may act in the name of the LWVAF only when authorized to do so by the LWVAF board. They may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the LWVAF, the LWVGA and the LWVUS.

ARTICLE X PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and not inconsistent with these By-laws.

ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS

These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at the annual meeting, provided that the proposed amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least 30 days in advance of the meeting.

NONPARTISANSHIP POLICY

Revised 1/16/2016

LWVAF Non-Partisanship Policy and Procedures

The League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County (“LWVAF”) does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. In order to preserve the nonpartisanship of the LWVAF as an organization, the following policies are hereby adopted:

Part I –Political Activities of LWVAF Members and Board Members

The LWVAF values the many skills and types of experience that individual **members and** Board members bring to the LWVAF, including those learned in public life through elective or appointive office. In fact, involvement in the public and political life of this country is something that the League of Women Voters recommends for all citizens and other members of the public. Some limitations on members' political activity, however, **especially** while they are serving as Board members, are necessary, as follows:

1. **Political and Community Participation by LWV members.** The LWVAF encourages the participation of its members who are not Board members in political and community issues and races, whether non-partisan or not. **Their participation in political campaigns and causes is authorized and encouraged, including endorsements, and contributions to any candidate or cause, whether on a local, state or national level.** However, no LWVAF member shall use his or her affiliation with the LWVAF to imply the endorsement of **his or her personal positions by** the LWVAF in any way.
2. **Elective Office.** A Board member shall not run for, nor hold, any partisan elective office at any level of government, and if in violation of this policy shall be required to resign from the Board. **A Board member may run for a local nonpartisan elective office, after seeking and obtaining approval by the LWVAF Board.**
3. **Political Party Office.** A Board member shall not serve in any official position (any function with a title, including but not limited to chairperson, secretary, executive director, finance chairperson, post seat holder, or state committee member) in a political party or in any party-affiliated organization (e.g., Emily’s List, any Political Action Committee) at any level of the organization (local, municipal, county, state, or national).
4. **Political Campaigns.** A Board member shall not chair a political campaign, or administer fundraising for a political campaign, including but not limited to serving as a campaign's treasurer, nor chair a campaign event, act as spokesperson, or allow his or her identity as a LWVAF member to be associated with any partisan campaign. Board members other than the President, President-Elect, Vice President for Voter Services, and Vice President for Membership may endorse candidates (excluding candidates for election in Fulton County and Fulton County municipalities) provided that such endorsements do not identify that Board member's affiliation with LWVAF. Endorsements include, but are not limited to, displaying yard signs, allowing the Board member's name to be included in a list of supporters for a candidate, displaying a bumper sticker or wearing a candidate's paraphernalia. Board members other than the President, President-Elect, Vice President for Voter Services, and Vice President for Membership, may make financial contributions **to any candidate** in amounts that by law are required to be reported. The President, President-

Elect, Vice President for Voter Services, and Vice President for Membership may make financial contributions to candidates in amounts that by law are not required to be reported **for** a candidate for an elected office in Fulton County or in any of the municipalities or governmental subdivisions of Fulton County and local PACs related to Fulton County. No contribution to any candidate, campaign, political party or PAC can be made from LWVAF Funds.

5. **Limitations on President, President-Elect, Vice President for Voter Services, and Vice President for Membership.** Because of the visibility of their positions, and their specific responsibilities to ensure the fairness and nonpartisan nature of **League** publications and events, neither the President, President-Elect, the Vice President for Voter Services, nor the Vice President for Membership shall make endorsements **or** display yard signs for a campaign for an elective office in Fulton County or in any of the municipalities or governmental subdivisions of Fulton County. The President, President-Elect, the Vice President for Voter Services, and the Vice President for Membership are also prohibited from making financial contributions in amounts that by law are required to be reported ~~to~~ **for** a candidate for an elected office in Fulton County or in any of the municipalities or governmental subdivisions of Fulton County. The President, President-Elect, Vice President for Voter Services, and Vice President for Membership, may make financial contributions in amounts that by law are required to be reported to any candidate who is not a candidate for an elective office in Fulton County or in any of the municipalities or governmental subdivisions of Fulton County and local PACS related to Fulton County. The President, President-Elect, the Vice President for Voter Services, and the Vice President for Membership may make contributions to candidates for a state or national office in amounts that by law are required to be reported, and work for candidates for national or state office provided that in doing so they do not identify their affiliation with the LWVAF in any way.
6. **Social and Other Media.** A Board member shall not indicate his or her political affiliations or candidate preferences at any level of government in the media, including on social networking sites or other public venues that also prominently identify his or affiliation with LWVAF.
7. **Approval or Clarification Required.** Board members must seek clarification or approval from the LWVAF Board about specific situations where the foregoing policies do not resolve any question of conflict with these nonpartisanship policies.

Part II – Use of LWVAF Name and Co-Sponsorship

1. **Use of LWVAF Name.** LWVAF will not allow its name to be used to imply that **it is a** partners for any particular event with a partisan organization that supports or endorses any political candidate or party.
2. **Collaboration With Other Organizations.** Often LWVAF will work with other organizations, and LWVAF will do so in co-sponsorship or collaboration with other components of LWV as well as non-partisan organizations previously approved for co-sponsorship by the Board.

List of Approved Co-Sponsors. The LWVAF will maintain a list of organizations that have been **previously** ~~pre~~approved as co-sponsors that will be reviewed and approved on the same cycle as the LWVAF annual meeting.

3. **Procedure For Co-Sponsorship.** If any LWVAF member proposes co-sponsorship of an event and that co-sponsor is not already on the approved list, then the LWVAF member seeking approval of a co-sponsor not on the approved list shall present a written request via e-mail to the LWVAF Board

so that the Board may discuss the co-sponsorship at a regularly scheduled Board meeting that is held at least one month prior to any promotion of the event. The written request should include the name of the organization and the information verifying the organization's non-partisan status for the LWVAF Board's review. If the LWVAF Board approves the co-sponsorship by a majority vote of the LWVAF Board at which a quorum is present, then the name of the organization shall be added to the LWVAF pre-approved list for the duration of the term of the pre-approval list.

4. **LWVAF Events:** The President (or the President-Elect if the President is unavailable) or the appropriate Vice President for an event (membership, voter services, program) must approve promotional materials and program materials prior to the distribution of the materials, and the promotional materials shall list all co-sponsors for the event. Co-sponsorship by the LWVAF is conditioned on the LWVAF and all approved co-sponsors being identified as ~~a~~ co-sponsors.
5. **Non-LWVAF Events That LWVAF Co-Sponsors:** The LWVAF President (or the President-Elect if the President is unavailable) or the appropriate Vice President who is involved with a non-LWVAF event that LWVAF is co-sponsoring must pre-approve the promotional materials used by the co-sponsors of LWVAF co-sponsored events prior to the distribution of said promotional materials to the general public. LWVAF must be identified as a co-sponsor.
6. **Event Flyers.** For any event in which LWVAF participates, it is permissible for LWVAF event flyers to be provided to organizations that are partisan, as long as the reproduction of such information is only as approved by the LWVAF.
7. **Co-Sponsorship Approval Prior to Board Meetings.** In the event that a LWVAF member ~~has a~~ requests for the approval of a co-sponsor that is not on the approved LWVAF Board list and the request must be approved or denied prior to the next regularly-scheduled LWVAF Board meeting, then the LWVAF member should submit a written request to the LWVAF President and the appropriate Vice President. The President shall decide whether to submit the written request to the entire LWVAF Board for approval via an electronic vote of the LWVAF Board, and the decision of the President in this regard shall be final.

Part III – Annual Review and Approval

This **Non-Partisan Policy** shall be reviewed and approved by the LWV membership at each annual meeting.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ATLANTA-FULTON COUNTY, INC.
GENERAL LEAGUE POLICIES
Revised 8/30/89

THIS STATEMENT OF POLICIES SHOULD BE REVIEWED AND RE-AFFIRMED BIENNIALLY BY THE BOARD.

ALL POLICIES ARE INTER-RELATED, AND NONE SHOULD BE TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT.

BOARD

1. Board meetings are open to all members of the League of Women Voters.
2. The Board shall decide on a yearly basis whether to hold its meetings during the day, the evening, or a combination of the two.
3. The agenda for each month's Board meeting is set by the Executive Committee.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee is empowered to make decisions not affecting major League policy and to deal with emergencies. Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting are published in the Board report. Decisions must be ratified by the Board.
2. The agenda for each month's Board meeting is set by the Executive Committee.

UNITS

1. Each unit leader is required to attend the Units Council annual training session.
2. Election of unit officers should coincide with the election of new officers for the Board in April. Ideally, units will elect the following officers each year: Leader or Co-leaders, Membership Chair, Advocacy Chair, Publicity Chair, and additional officers as necessary.
3. Units are responsible for providing discussions on the monthly League program. Units may add activities and topics when time allows.
4. Units, with Board approval, may develop and implement projects consistent with League policy.
5. Units or their members wishing to make a verbal or written statement in the name of the League must get the prior approval of the President and/or a majority of the Executive Committee.
6. Unit members not identifying themselves as League members, and not so identified by others outside the League, may speak freely on any topic.
7. Presentation of League views is limited to positions that have been expressed in approved League publications, represent League agreement, or are approved by the Board.

COMMITTEES

1. It is the responsibility of each Director and Committee Chair to do a yearly statement of goals, plan and abide by a budget, update her/his job description, and prepare an annual report.
2. Committees, with Board approval, may develop and implement projects consistent with League policy.
3. Committees or their members wishing to make a verbal or written statement in the name of the League must get the prior approval of the President and/or a majority of the Executive Committee.

4. Committee members not identifying themselves as League members, and not so identified by others outside the League, may speak freely on any topic.
5. Presentation of League views is limited to positions that have been expressed in approved League publications, represent League agreement, or are approved by the Board.
6. Committee chairs are responsible for ensuring that the activities of their committees follow League program (local, state, or national).

EDITORIAL BOARD

The Editorial Board is vested with the responsibility of assuring the League's nonpartisan, unbiased, and objective status with regard to local publications.

1. The Editorial board will consist of members of the Executive Committee and/or any other person(s) designated by them.
2. Members of the Editorial Board shall review and approve all local publications except for the newsletter.
3. The newsletter shall not require review by the entire Editorial Board, but the newsletter Editor will be supervised by a member of the Executive Committee.

BUDGET FINANCE

1. The President shall appoint a Budget Committee consisting of an Off-Board Chair, the President, the Treasurer, Development Director, and other Off-Board members. The Executive Committee will submit budget requests to the Budget Committee, which should meet in December or January to prepare for Annual Meeting.
2. The entire Board has fiscal responsibility for the League budget. Additionally, the President, Vice Presidents, portfolio chairs and those chairing special committees or activities are responsible for the portion of the budget assigned to their area(s).
3. Any check issued by the League must be preceded by a properly prepared voucher. A voucher is also necessary for accounting in-kind contributions by members or reports of expenses borne by members.
4. Board members should keep a running tab of their time, expenses, and in-kind donations, and submit the total of these to the Treasurer in March and November each year.
5. Any League member who agrees to attend a League function (local, state, or national) for which the League pays part or all of the fees will be informed that she/he has made a commitment to attend, and that the League is paying for that attendance. Should she/he fail to attend (without sufficient advance notice to send a substitute), she/he will be required to reimburse the League for any fees paid.
6. Any fundraising activities in the name of the League shall be approved by the Board and carried out with the cooperation of the Development Director.
7. There shall be an annual audit of the books by a professional auditor.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Members wishing to make a verbal or written statement in the name of the League must get the prior approval of the President and/or a majority of the Executive Committee.
2. Members not identifying themselves as League members, and not so identified by others outside the League, may speak freely on any topic.
3. Presentation of League views is limited to positions that have been expressed in approved League publications, represent League agreement, or are approved by the Board.

CONSENSUS AND CONCURRENCE

A consensus is an agreement among members used to formulate a position on which action can be taken in the name of the League. A consensus need not be unanimous, but must be more than a slight majority. A consensus may be reached through a variety of procedures, including discussion, mail questionnaires, and telephone polls.

A concurrence is an agreement among members with a position that has been recommended by a resource committee, League Board, or another League. A concurrence may be achieved through a variety of procedures, including discussion, mail questionnaires, and telephone polls.

1. Consensus and concurrence shall be open to all members in good standing.
2. The consensus/concurrence questionnaire will be published prior to the taking of a consensus, and will include instructions for formulating a consensus/concurrence.
3. A prior focus meeting for all discussion leaders shall be required when a consensus/concurrence is taken at Unit meetings.
4. Units will report their consensus/concurrence to the Program Chair.
5. The Program Chair will then report the consensus/concurrence to the Board of Directors for its approval. It is then sent to the state or national League as appropriate (state for state program items, national for national program items), and published in the Atlanta-Fulton VOTER.

COOPERATING WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

1. The League of Women Voters will not sponsor or participate in functions that are held at private clubs that discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin.
2. In extraordinary circumstances, where it is determined that it is in the best interest of the League to be represented at a particular function at a location described in item (1) above, League representatives may attend with Board approval. As appropriate, they should express the League's policy at the function, and urge that future functions be held at non-discriminatory facilities.
3. To join or form a coalition or inter-organizational council, the following steps are required:
 - a. Discussion with the President or a Vice President designated by the President, preliminary to a written request for Board approval.
 - b. The written request should include: (1) the aims of the group; (2) other participants; (3) the proposed scope of action; (4) justification for League participation; (5) any other pertinent information.
 - c. An acceptance to participate should include the following statement: "The League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County acts only within the scope of League positions and the name of the League may not be attached to any action taken without League permission."
4. The Membership Directory and membership information is provided to members for internal League use only. Those wishing to provide the list to an outside organization must get Board approval.

League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County Program Recommendations 2018-2019

The Annual Program Planning meeting took place on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at Corner Bakery. The committee recommends extending the current programming focus through the new 2018-2019 League Year. The following program focus is the recommendation of the Program Committee: *Engage and educate voters on finding accurate information on key national, state and local issues.*

Key Points:

- The annual focus for League Program is proposed by the membership in the early part of the year and adopted at the Annual Meeting each May.
- League action is based on the general consensus of members who have examined both sides of the issues.
- The League can only act after consensus is reached and the position is formally adopted by the Board of Directors.
- League members may take action only on issues for which a position exists.
- The League of Women Voters arrives at its positions on issues through research, study, and a process of member agreement. Positions on issues are researched and agreed upon at the national, state, or local level, depending on the scope of the issue.

Criteria for Program Items Include:

- Does it fall within League principles?
- Does the League already have positions that can be applied to the proposal?
- Is government action needed? Possible?
- How much member interest has been expressed for the issue?
- Is this the crucial time for the issue?
- Do political realities permit effective action?
- Is this the appropriate level of the League to address the issue?
- Is this local to Atlanta and Fulton County?
- Will the League's involvement make a unique impact?
- Will it increase the League's influence and credibility?
- What are the prospects for funding anticipated educational activities and/or action strategies?
- Will the League be able to partner with other organizations?

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta Fulton County
Local Positions**

I. Government

We support:

- A. Local government reorganization (1976) to:
 - 1. Eliminate duplication of service delivery
 - 2. Equalize the tax burden
 - 3. Provide tax base growth to the central Atlanta economy
 - 4. Eliminate conflicting jurisdictions
 - 5. Develop regional approaches to meeting area-wide planning and service needs
- B. Encouraging citizen input into the budget process (1977) by:
 - 1. Using a program rather than a line item budget for better understanding
 - 2. Publishing a summary budget that focuses on county services by program areas and clearly set out the funds to be expended in each area
 - 3. Holding public hearings early in the budget calendar year to give citizens a voice in setting priorities
- C. The neighborhood planning concept (1974) of:
 - 1. Institutional approach for obtaining citizen
 - 2. Creation of a neighborhood planning concept for Fulton County with a tie-in to the comprehensive development plan and to the county budget
 - 3. Atlanta's neighborhood planning unit (NPU) process
- D. A regional council for Atlanta and Fulton County (1960, 1964, 1971) that would
 - 1. Deal with regional problems
 - 2. Develop approaches to meeting area-wide planning and service needs in land use, housing, transportation and environmental issues
- E. An Atlanta city charter (1966) for:
 - 1. a mayor with great administrative and executive authority
 - 2. a board of aldermen with legislative and policy-making powers only (achieved 1974)
- F. Action by the state to designate Grady hospital as a regional hospital with funding that would ensure quality medical care for the region (cross reference VII.A.) (1977)

II. Education

We support:

- A. the transfer of Fulton County teachers to the state retirement system (1978) ACHIEVED
- B. An elected school board and an appointed superintendent for Fulton County (1978) ACHIEVED
- C. The present Atlanta Board of Education with six districts and three at-large seats (1978)
- D. Equal access to vocational education (1981). Support the concept that all secondary students in Atlanta and Fulton County have an equal opportunity to participate in vocational education.
- E. The position that standards for teacher quality should be raised (1985).
Support for:
 - 1. Measures to improve hiring and recruiting practices
 - 2. Measures to strengthen the implementation of dismissal and non-renewal procedures
 - 3. Annual evaluations of tenured as well as non-tenured teachers
 - 4. An evaluator in addition to the principal or a team evaluation
 - 5. Improved use of evaluation as a positive tool for instructional improvement, with specific feedback for teachers and specific recommendations for remediation
 - 6. Thorough training for principals and other administrators in evaluation and dismissal procedures
- F. The improvement of working conditions for teachers in Atlanta and Fulton County (1985). Support for:
 - 1. reductions in student-teacher ratios
 - 2. additional teachers' aides
 - 3. free lunch periods and planning periods for teachers
 - 4. reduction in teachers' clerical duties or additional clerical assistance
 - 5. measures to strengthen school leadership
 - 6. measures to deal more effectively with disruptive students

- G. Improved pay incentives to attract and retain qualified teachers (1985).
Support for:
 1. a well-designed career ladder program
 2. across-the-board salary increases to raise teachers' salaries to a level competitive with similar professions
- H. A successful incentive program for teachers which includes non-pay incentive to provide recognition and special opportunities for exemplary teachers (1985).
Support for:
 1. Sabbaticals
 2. Grants for special projects
 3. recognitions of exemplary teachers with special awards
 4. Programs which offer special opportunities to exemplary teachers, such as "mentor" programs

III. Housing

We support:

- A. Local fair housing laws and enforceable codes (1968, 1972).
Support for:
 1. uniform building codes and code enforcement
 2. efficiency and accountability in the operation of the Atlanta Housing Authority and the Fulton County Housing Authority
- B. Decent housing for those with low and moderate incomes (1968, 1972).
Support for:
 1. prohibition of real estate and mortgage financing practices that inhibit rehabilitation or construction of housing for low and moderate income persons
 2. direct subsidies for housing assistance to the poor
 3. funds for housing counseling and legislation which would require notice of foreclosure sent to property owners
- C. Dispersal of low income housing in Atlanta and Fulton County (1968, 1972).
Support for:
 1. non-exclusionary zoning practices
 2. construction of new public housing, and incentives and subsidies for new, privately constructed housing

IV. Economic Development

We support:

- A. An economic development strategy for Atlanta (1981)
- B. Job training with greater involvement by the private sector (1981). Support for public job training that:
 1. focuses on job training rather than short-time placement
 2. induce a greater involvement of the private sector

V. Transportation

We support:

- A. Mass transit (1962, 1974). Support for
 1. Policies which encourage more reliance on public transportation
 2. An increase in the carrying capacity of the present street system
 3. Construction of bikeway systems and more sidewalks
 4. Protection of existing residential neighborhoods
 5. Integrated transportation systems rather than highways alone
 6. Direct community involvement in the planning process
- B. Transportation as a strategy to decrease unemployment and increase economic development (1981).
Support for:
 1. Efforts to educate the public regarding available jobs and transportation services
 2. Public and private transportation alternatives such as private van pooling, specifically designed to enhance transportation to jobs
 3. Incentives to companies that develop and/or implement transportation programs to serve the city's unemployed

VI. Criminal justice

We support:

- A. Measures that will improve the administration of justice in the courts of limited jurisdiction of Fulton County and its municipalities (1970, 1978).
 - 1. The decriminalization of the public inebriant
 - 2. A municipal court facility that is physically and administratively separate from the Atlanta Police Department
- B. Community-based alternatives for all but the most violent offenders (1980),
Support of:
 - 1. restitution, diversion and community service as alternatives to incarceration
 - 2. transition alternatives for completion of prison sentences
 - 3. Community involvement and support for rehabilitation of offenders

VII. Natural Resources

We support:

- A. Preservation of residential areas with adequate means for citizen input and review in planning and zoning decisions (1960) (cross reference: I.F.)
 - 1. land use decisions that allow for adequate provisions of open spaces, parks and recreation facilities
 - 2. comprehensive land use planning with appropriate controls to implement the plans
 - 3. the preservation of residential areas consistent with the needs of a given neighborhood
 - 4. provision for citizen input and review in the planning and zoning process
- B. Protection of the Chattahoochee River watershed as an irreplaceable natural resource (1962, 1980). Support measures to preserve and enhance the quality of the water for municipal supply, and the river, its floodplain and steep slopes for scenic and aesthetic value.
 - 1. Support for:
 - a. the metropolitan river act of 1973
 - b. measures to maintain high water quality, including increased treatment for wastewater, alternatives to wastewater dilution, and the present level of power generation
 - c. recreational use of the river and its floodplain that maintains the natural character of the floodplain and the quality of the water, including non-motorized floating craft, nature trails, bridle trails, hiking trails, limited tent camping and the preservation of historic sites
 - 2. OPPOSITION TO:
 - a. commercialization of the river itself, including navigation and industrialization which would reduce water quality or aesthetic values
 - b. commercialization or contrived development of recreational facilities or historical sites
 - c. motorized vehicles other than those needed for access
 - d. building for commercial or residential use in the floodplain
 - e. Any disturbance of the steep slopes
 - 3. SUPPORT FOR the following priorities in any plan affecting the future water supply
 - a. that the environmental balance in the water remain unchanged
 - b. that the recreational use of Lake Lanier be retained
 - c. that the plan be as flexible as possible in terms of reversibility
 - d. that minimal loss of peak power is preferable to options that affect the other three priorities
- C. Comprehensive planning for solid waste management (1972). Support for:
 - 1. The 1972 comprehensive plans for solid waste management in Atlanta and Fulton County
 - 2. The Solid Waste Management Act of 1972
 - 3. Local applications of the environmental protection agency guidelines for land disposal, incineration, source separation, resource recovery and bottle deposits
- D. Neighborhood redevelopment of the I-485 Stone Mountain Freeway [Great Park] (1979). Support for:
 - 1. neighborhood redevelopment with a park/attraction of regional interest in the large central area
 - 2. redevelopment that includes a mix of cluster houses, small and mid- rise apartments (located at or near public transportation routes)
 - 3. neighborhood park areas to serve new and existing housing
 - 4. transportation through the rights-of-way that is limited to streets necessary for neighborhood redevelopment
 - 5. a two-lane road serving only the park attraction
 - 6. renovation of the existing industrial/commercial areas that is complementary to the park and housing development

7. development of an authority with development and maintenance responsibility made up of representatives from surrounding neighborhoods
8. public participation in the decision process

VII. Social policy

We support:

An amendment to the Drunk Driving Law requiring an evaluation for alcohol problems and treatment for those found to have a drinking problem; also alternatives to incarceration for DUI including, but not limited to, treatment (1984)

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
President's Report
2017-2018**

In May 2017, I had just completed my first year as President of the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County. I was excited to lead my first Annual Meeting. Unfortunately, I was so ill, I had to ask Mary Carole Cooney to lead the meeting for me, although I was at the meeting physically. And so started my second year as LWVAF President. The year continued personally for me in regaining my health and changing jobs. In addition, many of LWVAF's Board members also faced personal challenges, including health challenges, the loss or illness of family members or close friends, and increased work demands. Despite these personal upheavals, the LWVAF Board's tremendous love for and dedication to this organization ensured that LWVAF's work continued. LWVAF's programs and services to the community in 2017-2018 were excellent, extensive and impactful. In recognition of LWVAF's long history of educating the metropolitan-Atlanta community, on May 19, 2018, the Atlanta Suburban Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. presented LWVAF with its *Commitment to Excellence Award* in the area of Political Awareness and Involvement.

LWVAF is gifted with a tremendously talented group of women who lead the organization and serve as Board members. In 2017-2018, some of our Board members were honored for their work including one of our oldest and longest serving Board members, Drewnell Thomas, who was recognized by the City of Atlanta. One of our youngest and newest Board members, Onyinye Akujuo, was also recognized as a Young Government Leader. Board member, Janet Prioleau, was one of a select group of interior decorators invited to decorate the White House during the holiday season. This is a sampling of some of the talent on the LWVAF 2017-2018 Board, and it was the talent and hard work of the entire Board that helped LWVAF excel in 2017-2018.

LWVAF started the year with a joint effort by the Program Committee led by Nicole Smith and the Voter Services Committee led by Cecelia Houston-Torrence. These ladies organized a dynamic discussion on June 27, 2017, entitled, "Who Got Next? Millennials Stand Up." This engaging program exposed 75 young people to the work of LWVAF and furthered the LWVAF mission of educating our community about voting. On September 28, 2017, the Voter Services Committee participated with a group of partners to hold a Mayoral Forum at Emory University that featured the candidates for the mayor of the City of Atlanta. The event was moderated by WSB-TV's, Jocelyn Dorsey, and WSB-TV also live streamed the event on its social media platforms. On November 30, 2017, LWVAF's Voter Services Committee led a team of community partners in hosting a Mayoral Run-Off Forum featuring candidates Mary Norwood and Keisha Lance Bottoms. The event was held at the Center for Civil and Human Rights and was again moderated by WSB-TV's, Jocelyn Dorsey. Over 200 people attended the event in person and hundreds of other people watched WSB-TV's live stream of the event. As always, Board members Cindy Stripling, Kayron Beardon, Mary Carole Cooney, Charis Johnson, Cassandra Kirk and other Board members were among those present at the mayoral forum to help in any way needed. Board member, Diane Larché, helped to ensure the metropolitan-Atlanta community was aware of LWVAF's work. Congratulations to VP of Voter Services, Cecelia Houston-Torrence, on a tremendous year.

On December 10, 2017, VP of Membership, Darlene Kimes, spearheaded the planning and hosting of LWVAF's annual holiday party. This year, the event was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. William and Verna Cleveland. The event was well attended by prospective LWVAF members as well as by several elected officials, including City of Atlanta Councilwoman Marci Overstreet, City of Atlanta Councilman Andre Dickens and Atlanta Board of Education member, Erika Mitchell.

The Program Committee had another outstanding year. VP of Programs, Nicole Smith, did a superlative job of recruiting and involving LWVAF members into the work of the organization. One of the highlights of the program year was the February 24, 2018, Coffee Talk on careers for women in politics, both out front and behind the scenes. This outstanding Coffee Talk was led by Board members Janelle Jones and Onyinye Akujuo, under the direction of Nicole. Thanks to all for making this program one of the highlights of LWVAF's year.

The forums and programs mentioned above represent some of the most visible work of LWVAF during the year. Nevertheless, throughout 2017-2018, Board members also moderated local political forums at the request of various groups; spoke to local civics groups, homeowners associations and others about voting and bills on the ballot; organized and manned voter registration drives; and gave interviews on voting and voter education. Board members, Cecelia Houston-Torrence and Sherry Williams, kept us abreast of their work on the City of Atlanta Citizens Review Board. Ms. Houston-Torrence, the LWVAF representative

to the CRB was recently elected Secretary of that organization. Ms. Nichola Hines, the LWVAF representative to the City of Atlanta Ethics Board attended many LWVAF Board meetings and kept the LWVAF Board informed about the headline-making ethics challenges in the City of Atlanta.

Board secretary, Mary Carole Cooney, is but one example of how LWVAF Board members serve in the greater Atlanta community. At great personal sacrifice (since she cannot engage in any political activity), Ms. Cooney serves as the non-partisan Chair of the Fulton County Board of Elections. Ms. Cooney's service in this capacity has enabled LWVAF to stay abreast of all public information regarding elections in Atlanta and Fulton County. During this year, Ms. Cooney has also graciously hosted many of our Board meetings in her home and fed us her famous spinach pie!

LWVAF is also fortunate to have the support and help of LWVAF members like Nancy Rogers who always ensures that LWVAF is represented in the Atlanta Botanical Garden's Halloween Exhibit. This year was no exception and Nancy again did an outstanding job of creating an entry for LWVAF.

LWVAF is well positioned to continue its outstanding leadership in the community, but we also have room for improvement in some areas. Our treasurer, Kayron Beardon, has kept us in the black, and I am personally very grateful to Kayron for ensuring LWVAF wisely uses its resources to fulfill our mission. Nevertheless, one of LWVAF's challenges over the next year will be to further diversify our income streams and strengthen our financial reserves. With the help of Onyinye Akujuo, LWVAF continues to build and expand its social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, but there is room for improvement as we strive to engage younger members. Nichola Hines has assisted us in developing new ways to communicate with our members.

All of the work mentioned above could not have occurred without the dedicated efforts of the LWVAF Board and the support of our LWVAF members. I want to thank the LWVAF Board for their service to LWVAF, and for their support of me as the President. I also want to thank the many LWVAF members for joining with us in this critical work. Each of you understand that "Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport." Given that I am human and given that LWVAF and its Board members do so much work in the community, I have probably overlooked something or someone. Please know, however, that I value each and every contribution of all of our Board and our LWVAF members.

During my two years as LWVAF President, I have worked to ensure we have a politically, racially and generationally diverse Board. I am proud that we have accomplished this goal. In a time when our country appears to be more divided and polarized than ever, I am grateful for the exceptional way in which LWVAF has demonstrated through our work that diverse people can work together to achieve common goals. I am also tremendously proud that our diverse and talented Board models respectful discourse during a time when divisive political rhetoric by national leaders in both parties sometimes dominates the news.

LWVAF holds a unique and valuable role in the community as one of the last bastions of unbiased, non-partisan political information. We are one of the few groups that exist that model the strength and possibilities of a vibrant and pluralistic democracy. Our ability to continue to lead in Atlanta and Fulton County depends on each of you – our members. Please continue to support LWVAF with your time, talent and TREASURE!

It is an honor to be entrusted with the position of leading our country's oldest League of Women Voters – LWVAF. I thank you for the privilege of serving as your president, and I ask for your continued support of me and of LWVAF as we move forward over the next two years.

Sincerely,

Karlise Yvette Grier

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Fundraising Report
2017-2018**

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta Fulton County
Membership Report
2017-2018**

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Voter Services Report 2017-2018**

National Voter Registration Day

On Tuesday, September 26, 2017, the LWVAF in collaboration with the Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda manned voter registration drives at the following MARTA locations: Five Points, West End, A.G. Holmes and Sandy Springs.

Voter Registration Drives

October 5, 2017 at the Andrew and Walter Young YMCA.

April 11, 2018 - Benjamin E. Mays High School

April 21, 2018 Andrew and Walter Young YMCA

Mayoral Forums

On **Thursday, September 28, 2017**, the LWVAF in partnership with the LWVGA, WSBTV and Emory University hosted a mayoral forum at Glenn Memorial Auditorium at Emory. It was moderated by Jocelyn Dorsey of WSBTV who did a phenomenal job.

Our community partners for the event were Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Atlanta Alumnae Chapter and Atlanta Suburban Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Kappa Omega Chapter, The Georgia Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women, and the National Black MBA Association.

On **Thursday, November 30, 2017** the LWVAF, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. in partnership with WSBTV hosted a Mayoral Run-Off Forum at the Center for Civil and Human Rights. This was moderated by Jocelyn Dorsey as well. The audience was at capacity.

It has been my pleasure to serve as Vice President of Voter Services for the LWVAF for the past two years and as President for four years. I have learned a lot, and working with the dedicated and committed members of the local and state Leagues has been a tremendous benefit.

As I transition from this position and from the board of directors I want to thank everyone for your support and guidance. Be assured that I will continue to support the LWVAF as I have for the past 20 years.

Yours in League,

Cecilia Houston-Torrence

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Program Report 2017-2018**

Summary of Programs (May 2017/ May 2018):

- **“Who Got Next? Millennials Stand Up!”**
 - **Scope:** Public forum tackling the questions, “Does your vote count?” / “Is your vote protected?”
 - **Panelists:** Dr. Illya Davis (Morehouse College), Angelyn Dionysatos (Atlanta Young Republicans) and Adrienne White (Red Clay Democrats)
 - **Date:** June 27, 2017 – Nelson Mullins

- **Coffee Talk – “Women in Politics”**
 - **Scope:** A roundtable coffee talk discussion regarding careers for women in politics – both out front and behind the scenes
 - **Panelists:** Erika Mitchell, Lalohni Campbell and Adrienne White
 - **Date:** February 24, 2018 - Revelator Coffee Company

- **Doris Von Glahn Legislative Review (UPCOMING)**
 - **Scope:** Recap the outcome of the Georgia General Assembly’s 2018 legislative session in the areas of Budget & Policy, Environment, and Healthcare
 - **Date:** June 2, 2018 – St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
2017 NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
Submitted by Nicole Smith, Nominating Committee Chair**

Proposed Slate of Officers and Board Members 2018-2019

| Position | Holder or Nominee | Term Ends |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| President* | Karlise Grier | 2020 |
| President Elect | Open | N/A |
| VP, Fundraising* | Open | 2020 |
| VP, Membership* | Darlene Kimes | 2020 |
| VP, Program | Nicole Smith | 2019 |
| VP, Voter Services* | Cheryl Turner | 2020 |
| Secretary | Mary Carole Cooney | 2019 |
| Treasurer | Kayron Bearden | 2019 |
| Elected Director 1 | Cindy Striplin | 2019 |
| Elected Director 2* | Charis Johnson | 2020 |
| Elected Director 3 | Drewnell Thomas | 2019 |
| Elected Director 4* | Janet Prioleau | 2020 |
| Elected Director 5 | Onyinye Akujuo | 2019 |
| Elected Director 6* | Cassandra Kirk | 2020 |
| Elected Director 7 | Janelle Jones | 2019 |
| Elected Director 8* | Diane Powell-Larche | 2020 |
| Elected Director 9 | Sherry Williams | 2020 |
| Elected Director 10* | Nichola Hines | 2020 |
| Appointed Director* | Ronnie Gosselin | 2019 |

*New Term

Bios of Existing and Proposed Board Members
2017-2018

Onyinye Akujuo

Onyinye Akujuo (Oh-kneen-yay Ah-koo-joe) is a seasoned grants professional, change agent and rain maker currently serving as the Director of Federal and State Grant Programs on the Senior Executive team for the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA). At MARTA, Onyinye oversees, directs and manages over \$600M in Federal funding and is the Designated Official under the Governor of Georgia per the MARTA Act to appropriate Federal Transit Administration formula funds for 13 counties that make up the Atlanta Urbanized Area. She also serves on the Finance and Planning committees for the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). Onyinye provides mentorship activities and pro bono assistance to nonprofits seeking to increase their programmatic budgets through grants and sponsorships. Onyinye is an active Board Director for the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County, Board Member of the Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning in NYC and serves on the Presidential Operations Committee under the President of the Junior League of Atlanta. Onyinye's interests are in grant management, community capacity building, economic development and political affairs. Her expertise in federal compliance, grant development and transportation policy has allowed her to attain over \$3B in grant funding and an overall savings of \$220M for her companies over the course of her career. Onyinye was recently awarded Top 40 under 40 for the Young Government Leaders of Metro Atlanta.

Kayron Bearden

Kayron Bearden worked as a reference librarian and technology specialist at the Foundation Center-Atlanta from 1994 to 2009.

She has been a member of the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County since 1982, and has served in various leadership capacities, including Budget Committee; Nominating Committee; Luncheon Chair; Secretary; Treasurer; VP, Finance; VP Membership, President-Elect and President. She served on the boards of PTAs at Roswell North Elementary, Crabapple Middle School, and Roswell High School. She currently serves on the boards of several other nonprofit organizations, including the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library Foundation, Friends of the Roswell Library, and Roswell Woman's Club. She was a 2013 fellow with the Georgia Women's Policy Institute. She has a BA in Mathematics from the University of Georgia and a Masters of Library Science from Rutgers University.

Mary Carole Cooney

Community experience: Chairperson, Fulton County Elections Board; Emory Public Interest Committee Advisory Board; Leadership Atlanta (1988); past president, Metropolitan Atlanta Council on Alcohol and Drugs; past president, Atlanta Virtuosi chamber music group; past vice president League of Women Voters of Georgia

Activities with the LWVA-F: Secretary of LWVA-F Board

Areas of interest/expertise: Voting rights, open records

Education/training: Bachelor's degree in journalism from Northwestern University
Law degree from Emory University

Employment: Private practice of law focused on governmental and statutory disputes

Family: Married to Henry R. Bauer, Jr.

Ronnie Gosselin

Ronnie Gosselin is a senior associate with Alston & Bird's Environment, Land Use & Natural Resources Team. She focuses her practice on environmental litigation and regulatory compliance with state and federal statutes. Her pro bono activities at Alston include representing clients in landlord tenant actions for the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, implementing and seeking client name changes through the Transgender Name Change Project, and wills drafting through Atlanta Legal Aid. She is an active member of the Firm's Women's Initiative Committee and of the American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy and Resources, where she currently participates in the Leadership Development Program and as Programs Vice Chair for the Committee on Environmental Litigation and Toxic Torts.

Before joining Alston & Bird, Ronnie clerked for the Honorable Judge Anne E. Thompson for the U.S. District Court of New Jersey. While pursuing her J.D. at Harvard Law, she interned at the Association for Civil Rights in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and for the Southern Center for Human Rights in Atlanta through the Law School's Death Penalty Clinic. Ronnie also previously worked for the Research and Communications Divisions of the Administrative Office of the Courts of Georgia and interned for The Carter Center's Americas Program. Ronnie is a proud Wellesley College alum, and is counting down the days until her husband, an immigrant from Southern Africa, can vote. LWVAF advances two of Ronnie's greatest passions: women and an active, engaged citizenry. She is excited and honored for the opportunity to do more.

Karlise Grier

In September 2017, Karlise Yvette Grier became the Executive Director of the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. Prior to assuming her current position, Ms. Grier worked as the managing attorney of Grier Law Office, P.C., an Atlanta law firm that concentrated in the areas of adoption, divorce, and family law. Ms. Grier was appointed to serve as a part-time Magistrate Court judge in Fulton County and served as a Judicial Officer in the Fulton County Superior Court Family Division from May 2006 through December 2008. From March 2000 until June 2005, Ms. Grier served as a Judge Pro Hac Vice in the former City Court of Atlanta ("Traffic Court").

Ms. Grier served as the founding Vice Chair of the State Bar of Georgia's Child Protection and Advocacy Section and the founding chair of the GABWA Family Law Section. She is a past president of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys. Ms. Grier currently serves as the President for the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County. She is a member of the 2015 Class of Leadership Atlanta.

Ms. Grier received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Science from Dartmouth College in 1986, and her law degree from the Emory University School of Law in 1992. She was admitted to the State Bar of Georgia in that same year.

Ms. Grier was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, where she was graduated from Frederick Douglass High School. She is a member of Ben Hill United Methodist Church.

Nichola Hines

Nichola Hines is a born and raised New Yorker, who relocated to Atlanta for the second time in 2013. She is currently an Assistant General Manager for one of the prime concessionaires at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport the world's busiest airport. Nichola's primary job responsibilities include overseeing 11 unique restaurants and brand management of Harvest & Grounds, a national coffee and bakery concept. Nichola holds a Dual Bachelor of Arts degree with a concentration in Social Science (emphasis in Economics) and Sociology from University of Southern California. She is a financial and active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc and serves as the Fundraising Chair for the Atlanta Suburban Alumnae Chapter. Nichola is currently the President-Elect of University of Southern California Alumni Atlanta Club, and sits on the Board of Ethics representing The League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County.

She joined the League with the simple belief that our country can be a better place, if we are all actively involved in the political process when empowered with non-partisan information when we vote. Nichola has been a member of the league since 2017.

Charis Johnson

Community experience: President of the Gate City Bar Association-1998; National Bar Association (NBA) Regional XI Director for Alabama, Georgia, and Florida- 2002 and 2005; co-chair of the local planning committee that hosted the 82nd Annual National Bar Association Convention in Atlanta-2007; Member-Atlanta Citizens Review Panel; Member- Atlanta Judicial Commission; former Member-Fulton County Department of Registration and Elections Vote Review Panel; Former ex-officio board member- Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation; Participant- Saturday Lawyer Program 1998; participant-Georgia Mock trial competition.

Activities with the LWVA-F: Board of Directors-2000-2006; Vice-president of Voter Services-2006-2008; President-2008.

Areas of interest/expertise: Reading; Jazz; Cooking, and Art; Event planning; Fundraising; and, Crisis management.

Education/training: Spelman College- Atlanta, GA, BA, Major-Political Science and Minor-Sociology.

Howard University Law School- Washington, D.C., J. D.

Employment: Counsel- Ronnie Moore & Associates, Staff Counsel for Allstate and Encompass Insurance Companies in Atlanta. The job INVOLVES DEFENDING personal injury and property

damage cases in the 14-county Metropolitan Atlanta area. While most cases involve soft tissue claims, some of them entail complex injuries.

Family: Single.

Janelle Jones

Janelle Jones is a New Haven, Connecticut native, but calls Georgia home due to living in this great state for the past 10 years. Her days consist of being a Community & Political Consultant in the areas of community development and Politics. She is currently contracted with local municipalities, and the Georgia Republican Party. Politically she provides strategic leadership and master plans to conservative candidates and organizations on the subject of minority engagement and community concerns. She has worked with National and local level elected officials and candidates. On the communal level she founded The Millennial Round Table of Georgia where she works with 10 young professionals to impact economic and social issues throughout the state of Georgia.

She is the Former Interim Chair of the Georgia Black Republican Council, a board member for The League of Women Voters Atlanta-Fulton Chapter, Chair of the Fundraising Committee for the Georgians for Fair Taxation, Vice Chair of the South Fulton Republicans, Membership Chair for the Atlanta Young Republicans, and a minority engagement ambassador for the Georgia Republican Party.

With all the achievements her faith in God and her Family is her most proud accomplishments!

Activities with the LWVA-F: Events committee and voter engagement

Areas of interest/expertise: public speaking and event management

Education/training: B.S. Psychology from NC A&T State University, Masters of Science Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Ph. D Candidate studying Organizational Consulting (Capella University for both)

Employment: Self Employed, Political and Community Consultant

Darlene Kimes

Darlene Kimes brings over 30 years of professional experience in municipal government. She also brings years of leadership experience in the arenas of advocacy, public policy and community outreach strategies. She has received several distinguished awards recognizing her leadership skills such as Nomination for City of Atlanta Woman of the Year Award under Mayor Shirley Franklin, 2010 Support the Good of Atlanta Public Schools Leadership Team, 2014 Atlanta Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Torch Award that recognizes women who have made a significant impact in the Metropolitan Atlanta Community and through their leadership have confronted societal or civic issues. She has served on several board including the American Red Cross Minority Recruitment Board, National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Northwest Georgia Chapter and United Way. She currently serves on the Executive Board of Greater Atlanta Chapter National Council of Negro Women, Executive Board of Atlanta Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Since 2007, she has represented a Georgia Delegation of Women in Washington, D.C., addressing the national public policy-making process advocating for laws relative to Health Care, Affordable Housing, Education and Economic Development. She has led numerous voter registration campaigns and initiated public forums on Women---Daring To Make a Difference, and for state and local candidates.

Darlene is a retiree from the City of Atlanta in Human Resources Management. She is a graduate of Fort Valley State University (FVSU). When she is not trying to influence change, you can find her passionately raising money for Clark Atlanta University in memory of her husband, Dr. Larry Kimes and their FVSU alma mater. She takes pleasure in international travel and spending time with her daughter and granddaughter. Darlene is a member of Cascade United Methodist Church in Atlanta.

Cassandra Kirk

Cassandra, appointed by Governor Deal, serves as Chief Magistrate Judge of Fulton County. During her tenure as an Associate Juvenile Court Judge, Cassandra spearheaded the establishment of *Choices*, Fulton County's first Juvenile Drug Court program, which was selected to participate in a nationwide Learning Collaborative. Judge Kirk began her career with the firm formerly known as Stokes & Murphy, PC, an Atlanta-based labor and employment boutique, specializing in the hospitality, food service and manufacturing industries.

She came to the bench after more than 15 years in public service. She served as an Assistant District Attorney in both the Alcovy and the Atlanta Judicial Circuits and served as Director of Legal Services for the Georgia Merit System. Her juvenile experience includes service as a juvenile defense attorney, attorney for the Department of Family and Children Services and as a Supervising Child Attorney.

Cassandra supports the community through service to Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. (Parliamentarian), North Avenue Presbyterian Church (College of Deacon) and the Boards of Directors of The League of

Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County, the Georgia Association of Counsel for Children, and StreetGrace, a non-profit aimed at eradicating domestic minor sex trafficking. Cassandra received her B.A. from Williams College, and her J.D. from Washington and Lee University School of Law.

Diane Larche'

Diane Larche' is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and Howard University. She holds degrees in English Writing, Political Science, Publishing and Insurance. She is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and CEO of Larche' Communications LLC, a boutique full service public relations and marketing firm. She and her spouse Joseph own FootFittr Comfort and stylish shoe store in the Emory area. She is a Board member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Atlanta Alumnae Chapter and the Lupus Foundation of America, Georgia Chapter. Diane is the founding president of the National Council of Negro Women Greater Atlanta Section, which is the largest section to be chartered in the 81 year history of NCNW. She was a board member and Vice President of Community Outreach for the Junior League of Atlanta.

Janet Prioleau

Janet is Principal Designer of Janet Prioleau Interiors, a full-service interior design firm in the greater Atlanta area. Having earned degrees in both Religion and Philosophy and Interior Design, Janet's work and design articles have appeared in several design publications: Atlanta Journal Constitution, Atlanta Home Improvement, and Kansas Home and Lifestyles. She has been a featured design panel speaker, conducted design workshops and seminars, was a featured designer for a Charity Show House and is presently an adjunct instructor of Interior Design and Event Planning at Georgia Piedmont College.

Her civic duties and community involvement have included the Atlanta/Fulton League of Women Voters; she has served as director and member at large and served on various committees, moderator for debates, panel discussions, and also served as Chair for the nominating committee. Other civic duties have included Executive Secretary of the Commerce Club/Women in Leadership, National Center for Civil and Human Rights and volunteer work with nonprofits.

Janet's favorite past times are physical fitness, entertaining, travel, and reading from her private library of over 500 books.

Nicole Smith

Nicole Smith has 16 years of professional experience in project/program management, management consulting, process improvement, risk management, and technology implementations. She also has a Six Sigma Green Belt certification. Nicole graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2000 with a degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering and received her MBA in 2009 from Clark Atlanta University. Nicole currently leads end-to-end process optimization initiatives as part of the Business Transformation Office at SunTrust Bank. Nicole is married (Kofi) and has a 5-year-old son (Kole). Nicole and her husband are active fundraisers for the Children's Sports Network of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and members of Buckhead Church. Nicole is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. She is also a member of the Greater Metropolitan Atlanta Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated.

Cindy Striplin

Community experience: Fulton County Grand Jury Commission, Carter Center Volunteer, US Congressional Campaigns, Member of the United Nations – Atlanta Chapter, Supporter of the Southern Poverty Law Center, Fulton County Citizen Deputy

Activities with the LWVA-F: Member for 20 years; President 2003-04, VP Program, VP Membership, Recipient of the 2003 Eudora Rodgers Award, Chairperson of the Sidney J. Marcus Committee, Chairperson of the Advisory Committee, Chairperson of Eudora Rodgers Award Committee, Chairperson of the Doris Von Glahn Legislative Review, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, LWVAF Representative to Coalition on Sexual Harassment, Advisory Trustee, and Member of various committees: Luncheon, Budget, Voter Service, Program, Membership, Political Directory, Voter Guide, Nominating, Voter Registration, Political Forum

Interests: human rights, women's issues, open government, campaign finance reform, health care, immigration issues, travel, politics, films, geology

Expertise: Spanish; interpersonal, organizational, and administrative skills, public relations

Family: Married to Bill Striplin.

Drewnell Thomas

Education

M.S.W.-Policy Planning & Adm. 6/76-8/77 Atlanta University School of Social Work Atlanta, GA

B.A.-Sociology / Minor – English 9/63-8/67 Valdosta State College Valdosta, GA

Summary of Volunteer Services and Awards :

- NABSW/Atlanta Chapter Past President
- Congressional Intern - District Office of Congressman Andrew Young.
- Board of Directors for the National Political Congress of Black Women, co-founded by Shirley Chisholm and C. Delores Tucker.
- Endorsed by Atlanta Journal and Atlanta Constitution Newspapers Candidate for Georgia State Senator- 39th District - 1988, 1990 and 1992.
- The Atlanta Fulton League of Women Voters – Board Member and former Unit Chair of South Metro Unit
- Mental Health Association of Metro Atlanta - Past President
- Georgia Mental Health Planning Council - 1989-1999
- Neighborhood Planning Unit –K - Chair - 2006 –2008 and Recorder –2008 - 2009
- President. -- Atlanta Planning Advisory Board 1/2009-12/2010 & Vice Pres. - 2007-2008
- Atlanta's 2010 U.S. Census Complete Count Committee - 2009
- Board Member – City of Atlanta License Review Board (LRB) 9/ 2011 – Present
- Founder and President _ The Historic Westin Heights / Bankhead Neighborhood Association -
- Honored with the Thomas / Pierce Alumni Scholarship at Valdosta State University 2014
- Abe Silverman Volunteer of the Year Award - Mental Health Assn. Metro Atlanta 1987
- Black History Appreciation Award for Courage – Valdosta State University 1989
- Certificate of Appreciation – M. L. King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change 1989
- Susie Labor Distinguished Service Award – Grady Hospital (Central Fulton MHC 1989)
- Black History Honor Valdosta's Firsts -Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA 2003
- Women of Multi-Ethnicity & Nationality (WOMEN)–Women's History Month Honoree Mar. 2008
- Atlanta Planning Advisory Board – Outstanding Neighborhood Leadership & Dedicated Service Awards - 2008 & 2009
- Inducted as Honorary Member of the Sigma Gamma Rho International Sorority, Inc.
- Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Golden Hall of Fame Award of Excellence -8/08/2012
- Atlanta Commission on Aging

Family & Hobbies : Drewnell is single. She has two adult sons, one grandson and four step grandchildren. enjoys scrabble, movies, travel, her community service work, and much more.

Cheryl Turner

Cheryl F. Turner is a seasoned Atlanta attorney committed to promoting diversity and being of service to her community.

She previously served as Senior Counsel at The Coca-Cola Company providing legal support for the *Sprite*, *Fanta* and *Odwalla* brands and the African-American and Hispanic marketing teams. In these roles, Ms. Turner worked on a variety of innovative marketing programs, and she is most proud of her work on programs that delivered more than \$1 million dollars in scholarships to diverse communities. She also managed the Company's Legal Division Summer Intern Program; co-chaired the Coca-Cola Legal Division Diversity Council; and served on the executive board of the Coca-Cola Women's business resource group.

In 2010, she was named one of the Fulton County Daily Report's top attorneys under 40 in Atlanta and, in 2011, was a member of the inaugural class of fellows of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, a national organization of legal leaders dedicated to promoting diversity in the legal profession. She also served as a member of the executive board of the Commercial Law Section of the National Bar Association for several years.

In 2014, Ms. Turner left The Coca-Cola Company to serve as the Constituency Director on the campaign of Michelle Nunn a candidate She is an active member of the Gate City Bar Association, Georgia's oldest African-American bar association. After having served in a variety of positions in Gate City, she had the honor

to serve as its president in 2016 and as chair of the Gate City Foundation in 2017. She is also the founder and chair of the Gate City Summer Associate Program, which has provided summer legal experiences and scholarships to law students for ten years.

Ms. Turner is a graduate of Emory College and Emory University School of Law, where she was a Martin Luther King Scholar and a Woodruff Scholar, respectively. As an alumna, she has been an active member of the Emory Alumni Board and the Emory Law School Alumni Board. She also spearheaded the creation of the Dr. Rudolph Byrd Memorial Scholarship, an endowed scholarship benefiting Emory college students.

Prior to law school, she served for two years in the Hands on Atlanta AmeriCorps program, as Corps Manager and as a team leader at Ralph McGill Elementary School in the historic Summerhill neighborhood in downtown Atlanta where she now lives.

A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Ms. Turner is a proud graduate of Benjamin E. Mays High School.

Sherry Williams

Community experience: Atlanta Citizens Review Board; Phoenix Women's Commission; Voter Registrar in Chicago and Phoenix; Register voters with Georgia Coalition for the Peoples Agenda; NMBBAA Officer; Lifetime member of the NAACP; Founding member of the Harper-Archer Middle School Planetarium Restoration Team

Activities with the LWVAF: Voter Services

Areas of interest/expertise: Voter registration; voter education; public policy; transportation equity; and healthcare for all

Education/Training: Leadership North Fulton, 2017 class; Georgia Department of Economic Development Academy, 2016 class; Roosevelt University, M.S. Information Systems; NC State University, B.S. Political Science and Economics

Employment: Georgia STAND UP Public Policy Coordinator