

LWV CVA Sunday Seminar – A Free Online Event



October 18, 2 to 3 pm
“LWV-VA Affordable Housing Study”
Review and Consensus Meeting
Guest Speaker: Alice Tousignant, LWV-VA Study Leader

Reason for Study of Affordable Housing: The LWV-VA Affordable Housing Study was initiated by the LWV-Richmond Metropolitan Area, in response to revelations in Mathew Desmond’s Pulitzer prize-winning book, “Evicted,” that the **City of Richmond had the second highest eviction rate in the nation and nine other Virginia large and small cities were among the top 10 highest.** A new, statewide study of affordable housing was approved at the LWV-VA Convention in June 2019. Safe, affordable housing is a health issue, economic issue, and environmental issue, as well as a moral and equity issue.

The focus of this State-wide study of affordable housing is very low and extremely low-income households who are primarily renters. In addition to characterizing the state of affordable housing in Virginia, the study:

- Outlines resource options available at the state and local levels to increase the supply of affordable housing and preserve the existing affordable housing stock;
- Identifies the most important barriers that stand in the way of development of this type of housing; and
- Brings to light laws and regulations that make it difficult for very low and extremely low-income households to find and maintain their housing.

At the Sunday Seminar on **October 18, 2 – 3 pm**, LWV-VA Study Leader Alice Tousignant will lead the review and discussion of this important study and “Consensus Questions” (see page 2 of this newsletter). The complete study, “LWV-VA Affordable Housing Study Report – June 2020,” can be found on our website lwv-cva.org **Join us for this virtual free event! Be a part of the Consensus of LWV members!**

**To Join the Zoom Sunday Seminar on October 18, 2 – 3 pm,
Click here on ["Tickets"](#)**

Or copy and paste this link to your browser:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lwv-va-affordable-housing-study-review-tickets-122564679255>

The link to “join” will be emailed to ticket holders prior to the event.

For more information about this Seminar, contact Pat Cochran, lwv@lwv-cva.org.

Sunday Seminar on October 18 (2 – 3 pm): Please use form below to respond to the Study Consensus Questions. Note: The complete Study Report is available at lww-cva.org. LWV CONSENSUS refers to the *collective opinion* of a substantial number of League members, representative of the membership as a whole, after objective study and discussion of an issue.

LWV-VA Affordable Housing Study Consensus Questions

1. The state and localities should utilize the following existing funding mechanisms to preserve and create affordable housing:

- Virginia Housing Trust Fund
- Homelessness grants
- Permanent Supportive Housing through DBHDS
- Eviction diversion/prevention programs

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____

Comments: (Please use the back of this sheet for comments.)

2. The state should consider the creation of the following funding mechanisms to preserve and create affordable housing:

- State Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program
- State Housing Choice Vouchers

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____

Comments:

3. The state should require that landlords accept Housing Choice Vouchers households provided they meet all the same rental criteria used with other tenants.

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____

Comments:

4. Taking into consideration the Dillon Rule, the state should grant all localities in Virginia the right to adopt mandatory inclusionary zoning ordinances and impact fees for affordable housing.

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____

Comments:

5. State laws should provide more tenant protections including extended pay-or-quit periods or mandatory grace periods.

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____

Comments:

6. State laws should mitigate the impact of evictions by:

a. limiting late fees.

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No consensus _____

Comments:

b. expunging eviction records if the case is dismissed.

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No consensus _____

Comments:

2020 General Elections Voter's Guide



Attention All U.S. Citizens Eligible to Vote!
Vote by Mail or In Person on or before
November 3rd, 2020 - A New State Holiday!

Who and What are on the ballot?

***Incumbent**

Office of President and Vice-President:

Joseph R. Biden (Democratic)

Kamala D. Harris (Democratic)

Donald J. Trump (Republican) *

Michael R. Pence (Republican) *

Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian)

Jeremy F. "Spike" Cohen (Libertarian)

Office of Senator:

Mark R. Warner (Democratic) *

Daniel M. Gade (Republican)

Office of House of Representatives:

5th District:

B. Cameron Webb (Democratic)

Robert G. "Bob" Good (Republican)

7th District:

Abigail A. Spanberger (Democratic) *

Nick J. Freitas (Republican)

Proposed Constitutional Amendments (2):

Vote Yes or No on each Amendment

BALLOT QUESTION #1

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to establish a redistricting commission, consisting of eight members of the General Assembly and eight citizens of the Commonwealth, that is responsible for drawing the congressional and state legislative districts that will be subsequently voted on, but not changed by, the General Assembly and enacted without the Governor's involvement and to give the responsibility of drawing districts to the Supreme Court of Virginia if the redistricting commission fails to draw districts or the General Assembly fails to enact districts by certain deadlines?

BALLOT QUESTION #2

Should an automobile or pickup truck that is owned and used primarily by or for a veteran of the United States armed forces or the Virginia National Guard who has a one hundred percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability be free from state and local taxation?

Who is Eligible to Register to Vote?

- A United States citizen
- At least 18 years of age by November 3
- A resident of Virginia
- Those convicted of a felony or judged mentally incapacitated in any state must have proof of restored voting rights

Where and How to Register? Deadline to Register is October 13, 2020

- Voters can apply in person or call your local Registrar's office:

Albemarle County	1600 5 th St Extended, Charlottesville 22902	434 972 4173
Charlottesville	120 7 th St NE #142 City Annex 22902	434 970 3250
Fluvanna County	265 Turkeysag Trail, Suite 115, Palmyra 22963	434 589 3593
Greene County	32 Stanard St, Stanardsville 22973	434 985 5213
Louisa County	1 Woolfolk Av, Louisa 23093	540 967 3427
Nelson County	571 Front St, Lovingston 22949	434 263 7190

- Apply "Online" at www.elections.virginia.gov

When and How You Can Vote?

By Mail

- Complete an online application for an absentee ballot — go to elections.virginia.gov and click on "Casting a Ballot" — You can track the date your registrar mails you your ballot
- OR call your registrar (numbers above) and request a ballot be sent to your address; the registrar will then mail you a ballot
- Mail-in ballots must be postmarked by November 3 and received by noon on November 6
- OR drop off your ballot in a "drop box" at your registrar's office through November 3 or at your polling place on Election Day

In Person

- Vote at your registrar's office (addresses above) now through October 31 — ID is required
- OR Vote on Election Day, November 3, at your precinct — ID is required

This ad was prepared by the League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area. Website: lwv-cva.org. The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office, or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

Note: The League of Women Voters of Virginia supports voting "Yes" to proposed Redistricting Constitutional Amendment (Ballot Question #1). See next page for explanation of this position.



Vote “Yes” on Ballot Question #1!

The League of Women Voters Supports the Redistricting Constitutional Amendment:

The National and State LWV strongly support passage of the referendum in conjunction with onevirginia2021.org:

https://www.onevirginia2021.org/?gclid=Ci0KCQjws536BRDTARIsANeUZ5-PK_8lb36Cc2MZwmo_fUs4eiV3r9rpxLESf5UXqwUOf74SpRER72saAsqqEALw_wcB

1. A constitutional amendment creating a bipartisan citizen-led redistricting commission is necessary to achieve binding redistricting reform.
2. A bipartisan, citizen-chaired redistricting commission with an equal number of legislators and citizens would draw the voting maps.
3. The process will be much more transparent with the redistricting public hearings and data open to the public.
4. There are strong criteria for the protection of racial and ethnic minorities and fair district maps.
5. If the maps fail to be drawn or enacted, the responsibility for drawing the maps transfers to the Virginia Supreme Court. In the past, courts have engaged “special masters” who are experts in drawing voting districts.

LWV CVA Voter Services Report by Sue Lewis, Director

The 2020 election season is now underway, and we are very involved! Here are some of the ways our Leaguers are assisting voters in our area:

- Registration and election information at Montpelier
- Registration and election information materials at 13 County rural post offices
- Registration and election information at three Charlottesville city housing complexes
- Registration and election information at area high schools
- Registration and election information flyers in area food distribution bags
- Registration and election information at farmers markets
- Registration and election information in local media
- Election information (200 cards sent) supporting “yes” to Ballot Question #1 on “Redistricting”

LWV CVA Members have volunteered with their local registrars to assist with pre-election-day needs, and also to work at the polls. **Thanks to all who have participated in these activities – keep up the good work!**

LWV CVA – Place a Sign in your neighborhood in support of “Yes” on Ballot Question #1

Working with Chris DeRosa who chairs the state league committee on redistricting reform Anne Geraty, a Voter Services member, and our president Pat Cochran have ordered and the state has paid for 50 yard signs that need to be distributed. Hundreds of flyers have been obtained from *FairMaps*. Sitting they inform no one. We need your help in getting these out and about the area we cover – Greene, Nelson, Fluvanna, Louisa in addition to Albemarle and the City of Charlottesville. Visit a friend in one of these counties and take them a yard sign and a flyer or two. One here, one there gets the job done. **Voters are casting their ballots NOW. Our information should be before the public NOW.**

Please e-mail Kerin Yates: kerinyates@hotmail.com or call 434 964 1840 – leave a message. She and other members of the Voter Services Committee will deliver signs and/or flyers to you.

THE TIME IS NOW! NOT LATER.

LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee Meeting Report

By Muriel Grim, Natural Resources Committee Director

At our virtual meeting on September 18 we decided that a better day for NRC meetings would probably be the 4th Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting is tentatively set for Tuesday, October 27 at 1:00. We will poll members to determine whether later in the afternoon would be a better time.

We talked about private companies that do curbside recycling. At this time two companies are operating, Evergreen and Quality Trash Disposal. Both practice source separation. We discussed the problem of changes in zoning and in development project plans. We also discussed complications caused by conflicts between outcomes of a development, for example, enlarging a service station potentially causing environmental and traffic stresses and appropriate architecture design problems but allowing people to drive less in order to get work done locally.

We decided on people to invite as guest experts for the meetings on the next four chapters of the Comprehensive Plan Study Group. For more information about the NRC, contact Muriel Grim at msggrim2012@gmail.com.

LWV CVA Child Care Update

By Beth Kariel, Child Care Committee Chair

With funding a big issue in local child care right now, Beth has been following advocacy at the federal and state level, since subsidies usually come from those levels of government. There are a few, but not many, child care advocates in Congress and The Virginia General Assembly.

Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton, (Representative, D-VA 10th district) held an online event about child care, on September 2, 2020, which Beth attended. The child care industry needs a large scale immediate bail out or a high percentage of centers will go out of business. Additionally, since most of the people who work in child care are women, if centers close, this will mean many jobs lost for women. During the online event, people who work in child care were given the opportunity to explain in detail, why they might go out of business. One of those reasons is that most of them are not operating at full capacity, due to the pandemic.

Beth watched a documentary. "Through the Night", with the Blackstar film festival, out of Philadelphia. It was a documentary exploring the personal cost of our modern economy through the stories of two working mothers and a child care provider. As league members have previously discussed, often real life stories are helpful in understanding an issue like child care, in addition to policy or regulatory facts.

For more information about the LWV CVA Child Care Committee, email: bethkariel9@gmail.com.

LWV CVA Justice Reform Committee Report

By Kit Murphy McNally, Justice Reform Committee Director

Our next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 20, 11 am. For recent activity of our committee, please go to the LWV CVA website, lwv-cva.org and under the dropdown menu "Explore the League" click on Justice Reform Committee under "Advocacy". For more information, contact Kit Murphy McNally, murphymcnally@gmail.com.

LWV CVA International Relations/Federal Government Committee Update

By Gerry Kruger

The International Relations/Federal Government Committee met virtually on Zoom on September 16 after months of pandemic stay-at-home regulations. **Elizabeth Frank's** report on Cuba, based on her own personal trips to Cuba in 2012 and 2013 as well as much research, was a combination of historical information and fascinating details from the 1800's through the Batista and Castro eras to present day.

Ever since Fidel Castro overthrew the US-backed Batista government and made Cuba a Communist country, the United States and Cuba have had strained relations. The Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 almost escalated into war when the Soviet Union deployed ballistic missiles in Cuba. Ever since that crisis, the United States has imposed an embargo on Cuba that remains to this day.

After the fall of the Soviet Union in the 1990's, Cuba no longer received subsidies from the Soviets, and much suffering and hunger prevailed. But many resourceful Cubans learned how to make parts for old cars and appliances and began successful businesses. Elizabeth showed us a picture of beautiful goblets made from coke bottles. Cuba has an excellent health care system, and medical school is free, as is all schooling.

Tensions between our countries have both eased and intensified over the years. Fidel Castro met with President Nixon in 1959 and with Malcolm X in Harlem in 1961 before the Missile Crisis. In 1977 President Carter lifted the travel band, and he is still revered in Cuba today.

But the travel ban was restored during President Reagan's term. George W. Bush said if there was a chance for democracy in Cuba, it would come from within. However, President Obama and Raul Castro both desired better relations, and in 2015 travel restrictions as well as immigration policies were eased.

In 2017 Trump rolled back these policies and all engagement between the two countries stopped. Trips to Cuba are now limited to those offering help to the Cuban people. Flights from the US can only go in and out of Havana.

Our committee, as always, enjoyed visiting with each other again, although virtually, and Elizabeth's report was a reminder of how much we have missed learning more about our world from each other. The next "zoom" meeting of the IR/FG Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, at 10 am. Contact Marge Cox, for how to join this meeting, margevfcox@gmail.com.

Welcome New LWV CVA Members!

Victoria P. Tate
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Pat Cochran,
LWV CVA President

Michele Kellermann
LWV CVA Newsletter Editor

Meetings and Events for October 2020: *Mark Your Calendars Now!*

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Sun., Oct 18, 2 – 3 pm	LWV CVA Sunday Seminar: “LWV-VA Affordable Housing Study” – Consensus Mtg	Virtual Meeting: An Online Eventbrite registration – see p. 1	For further information, contact Pat Cochran, email: patcochranlwwcva@gmail.com
Tues., Oct 20, 11 am	LWV CVA Justice Reform Committee Meeting	Zoom Meeting - Free	For further information, contact Kit Murphy McNally, email: murphymcnally@gmail.com
Wed., Oct 21, 10 am	LWV CVA International Relations/Federal Gov't Committee Meeting	Zoom Meeting - Free	Contact Marge Cox for how to join this meeting, margevfcx@gmail.com
Wed., Oct 21, 1:30 – 3:30 pm	LWV CVA Board of Directors Meeting	Zoom Meeting (open to the public)	For further information, contact Pat Cochran, email: patcochranlwwcva@gmail.com
Tues., Oct 27, 1 pm (tentative)	LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee Meeting	Zoom Meeting	For further information, contact Muriel Grim, msgrim2012@gmail.com
Tues., Nov 3 – Polls open 6 am to 7 pm	2020 General Elections Day – a State Holiday!	For your voting precinct, check elections.virginia.gov	Or, check your voter registration information at vote411.org

Are You a Registered Voter?

You can check at

elections.virginia.gov



OR

Check out the Leagues's vote411.org
- for the links to voter registration

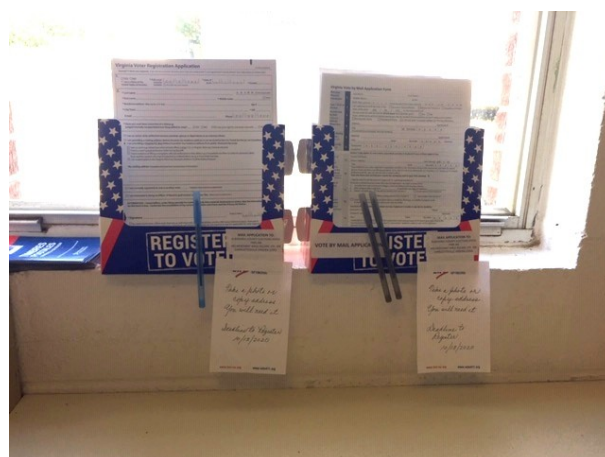
Upcoming Virginia Election Dates:

Registration Deadline:
October 13

Absentee ballot Request Deadline:
October 23

Voting in Person:
September 18 – October 31

Election Day:
November 3



**Registration and application for ballot forms
placed in county Post Offices!**