

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



**99th ANNUAL MEETING
May 28, 2019**

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Ninety-Ninth Annual Meeting Agenda
League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County, Inc.
 May 28, 2019
 Home of Mary Carole Cooney

6:00 PM	Registration & Refreshments	
6:30 PM	Annual Business Meeting:	
	Call to order	Karlise Y. Grier
	Adoption of Agenda	Karlise Y. Grier
	Adoption of Rules of Annual Meeting	Karlise Y. Grier
	Presentation of the 98th Annual Meeting Minutes	Mary Carole Cooney
	Community Updates	Karlise Y. Grier/LWVAF Members
	Atlanta Ethics, Public Trust and Transparency	
	Citizens Review Board	
	Litigation regarding State of Georgia Voting Machines	
	Presentation of Treasurer's Report	Kayron Bearden
	Presentation of Budget Committee Report	Janet Prioleau
	Adoption of Local Budget	
	Presentation of Program	Nicole Smith
	Recommended Items	
	Adoption of Local Program	
	Vote to Continue Existing Positions	Karlise Y. Grier
	Presentation of Annual Reports	
	President's Report	Karlise Y. Grier
	Fundraising Report	Nichola Hines
	Membership Committee Report	Darlene Kimes
	Voter Services Committee Report	Onyinye Akujuo
	Program Committee Report	Nicole Smith
	Presentation of Nominating Committee Report	Karlise Y. Grier/Ronnie Gosselin
	Election of Officers and Directors	Karlise Y. Grier
	Direction to the Board	LWVAF Members
	Announcements	Karlise Y. Grier
8:00 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 98th Annual Meeting
League of Women Voters Atlanta-Fulton County**

May 20, 2018

Attendees: Onyinye Akujuo, Kayron Bearden, Joe Carnes, Mary Carole Cooney, Chinye Enurah, Sally FitzGerald, Ronnie Gosselin, Karlise Y. Grier, Nichola Hines, Cecilia Houston-Torrence, Charis Johnson, Janelle Jones, Darlene Kimes, Robb Pitts, Janet Prioleau, Nancy Rogers, Nicole Smith, Bill Striplin, Cindy Striplin, Cheryl Turner, Sherry B. Williams, Nancy Wylie

Call to Order: President Karlise Y. Grier called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. as presiding officer. She announced that a quorum is present, the official time keeper is Janelle Jones; the recording secretary is Mary Carole Cooney; and the parliamentarian is Janet Prioleau.

Introduction of Chairperson of Fulton County Board of Commissioners: President Karlise Grier introduced Commissioner Robb Pitts, who joined the meeting briefly and spoke about the County initiative to stop sex trafficking.

Adoption of Rules and Agenda: The Agenda was reviewed and adopted by the membership, and the Rules for Annual Meeting were read aloud by Cheryl Turner. Nancy Wylie moved to adopt the Rules and the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Cindy Striplin, and passed unanimously.

Minutes of the 97th Annual Meeting: Secretary Mary Carole Cooney presented the minutes of the last annual meeting, which had been read and approved by Jerra Ferguson, Cindy Striplin and Sherry B. Williams, the committee of readers appointed for that purpose. A motion to accept the minutes, as approved by the committee of readers, was made by Cecilia Houston-Torrence, seconded by Nancy Rogers, and adopted unanimously.

Minutes of the 98th Annual Meeting: President Karlise Grier appointed a committee consisting of Darlene Kimes, Janet Prioleau and Sherry B. Williams to read and approve the Minutes of this 98th Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Kayron Bearden presented the Treasurer's Report, which reflects net income of \$6,676.68, after expenses, from our 2017-2018 fiscal year, and a total balance in our checking and savings accounts of \$3,941.39. Kayron discussed the small amount of \$209.97 remaining in the Kathy B. Ashe Scholarship Fund, and the proposal to seek Ms. Ashe's permission to merge that amount with other League Funds. She also reported that the amount of \$21 is what the LWVAF retains from each individual member's dues payment of \$75, after the required PMP (per-member-payments) are made to the National and State Leagues. By motion offered by Nancy Wylie, and seconded by Darlene Kimes, the Treasurer's Report was accepted and placed on file for audit by Anna Armstrong.

Budget Adoption: Speaking on behalf of Nichola Hines, chairperson of the Budget Committee, Kayron Bearden presented the proposed budget for 2018-2019, projecting income of \$16,440.00, and net expenses of \$16,440.00. The income projection is premised on 100 members renewing their memberships, and dues from 20 new members. Cecilia Houston-Torrence made a motion to adopt the budget as proposed and Onyinye Akujuo 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. Mary Carole Cooney's motion to approve the non-partisan policy as stated was seconded by Charis Johnson and approved by the membership.

Recommended Program 2018-2019: Nicole Smith, Vice President for Program, presented the Program recommended by the Program Committee at its Annual Program Planning meeting on March 10, 2018. This recommendation is to keep the same Program as last year, that is, **to engage and educate voters on finding accurate information on key national, state and local issues.** Janelle Jones moved the adoption of this Program, and Janet Prioleau seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

League Positions: No amendments being offered, the membership accepted the continuance of existing local positions.

President's Report: President Karlise Y. Grier began her report by acknowledging the personal and health issues she confronted at the beginning of her term. Despite the challenges she and various Board members faced, LWVAF continued its work, and on the evening prior to the Annual Meeting, received the Commitment to Excellence Award for Political Awareness and Involvement from the Suburban Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, in recognition of the League's long history of educating the metropolitan Atlanta community. Karlise made special mention of the "Who Got Next? Millennials Stand Up" presentation on June 27, 2017, the Mayoral Election Forum on September 28, 2017, the Mayoral Runoff Election Forum on November 30, 2017., and the February 24, 2018 Coffee Talk on Women In Politics, in addition to involvement at numerous local political forums and voter registration drives. Karlise concluded by wishing the membership good health during the coming program year.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee Report: Vice President Darlene Kimes noted that she and Nichola Hines have worked together and have made membership development a component of all LWVAF events with the cooperation and assistance of other Board members. She particularly noted the Holiday Party on December 9, 2017 at the home of Verna Cleveland, and anticipates one additional fundraiser this summer.

Voter Services Report: Presented by Vice-President Cecilia Houston-Torrence who reviewed the LWVAF's voter registration drives, in collaboration with the Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda, at the Five Points, West End, H. E. Holmes and Sandy Springs MARTA stations. In addition, the LWVAF conducted voter registration drives on October 5, 2017 at the Andrew and Walter Young Family YMCA, on April 11, 2018 at Benjamin E. Mays High School, and on April 21, 2018 at Andrew and Walter Young Family YMCA. We presented a mayoral election forum in partnership with the LWVGA, WSBTV and Emory University in Glenn Memorial Auditorium at Emory on September 27, 2017, and a mayoral runoff election forum on November 30, 2017, at the Center for Civil and Human Rights, with the LWVGA, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., and WSBTV. Both forums were hosted by Jocelyn Dorsey. CiCi concluded by telling the membership her pleasure to serve as Vice President of Voter Services for two years, and to thank everyone for their support and guidance as she transitions off the Board.

Legislative Report: Sally FitzGerald, Legislative Liaison for LWVAF, reported on legislation enacted this year by the Georgia General Assembly. Sally will offer a comprehensive review at the Doris VonGlahn Legislative Review on June 2, 2018, but talked to the membership about local bills for Fulton County and its 15 municipalities, and about those 2018 bills that will require a referendum in November.

Program Report: Presented by Vice-President for Program Nicole Smith. Nicole highlighted many accomplishment of the Committee during this past year, including the panel presentation of "Who Got Next? Millennials Stand Up!" on June 23, 2017, that Part II Coffee Talk on February 24, chaired by Janelle Jones, about Women in Politics, focused on opportunities for women in politics other than standing for elective office, and the annual Doris VonGlahn Legislative Review.

Nominating Committee: Nominating Committee Chairperson Nicole Smith thanked retiring Committee chairs Debbie Shockley, Monica Johnson and Cecilia Houston-Torrence for their service, and welcomed new Vice-Presidents Nichola Hines and Cheryl Turner, and new Board Director Ronnie Gosselin.

She presented the slate of officers and board members proposed for 2018-2019. The membership approved amendments offered by Karlise Grier to name Nichola Hines as Vice-President, Fundraising, and Ronnie Gosselin to be moved to Elected Director #10. The slate of officers and board members, as amended, is as follows:

President – Karlise Y. Grier (term expires 2020)
President-Elect - Open
Vice-President, Fundraising – Nichola Hines (term expires 2020)
Vice President, Membership – Darlene Kimes (term expires 2020)
Vice President, Programs - Nicole Smith (term expires 2019)
Vice President, Voter Services – Cheryl Turner (term expires 2020)
Secretary - Mary Carole Cooney (term expires 2019)

Treasurer – Kayron Bearden (term expires 2019)
Elected Director # 1 - Cindy Striplin (term expires 2019)
Elected Director # 2 - Charis Johnson (term expires 2020)
Elected Director # 3 - Drennell Thomas (term expires 2019)
Elected Director # 4 - Janet Prioleau (term expires 2020)
Elected Director # 5 - Onyinye Akujuo (term expires 2019)
Elected Director # 6 – Cassandra Kirk (term expires 2020)
Elected Director # 7 - Janelle Jones (term expires 2019)
Elected Director # 8 - Diane Powell-Larché (term expires 2020)
Elected Director # 9 - Sherry B. Williams (term expires 2020)
Elected Director #10 – Ronnie Gosselin (term expires 2020)

This slate of officers and directors was elected by unanimous vote upon motion by Karlise Grier which was seconded by Sherry B. Williams.

Direction to the Board:

- Chinye Enurah suggested that the Board consider raising fees for specific programs rather than increasing membership dues.
- Kayron Bearden conveyed Nancy Wylie’s request that the Board support HR 238, the referendum item for a Constitutional amendment by which an annual allocation of 75% of revenue from the sale of outdoor recreation equipment would be dedicated for the protection and preservation of conservation land.
- Janet Prioleau urged the Board to preserve the LWV’s nonpartisanship.
- Cindy Striplin urged Committee chairpersons to organize their committees and to ask for help, which makes the work so much easier.
- Nichola Hines expressed the need for help in maintaining the LWVAF membership list so that information can be disseminated promptly to all members.
- Onyinye Akujuo proposed that the Board charge fees for each event instead of needing to raise dues.
- Darlene Kimes informed the membership that we intend to get information about Committees’ respective projects circulated so that all members can stay informed.

Announcements: The next meeting of the LWVAF Board will be held on June 5, 2018.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 p.m. upon a motion made by Onyinye Akujuo, seconded by Janelle Jones, and approved unanimously.

Submitted by Mary Carole Cooney, Board Secretary

Read and approved:

Darlene Kimes Janet Prioleau Sherry B. Williams

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Treasurer's Report 2018-2019**

Account Balances

Apr 30,
19

Checking/Savings	
BB&T Checking	2,826.20
BB&T Money Market	836.59
Kathy B. Ashe Scholarship Fund	209.97
LWVA-F Ed Fund	<u>667.77</u>
Total Checking/Savings	4,540.53

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Treasurer's Report 2018-2019
Profit and Loss Budget Comparison**

	<u>May '18 - Apr 19</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>
Income			
A-CONTRIBUTIONS			
1-Member			
Ed Fund	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Op Fund	<u>550.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>
Total 1-Member	550.00	400.00	150.00
2-Board			
Ed Fund	72.22		
Op Fund	<u>638.25</u>	<u>325.00</u>	<u>313.25</u>
Total 2-Board	710.47	325.00	385.47
3-Nonmember			
Op Fund	<u>1,020.70</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>520.70</u>
Total 3-Nonmember	1,020.70	500.00	520.70
4-Ed Fund Reim			
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>215.00</u>	<u>-215.00</u>
Total A-CONTRIBUTIONS	2,281.17	1,440.00	841.17
B-DUES			
1-Renewal	1,812.29	7,500.00	-5,687.71
2-New	<u>2,264.99</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>764.99</u>
Total B-DUES	4,077.28	9,000.00	-4,922.72
C-FUNDRAISERS			
Fundraiser Net Income	<u>232.00</u>	<u>6,000.00</u>	<u>-5,768.00</u>
Total C-FUNDRAISERS	232.00	6,000.00	-5,768.00
D-OTHER INC.			
6-Interest Earned	<u>0.12</u>		
Total D-OTHER INC.	<u>0.12</u>		
Total Income	6,590.57	16,440.00	-9,849.43
Expense			
1-ED.ACT.			
b-Voter Svc	1,132.63	2,000.00	-867.37
d-Program Committees	<u>195.73</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>-304.27</u>
Total 1-ED.ACT.	1,328.36	2,500.00	-1,171.64
2-MEMBERSHIP			
President's Outreach	0.00	200.00	-200.00
a-PMP Natl	0.00	3,104.00	-3,104.00
b-PMP State	0.00	2,231.00	-2,231.00

d-AnnMtg	0.00	100.00	-100.00
f-Bd Retreat	250.00	100.00	150.00
Membership Activities	256.28	500.00	-243.72
Total 2-MEMBERSHIP	<u>506.28</u>	<u>6,235.00</u>	<u>-5,728.72</u>
3-TRAVEL, AFFIL			
c-State Council	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 3-TRAVEL, AFFIL	<u>0.00</u>	<u>150.00</u>	<u>-150.00</u>
4-DEVELOPMENT			
Seed Money	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Total 4-DEVELOPMENT	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>-1,500.00</u>
5-POSITION SUPP			
b-Advocacy	167.38	250.00	-82.62
Total 5-POSITION SUPP	<u>167.38</u>	<u>250.00</u>	<u>-82.62</u>
6-ADMIN COSTS			
P. O. Box	166.00	175.00	-9.00
Storage Unit Rental	2,210.00	2,400.00	-190.00
c-Telecommunications	469.25	500.00	-30.75
f-Postage	0.00	100.00	-100.00
g-Stationery&OfcSupp	0.00	100.00	-100.00
i-Eqt.Maint	0.00	500.00	-500.00
j-Insurance	628.12	1,500.00	-871.88
k-Taxes & Licenses	30.00	30.00	0.00
l-Bank charges	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Online Services	250.00	300.00	-50.00
q-Credit Card fees	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 6-ADMIN COSTS	<u>3,753.37</u>	<u>5,805.00</u>	<u>-2,051.63</u>
Total Expense	<u>5,755.39</u>	<u>16,440.00</u>	<u>-10,684.61</u>
Net Income	<u><u>835.18</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>	<u><u>835.18</u></u>

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Proposed Budget 2019-2020**

Category Description	Budget 2018-2019 Amount	Actual 2018-2019 Amount as of 4/22/2019	Budget 2019-2020 Amount
INCOME			
A-CONTRIBUTIONS			
1-Member	\$400.00	550.00	\$400.00
2-Board	\$325.00	710.00	\$350.00
3-Nonmember	\$500.00	1,020.00	\$450.00
4-Ed Fund Reim	\$215.00	0.00	\$170.00
TOTAL A-CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>\$1,440.00</u>	<u>2,280.00</u>	<u>\$1,370.00</u>
B-DUES			
1-Renewal	\$7,500.00	1,812.00	\$6,000.00
2-New	\$1,500.00	2,264.00	\$1,855.00
TOTAL B-DUES	<u>\$9,000.00</u>	<u>4,076.00</u>	<u>\$7,855.00</u>
C-FUNDRAISERS			
Fundraiser Net Income	\$6,000.00	232.00	\$6,000.00
TOTAL C-FUNDRAISERS	<u>\$6,000.00</u>	<u>232.00</u>	<u>\$6,000.00</u>
D-OTHER INC.			
2-Sales	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
6-Interest Earned	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL D-OTHER INC.	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$16,440.00</u>	<u>6,588.00</u>	<u>\$15,225.00</u>
EXPENSES			
1-ED.ACT.			
b-Voter Svc	2,000	1,132.00	2,000
d-Program Committees	\$500.00	196.00	\$750.00
TOTAL 1-ED.ACT.	<u>\$2,500.00</u>	<u>1,328.00</u>	<u>\$2,750.00</u>
2-MEMBERSHIP			
a-PMP Natl	\$3,104.00	0.00	\$2,048.00
b-PMP State	\$2,231.00	0.00	\$1,472.00
d-AnnMtg	\$100.00	0.00	\$100.00
f-Bd Retreat	\$100.00	250.00	\$200.00
Membership Activities	\$500.00	256.00	\$750.00
President Outreach	\$200.00	0.00	\$200.00
TOTAL 2-	<u>\$6,235.00</u>	<u>506.00</u>	<u>\$4,770.00</u>

MEMBERSHIP

3-TRAVEL, AFFIL			
a-Natl Council	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
b-Natl Convention	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
c-State Convention	\$0.00	0.00	\$150.00
d-State Council	\$150.00	0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL 3-TRAVEL, AFFIL	\$150.00	0.00	\$150.00
4-DEVELOPMENT			
Seed Money	\$1,500.00	0.00	\$1,500.00
TOTAL 4- DEVELOPMENT	\$1,500.00	0.00	\$1,500.00
5-POSITION SUPP			
b-Advocacy	\$250.00	167.00	\$200.00
TOTAL 5-POSITION SUPP	\$250.00	167.00	\$200.00
6-ADMIN COSTS			
Storage Unit	\$2,400.00	2210	\$2,500.00
P.O. Box	\$175.00	166.00	\$175.00
c-Telecommunications	\$500.00	469.00	\$500.00
f-Postage	\$100.00	0.00	\$150.00
g-Stationery&OfcSupp	\$100.00	0.00	\$150.00
i-Eqt.Maint	\$500.00	0.00	\$1,000.00
j-Insurance	\$1,500.00	628.00	\$850.00
k-Taxes & Licenses	\$30.00	30.00	\$30.00
l-Bank charges	\$50.00	0.00	\$50.00
q-Credit Card fees	\$150.00	0.00	\$150.00
Online services	\$300.00	250.00	\$300.00
TOTAL 6-ADMIN COSTS	\$5,805.00	3,753.00	\$5,855.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$16,440.00	5,754.00	\$15,225.00
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 I - 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
2019-2020**

The following program focus is the recommendation from the Program leadership: *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
2018-2019**

This year, the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County (LWVAF) starts the countdown to its 100th Annual Meeting. It is humbling to serve an organization that has played a pivotal role in our community for almost one hundred years. As I recently researched some history of the League in general, I came across the quote below, which I think is as apt today as when the League was originally founded. It reads:

“It was then, and is now, a nonpartisan organization. League founders believed that maintaining a nonpartisan status would protect the newly formed organization from being mired in the party politics of the day. However, League members were encouraged to be political themselves, by educating citizens about, and lobbying for, government and social reform legislation.”

Our History: The League of Women Voters, Patricia Anna Patton Rivers [president of the League of Women Voters of the Dalton Area], Daily Citizen-News, Dalton Georgia, Jan 17, 2011, https://www.dailycitizen.news/opinion/our-history-the-league-of-women-voters/article_c3d867fb-6a58-507b-89a3-41b0bc90c564.html

During its history, LWVAF has faced many challenges, including changing from a membership of “white middle-class women, [including founder Eleanore] Raoul” to an organization that in 1956 passed membership rules that precluded restrictions based on race. See Atlanta History Center, League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County Records, <http://ahc.galileo.usg.edu/ahc/view?docId=ead/ahc.MSS394-ead.xml>.

As LWVAF celebrates its 100th year, I hope LWVAF members embrace a vision of an LWVAF that is multi-cultural, multi-generational and full of vibrant women who may pursue divergent political objectives in their *personal lives*, but who work together on particular issues based on LWVAF member consensus. This is not an easy task. Like our forerunners in 1956, LWVAF members may not always agree on the best path forward. Good people in good faith may agree to disagree. Nevertheless, LWVAF members who choose to work with LWVAF must continue the **hard work** of finding ways to forge common ground despite being a group of politically active women who may support different political parties or different political candidates. LWVAF members may not always agree on the best way to solve difficult community challenges. We must agree, however, that despite our differences we will commit to working together.

One of the most heartbreaking challenges faced by LWVAF, in my opinion, is voter apathy. In a recent election to fill a vacancy for Atlanta City Council District 3 after the death of Ivory Young, a long-time member of the council, the election was decided by only 1,256 voters, a mere 5.6% of the registered voters in District 3. Such dismal voting statistics are disheartening for an organization that was founded, in part, to increase citizen participation in the election process, and to enhance citizen participation in government decisions at the local, state, and national level.

It is hard work for LWVAF to capture the attention of women of varying ages and diverse backgrounds. It is hard work for LWVAF to convince registered voters that their vote really does matter. It is hard work to ensure that LWVAF educates voters in a manner that does not simply give lip service to being a “non-partisan” organization that does not support or oppose any particular candidate. Yet no matter how hard the work, we must continue.

We live in a country where “we the people” are the government. And if we want “good” government that works for “all,” then each of us must commit to the hard work of ensuring that we have open, ethical, responsive, effective, efficient, honest, and representative government. I have always believed and I continue to believe that LWVAF occupies a unique and critical niche in a country often marred by divisive partisan discourse.

Will LWVAF’s 2019-2020 year be easy? Probably not. It may, however, as history proves, give birth to a movement that can change the course of a community, a state, a nation, or a world.

I invite you to join me in forging the future of LWVAF for the next 100 years.

Yours in service,
Sincerely,

Karlise Yvette Grier

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Fundraising Report
2018-2019**

In 2018 – 2019 the fundraising committee launched the Let's Chat Series. The series was built around partnering with local restaurants. By coming together over food, we're able to discuss politics and meet with some of our local leaders. Restaurants give us a percentage of sales ranging from 10 -20% of a chosen night. In 2018-2019 year we made almost \$500 going to eat.

For 2019 – 2020 the fundraising committee is working on our annual event Passion and Purpose: Our World, Our Life, Our Destiny tea party in September 2019. The event is set to be a \$45 ticket for the event. We will be honoring 4 trailblazers that exemplify the theme.

We will continue our Let's Chat Series will continue into the next year.

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta Fulton County
Membership Report
2018-2019**

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Voter Services Report 2018-2019**

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
Program Report 2018-2019**

Summary of Programs (May 2018/ May 2019):

- **2018 Doris Von Glahn Legislative Review**
 - **Scope:** Recap the outcome of the Georgia General Assembly's 2018 legislative session in the areas of Budget & Policy, Environment, and Healthcare
 - **Panelists:** Sally Fitzgerald (LWVAF), Eric Strunz (GA Budget & Policy Institute), Michelle Conde (Georgians for a Healthy Future), and April Lipscomb (Southern Environmental Law Center)
 - **Date:** June 2, 2018 – St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

- **2019 Doris Von Glahn Legislative Review (UPCOMING)**
 - **Scope:** Recap the outcome of the Georgia General Assembly's 2019 legislative session in the areas of Budget & Policy, Environment, and Healthcare
 - **Date:** June 25, 2019 at 5:30pm – Manuel's Tavern

- **2019 "Women in Politics" Coffee Talk (UPCOMING)**
 - *Leading from Beside (Wisdom from First Ladies)*
 - **Scope:** Candid discussion with spouses of leaders in the political and corporate arena
 - **Date:** June 30, 2019 at 2:30pm – Manuel's Tavern

**League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
2019 NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
Submitted by Nominating Committee Chair**

Proposed Slate of Officers and Board Members 2019-2020

<u>Position</u>	<u>Holder or Nominee</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
President*	Karlise Grier	2020
President Elect	Open	N/A
VP, Fundraising	Nichola Hines	2020
VP, Membership	Darlene Kimes	2020
VP, Program*	Janelle Jones	2021
VP, Voter Services	Onyinye Akujuo	2020
Secretary*	Mary Carole Cooney	2021
Treasurer*	Kayron Bearden	2021
Elected Director 1*	Nicole Smith	2021
Elected Director 2	Charis Johnson	2020
Elected Director 3*	Kimberly King	2021
Elected Director 4	Janet Prioleau	2020
Elected Director 5*	Dr. Connie Stevenson	2021
Elected Director 6	VACANT – to be appointed by the Board to fill the unexpired term of Cassandra Kirk	2020
Elected Director 7*	Demetris Johnson	2021
Elected Director 8	Diane Powell-Larche	2020
Elected Director 9	VACANT – to be appointed by the Board to fill the unexpired term of Sherry Williams	2020
Elected Director 10	Ronnie Gosselin	2020

*New Term

Bios of Existing and Proposed Board Members
2019-2020

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 landlord tenant actions for the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, client name changes through the Transgender Name Change Project and Lambda Legal, 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 co-chairs ABA SEER's 2019 EPA Region 4 Conference in Atlanta, and serves on the planning committee for ABA SEER's 2019 Fall Conference in Boston.

Before joining Alston& Bird, Ronnie clerked for the Honorable Judge Anne E. Thompson for the U.S. District Court of New Jersey. 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.

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 International Airport the world's busiest airport. Nichola's primary job responsibilities include 11 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) and Sociology from the 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 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 and has been recently appointed as the Vice Chairperson for the Ethics Board. 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 LWVAF: 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: Of Counsel, Forrest B. Johnson & Associates

Handles personal injury cases involving soft tissue injuries, objective, and major injuries.

Family: Single.

Demetris Johnson

I am a dependable and responsible person who cares and seek to encourage women. I'm energetic and eager to serve and volunteer in community activities. I'm currently an active member serving as the Co-Chair for Political Affairs with the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) Atlanta Chapter. I'm also the Chair of Membership with the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP); this organization is affiliated with my current job with the City of Atlanta. GAWP services the water Utilities throughout the State of Georgia in relations to the water environment. I'm also the incoming elected Vice-Chair of the Membership Committee (*October 2019*) with the Water Environment Federation (WEF), another affiliation with my current job. I'm a selected volunteer each year for the WICER's organization. This organization is designed for women who work in the construction industry.

I'm currently the Financial Analyst, Sr. for the Department of Watershed Management in the Office of Engineering Services. I have been employed with the city over twenty-five years. Throughout my years of services, I engaged in several tasks and learned an enormous amount of skills. I obtained my BS Degree in Business Administration, my master's degree in Business Administration (*graduated; Sum Cum Lada*), and have accomplished all my course work in my PhD program in Business Management. I have accomplished a certificate with GAWP's Leadership Academy.

My areas of interest will be to support any/all initiatives of League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton and to educate women on important issues and concerns to the public.

I'm a Mom of three grown Sons, a Daughter-in-Law and five grandchildren. I enjoy spending time with my family. My flexibility to engage and participate in this organization will be rewarding and I'm available as needed. My goal is to become a great asset to the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County board of directors' as a Board Director.

Janelle Jones

Janelle is a rapidly rising star in the world of conservative politics. As an experienced and credible voice on issues of critical importance to African Americans, Janelle's position and respect within the movement brings a diverse perspective to conversations about the future of the Republican Party. Janelle firmly believes that as the nation changes, so must the parties that lead it. She puts her belief into practice as Deputy State Director with the Georgia Republican Party. There her focus is to change the face of the Republican Party in a very diverse region of the country by making relationship building, the facilitation of access and the empowerment of minority communities all urgent priorities. As a testament to her and her party's overall success in Georgia, Republicans currently claim the governor's office and holds a supermajority in the state legislature.

Prior to her current position, Janet was a top consultant to the state GOP for community engagement, public affairs, and diversity initiatives. She became indispensable in that role on account of an impressive and consistently demonstrated ability to forge relationships between state and national elected officials, top donors and GOP leaders as well as providing advocates from underserved communities a seat at the table. Her efforts have helped consolidate gains and expand the tent at the same time. Additionally, Janelle helped elect the state's current Republican Party Chairman, John Watson. She managed the whip operation in Fulton County and surrounding areas and was instrumental in securing critical support from minority voters. Although Janelle has strong political ties to the Republican Party, she knows the critical importance of an ever-expanding dialogue on minority issues. She is no stranger in working across the aisle. She is one of the most sought after consultants for nonpartisan races, as well as when Democratic organizations are looking for a conservative perspective on politics.

Janelle is the former chair of the Georgia Black Republican Council, a current board member for the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County, Vice-Chair of the South Fulton Republicans, Vice-President of Political Affairs and board member for the Atlanta Young Republications, and Community Affairs Director/board member of the Georgia Young Republicans.

She is a New Haven, Connecticut, native. A graduate of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Psychology, she also holds a Master's Degree in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from Capella University.

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.

Kimberly King

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 a 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 83 year history of NCNW. She is NCNW National Membership Chair and a member of the national board of directors. 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 Eileen 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 a Business Development Consultant at Remodel Republic.

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 700 books.

Nicole Smith

Nicole Smith has 17 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 at SunTrust Bank. Nicole is married (Kofi) and has two sons: Kole (6 years old) and Kyler (3 months old). Nicole and her husband are active fundraisers for the Children's Sports Network of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and members of Buckhead Church. In addition, they are members of the Atlanta Chapter of YPO and the Greater Metropolitan Atlanta Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated. Nicole is also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Dr. Connie Stevenson

Community experience: Emerging Leaders Institute Graduate, Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference Education Panelist, American Association of Public Administrators Conference Panel Chair, Avondale Estates Education Committee Panelist, Guest Education Contributor News & Talk WAOK, "Teens Talk Back " Conference Presenter, "From the Kitchen to the Classroom " Emory

University Titus Program Conference Presenter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, National Council of Negro Women, Organization of DeKalb Educators Executive Board Member, My Education Express, LLC Advisory Board Member, Ivy and Roses Community Foundation Board Member, Twins Academy Foundation Board Member, Junior League of DeKalb, League of Women Voters, Council for Exceptional Children

Activities with the LWVA-F: Fundraising Committee Member

Areas of interest/expertise: Event Planning/Logistics, Presenting, Written Correspondence, Voter Registration

Education/training: Doctorate of Education - Educational Leadership, Master of Science - Educational Leadership, Specialist of Education - Interrelated Special Education , Master of Arts - Specific Learning Disabilities , Bachelor of Arts - Psychology

Employment: DeKalb County School District - Director of School Choice Options and Student Assignment

Family: Jerome Stevenson - Husband, Miles and Evan - Bonus Sons