

“Building A Strong Democracy”

FIRST CALL TO STATE CONVENTION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MICHIGAN

East Lansing, MI

MAY 19 – 21, 2017

In accordance with the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Michigan, I hereby issue the first call for all recognized local Leagues to send delegates to the thirty-second biennial State Convention of the League of Women Voters of Michigan to be held May 19 – 21, 2017 at the Kellogg Center, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan.

Judy Karandjeff
President

This year’s Convention in East Lansing promises to be informative, productive and fun. State Convention provides us with an opportunity to conduct important business of the state League as well as an opportunity to participate in workshops, learn more about the League and renew friendships with League members across the state.

Delegates will:

- Adopt the 2017 - 2019 state program, including any state studies
- Adopt the LWVMI budgets for the next two years, including the per-member-payment
- Elect LWVMI Officers and members of the Board of Directors
- Consider Amendments to the LWVMI Bylaws, if proposed

Leagues may send as many delegates as allowed by their membership count. (See the attachment, “**Determining Delegates, Convention 2017**”). Sending your full quota will assure your members full representation of their views.

A detailed schedule of events, a registration packet and other Convention documents will be sent to all Leagues via future e-mailings and be available on the website.

Business Meetings:

The business of the League will be conducted in three **Plenary Sessions**: Friday Evening, Saturday Morning and Sunday Morning. Only delegates may participate.

Special Events/ Activities:

- **Pre-Convention Workshops (optional)**

- **“Dine Around”** in downtown Lansing for Friday dinner, guided by Lansing League members.
- **Workshops** on Saturday afternoon.
- **Convention Banquet** on Saturday evening: Presentation of Key Awards and Speaker (See **“Awards Packet”** attachment.) Separate tickets for the Banquet will be available for purchase.
- **Wares Market/ Silent Auction**, Please let state office know if your League wants to sell items at the Wares Market so we can plan enough display space.

Please keep in mind these **State Convention deadlines**:

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

Proposed Amendments to Bylaws due (see attachment) (Contact LWVMI office for Bylaws, if needed)

MARCH 1, 2017

Program Planning reports from local Leagues due to the state office

APRIL 1, 2017

Award Nominations Due (see attachment)

Belle Brotherton Award

Helen Milliken Leadership in Civic Engagement Award

Mary Ann Mahaffey Community Service Award

“Belle Ringer” Awards

APRIL 19, 2017

Convention Registrations due to LWVMI

After the April 19 deadline, a late registration fee will be charged

Hotel reservations due to the Kellogg Center, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan

League of Women Voters of Michigan

HOW MANY DELEGATES MAY YOUR LEAGUE SEND TO CONVENTION?

The membership roster summary sheet for FY 2016-17 should be completed for LWVUS by January 31. It is used to determine the number of Convention 2017 delegates to which your local League is entitled.

LWVMI BYLAWS – ARTICLE V11 STATE CONVENTION

SEC. 2 Composition

The state convention shall consist of:

- A. The presidents of the local Leagues or an alternate, in the event the president is unable to attend;
- B. Delegates chosen by members of local Leagues as follows: one delegate in addition to the President or alternate; when local League membership reaches 25 voting members, the local League shall be entitled to one additional delegate; thereafter one additional delegate shall be authorized for each additional 25 voting members or major fraction thereof; (e.g. 3 delegates for 25-37 members, 4 delegates for 38-62 members, 5 delegates for 63 to 87 members, etc.) The official membership count shall be determined by state office records based on the official count reported to LWVMI from LWVUS for the year in which the convention is held;
- C. One (1) delegate chosen by the board of each recognized inter-League organization;
- D. One (1) delegate chosen by the members of each Member-at-Large Unit;
- E. One (1) delegate for each forty (40) members-at-large, selected according to state board-established guidelines; and
- F. The members of the state board.

SEC. 3 Delegates' Qualifications and Voting

All delegates shall be voting members of the LWVMI. Each delegate representing a local League shall be entitled to vote only if that League has met its per member payment responsibilities. Per member payment must be paid through the third quarter of the current fiscal year in which convention takes place. The state board may make an exception in the case of proven hardship. No delegate shall be entitled to more than one vote and absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

24 members or less	2 delegates (President and 1)
25 – 37 members	3 delegates (President and 1+ 1)
38 – 62 members	4 delegates (President and 1 + 2)
63 – 87 members	5 delegates (President and 1 + 3)
88 – 112 members	6 delegates (President and 1 + 4)
113 – 137 members	7 delegates ...
138 – 162 members	8 delegates ...
163 – 187 members	9 delegates ...
188 – 212 members	10 delegates ...
213 – 237 members	11 delegates ...
238 – 262 members	12 delegates ...
263 – 287 members	13 delegates ...
288 – 312 members	14 delegates ...

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LWVMI BYLAWS

For consideration at Convention 2017

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: February 15, 2017

Report forms postmarked after February 15, 2017 will not be considered.

Send completed form to LWVMI, Suite 3G, 600 W. St. Joseph, Lansing, MI 48933, or office@lwvmi.org or fax 517-484-3086.

Article XIV of the LWVMI Bylaws requires proposals for bylaws amendments to be submitted at least three months before the State Convention.

The State Board, as required, will send all proposed amendments with recommendations to approve or not approve, to the presidents of local Leagues, six weeks before convention.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LWVMI BYLAWS

Please indicate which Article and Section you wish to amend and the exact wording you propose. Underline proposed new wording and put in brackets wording you want dropped. Use reverse side if necessary.

(Copies of the LWVMI bylaws are available from League office)