



LWV Wayzata Plymouth Area

NONPARTISAN POLICY

April 18, 2020

The nonpartisanship of the League of Women Voters is the basis of our public credibility and must be carefully maintained. All members bear responsibility for maintaining the League's reputation for fairness and objectivity. The discussion of nonpartisan policy should be a part of new board orientation.

The mission of the LWV is to encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is political and takes action on selected governmental issues after membership study and agreement. It encourages members to be informed participants in political activity, but as a nonpartisan organization, it does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

All members are encouraged to seek elective or appointive office in government as well as responsible positions in the private sector. To avoid any perceived or actual conflict with the nonpartisan integrity of League, the following restrictions are accepted:

League Action

A Board member may not speak publicly or work against a LWV position.

Partisan Activity

Directors in highly visible positions, such as president, voter serve chair and action chair, may not undertake any action that would publicly identify them with partisan activity. They may not run for public or party office or publicly support campaigns at the regional, state or national levels.

Directors may not run for national or state elective office. Should they choose to run for local office, they must notify LWV Wayzata Plymouth Area.

Directors may not be highly visible in the campaign of any candidate running for U.S. Senate or Congress, or for Minnesota executive or legislative office. They may make contributions to candidates and work on local campaigns. Directors not in highly visible positions may hold position in a political party at any level with Board approval after consideration of possible conflicts of interest.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a Board member are to be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of the Board member.

Candidate forum moderators may not be involved with political campaigns.

Appointed Office

Directors may accept appointment to commissions, boards or committees where such service would not be in conflict with LWV program. The Board shall review this policy annually and update it as necessary.