



League of Women Voters[®] of Falmouth Bulletin

APRIL 2018

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Contact Us

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Visit our web site
www.lwvf.org
Visit our Facebook page
[https://www.facebook.com/
LWVofFalmouthMA/](https://www.facebook.com/LWVofFalmouthMA/)

Member Event Calendar

April 2018

21	3-5 pm	Sparkling Wine Tasting Social Falmouth Artists Guild, 137 Gifford St.
24	7:30 pm	Board Meeting Falmouth Hospital Maternity Room

May 2018

1	7:00 pm	Legislative Meeting Hermann Room, Falmouth Public Library
2	7:00 pm	Candidates Night Hermann Room, Falmouth Public Library
12	11:30 am	Annual Meeting Falmouth Museums on the Green 65 Palmer Ave., Falmouth
15		Town Election Polls Open from 7 am-8 pm

June 2018

21	7:30 pm	Observer Corps Reports Civil Defense Room, Town Hall
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LWVF Board of Directors 2017-2018

STEERING COMMITTEE

Steering Committee Chair	Sylvia Szulkin
First Vice-President	Betsy Fontes
Second Vice-President	Meg Borden
At Large	Alice Carey
At Large	Doris Epstein
Secretary	Catherine Kligler
Treasurer	Joanne Voorhis
Webmaster	Joan Boyer
Facebook	Penny Duby
At Large	Kathy Mortenson
	Olivia White
Membership	Jacqueline Webster
Voter Service	Carol McKeon
Observer Corps	Denise Morreale
Natural Resource	Vacant
Legislative	Margaret Cooper
Publicity	Olivann Hobbie
Bulletin Editor	Brenda Nolan

*If you wish to join the League, membership dues are \$50 for an individual membership and \$25 for an additional household member.
Send your check made out to LWV of Falmouth, P. O. Box 450, Falmouth, MA 02541.
Include your name, mailing address, email address and phone number. You do not have to be a resident of Falmouth to join.*

MESSAGE FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Doris Epstein, At Large Member

Our League is overjoyed to welcome so many new members, including several younger generations. Now, it is most important our new members find ways to become active to strengthen areas in our civic community that need improvement.

Because the League has developed an organizational structure over the years, we need not start from scratch. Annually we choose issues that are timely and practical resource-wise to STUDY on local, state and national levels; then we EDUCATE our entire membership; and, finally take ACTION after achieving consensus to initiate, support or oppose positions that exist or arise.

Members of committees such as the Observer Corps, Voter Service and Local Study gather information about the resources available and necessary to keep Falmouth the town in which we have chosen to live. Sometimes our studies leave us wondering why voter turnout for local elections and civic participation on Town Committees and Offices is not greater.

Long-time Leaguers must help new members become integrated and active. Reading the Bulletin and attending monthly meetings are passive. But do we elders do our part by listening carefully to their reasons for having joined the League??

Two upcoming events will give all of us opportunities to meet exchange ideas on issues. On Saturday April 21st we're having a social and wine tasting at the Falmouth Art Center which should be fun and informative. And on Saturday May 12th at the Annual Meeting at the Historical Society hopefully we will have an outpouring of members' ideas for upcoming issues on which to focus our time and attention.

May the LWVF grow in spirit, knowledge, action and social/civic interaction!

Our League is overjoyed to welcome so many new members, including several younger generations. Now, it is most important our new members find ways to become active to strengthen areas in our civic community that need improvement.

LWVF PARTICIPATES

Sylvia Szulkin, Steering Committee Chair

On March 24, 2018, several members of the LWVF joined in the student-led "March for our Lives" on the Falmouth Village Green. Several local high school students and recent high school graduates spoke eloquently

and forcefully about the multiple effects of gun violence on their lives and their commitment to gun control. The sizable multi-generational crowd was attentive and responsive. Sadly, beyond the young speakers, there were very few people under twenty-one in the gathering.

League representatives circulated among the attendees with Voter Registration forms. There were no takers, although several people stated that they were already registered. Indeed, Town Clerk Michael Palmer told us that he had received 30 Voter Registration forms just the day before the March. The League will continue its efforts to register new voters at the high school graduation rehearsal. As the League speaker at the March stated: "We can best fight bullets with ballots."



The League of Women Voters of Falmouth
invites you to a

Sparkling Wine Tasting Social*
Saturday April 21, 2018
3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.
at the Falmouth Art Center
137 Gifford St., Falmouth

Tasting/pairing presented by
International Champagne Expert
Becky Sue Epstein

League Members and prospective members:
RSVP by Friday, April 13 to
acarey034@comcast.net

*Sparkling waters will also be available



FALMOUTH LEAGUE BOARD ENDORSES GUN BUY-BACK PROGRAM

At the March 27th LWVF Board meeting, the Board voted to endorse the Falmouth Gun Buy-back Coalition which is forming in Falmouth to support a gun buy-back in Falmouth in June. League members Kirstin Moritz and Nan Logan explained the goals of the Coalition, which include removing unwanted, possibly improperly- stored guns from homes, educating the community about the increased risk of gun- related injuries in the home, the importance of safe gun storage, and providing individuals with safety information. Guns turned in at the Falmouth Police Station will be destroyed by a reputable company. The League joins many organizations in supporting the Falmouth Gun Buy-back, including the Falmouth Police Department, Falmouth Chamber of Commerce, Engage Falmouth, No Place For Hate, Grandmothers Against Gun Violence and several houses of worship.

The League of Women Voters has long advocated for protecting the health and safety of all Americans by limiting the accessibility and regulating the ownership of handguns and semi-automatic weapons. You can find further information on the League's gun control policy on the State League's website in the document titled **Where We Stand**, p. 47.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Margaret Cooper, Legislative Chair

The Blizzards of March postponed our annual legislative meeting originally scheduled for March 13. The new date is Tuesday evening, May 1, 7:00 to 8:30, in the Hermann Room of the main library with our three state legislators: Senator Vinny deMacedo and Representatives David Vieira and Dylan Fernandes.

This year we are experimenting with a new format. For the first half of the program, we will ask the legislators to respond to brief presentations about four bills that we support. Each bill will be presented by a member of the Legislative Committee: Joanne Triestmann on voter registration, Olivia White on affordable housing, Pam Polloni on the omnibus energy bill, and Liz Brown on the decriminalization of poverty, a justice issue.



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The last half of the program will feature our traditional question and answer format with the audience.

LWVF CANDIDATE NIGHT TO BE HELD TUESDAY, MAY 2ND

The 2018 LWVF Candidates Night, in cooperation with Falmouth Community Television, will be held in the Falmouth Public Library on Tuesday evening, MAY 2, 2018.

THE PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 7:00 P.M. and will be televised live.

Four races will be contested in the Town Election on Tuesday, May 15.

SELECTMAN: Three candidates running for one seat.

Douglas H. Jones (Incumbent), Marc P. Finneran and Alexander B. Gessen

FALMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Four candidates running for three seats.

Kelly A. Welch and John J. Furnari, (Incumbents)

James B. Newman and Natalie T. Kanellopoulos

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Four candidates running for three seats.

Kathleen Murray (Incumbent), Michael C. Corgan, Kathie C. Mount and Margaret Finnell.

FALMOUTH PLANNING BOARD: 3 candidates running for 2 seats.

Robert J. Leary and Charlotte Harris (Incumbents) and Michael G. Heylin.

TOWN MODERATOR David T. Vieira is running unopposed.

HOUSING AUTHORITY member Sari D. Budrow is also running unopposed.

EDWARD T. HEYLIN, C.P.A. C.S.E.P.

19 FALMOUTH HEIGHTS ROAD
FALMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS 02540

508-540-5386
FAX 508-540-5524



Richard A. Armstrong, D.P.M.
Ethel R. Baylor, D.P.M.

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Falmouth Podiatry

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Falmouth, MA 02540

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UPDATING LWVF LAND USE POSITION

Joan Boyer, Chair

The proposed local program for 2017-2018 has been "Updating of LWVF Position on Land Use in Falmouth". Joan Boyer, Mariam Cronin and Richard Johnson have worked on this issue. Please send any comments or questions to lwvf@lwvf.org. The LWVF Board of Directors requests the approval of the following update at Annual Meeting:

LWV of Falmouth Land Use Policy Update 2018

LWV Falmouth supports:

- a balanced diversity of land uses in Falmouth including agriculture, open space, residential development, village center character, maritime industry, intermodal transport, recreation and sustainable development
- coastal resilience as a priority: limit new development in areas subject to flooding and selectively improve infrastructure to withstand rising sea levels, increased flooding and groundwater changes
- developing zoning vehicles to foster multi-family, affordable and greater density housing development. This should support village center character while preserving farm land and open space character, including transfer of development rights
- preserving the historic districts and buildings in Falmouth whilst maintaining flexibility in maintenance and development of properties.
- a robust capital plan that recognizes the need for investment to mitigate global warming impacts, to improve future drinking water quality, sanitation, energy and transportation needs balanced with equitable cost distribution across the population.
- coordination with federal, state and regional agencies to develop long range strategies and programs to protect land, water, air, and maritime resources and to restore impaired resources such as estuaries and wetlands.
- Larger scaled development in more condensed areas accessible from major roads.

LWV Falmouth opposes:

- additional larger scale development on major roads.
- locating industry, employment centers, and unsustainable energy developments in areas that conflict with adjacent land uses.

CURRENT POLICY POSITION:

SEE PAGE 19 OF MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY 2017-2018 (GREEN COVER)

OBSERVER CORPS REPORT ON THE FALMOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMISSION

Laura Brothers, Observer

Mission of the Substance Abuse Commission:

To prevent substance abuse among Falmouth's citizens, provide information and education to the community and to promote the development and availability of a continuum of substance abuse services for all Falmouth residents.

The Substance Abuse Commission meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 5:15 pm at the Gus Cauty Community Center, 2nd floor meeting room. The members are Beverly Costa-Ciavola (Chair); Kath Schilling; Donna Mello; and Mike Colgan. Also, attending each meeting is Suzie Hauptmann the Director of Falmouth Human Services.

Falmouth Substance Abuse Commission (FSAC) meetings generally focus on how to improve Commission functioning and how to build membership to reach quorum. Currently quorum is set at 9 members, but the commission only has 4 members. This means that no meeting ever has quorum and official votes cannot be taken. Priority items of FSAC are to get the membership number required for quorum to be lowered and to attract more members. The issue of membership required for quorum is to be voted upon during the Spring Town Meeting.

In addition to pursuing sufficient membership to take official votes, the Commission is engaged in developing a Strategic Plan on how best to meet its mission. The needs and resources of the Falmouth community regarding substance abuse have evolved since the Commission's founding in the 1980s. To that end in the fall of 2017 the Commission employed a consultant (Cheryl Bartlett-Greater New Bedford Community Health Center) to assess FSAC and identify potential next steps for the Commission to better meet its mission. FSAC has also hosted a series of guests to speak on what resources are available and where the Commission may fill or bridge gaps in services and community needs. Groups invited to the meetings include: Falmouth Police, Falmouth Public Schools, Falmouth Human Services and Gosnold's Prevention Division.

Members of FSAC appear highly knowledgeable and dedicated to the community. The [non quorum] monthly meetings are held in an open manner with members of the public in attendance. Meetings are conducted respectfully and amicably. Questions from the public are addressed in a respectful and thorough manner. Agendas and minutes are posted online with appropriate timeliness.

OBSERVER CORPS REPORT ON THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jenifer E. Alai, Observer

Introduction:

The Falmouth Public Library Board of Trustees is an elected 7 member board of citizen volunteers. The Board meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 6:45 PM. The current Board, their positions and term expiration years are: Lysbeth A. Abrams, Chair (2019), Lindsay M. Hopewood, Corresponding Secretary (2020), Judith L. Fenwick, Recording Secretary (2020), Sylvia L. Szulkin (2019), Marilyn G. Zacks, Vice Chair (2018), Jerome S. Fanger, Treasurer ([2018) and Kathleen H. Murray (2018) Linda E. Collings (Library Director) and Jennifer Woodward (Assistant Library Director, started in September) also attend the meetings.

Overview:

I attended the following meetings of the Falmouth Library Board of Trustees: July 11, August 8, September 12, November 14, December 11, 2017 and February 13, 2018. I was unable to attend the October meeting and missed the January 9, 2018 meeting.

The meeting minutes through December, 2017 are posted on the Falmouth Public Library website. Judy Fenwick is a new member of the Board. She is meticulous about the accuracy of the minutes.

The Board follows the Open Meeting Law. The Board is very respectful of each other and of visitors, and follows *Robert's Rules of Order* to conduct their meetings.

Each meeting includes a report from: the Friends of the Falmouth Public Library, each of the Officers, the Committees (Policy, Resource, and Building and Grounds), the Assistant Library Director and the Library Director.

Current Topics:

East Falmouth Library Branch is in the process of making upgrades to the library grounds. A children's reading garden, that could include seating with tables, and a small amphitheater are proposed. A landscape architect will produce (pro bono) some basic renderings of the new areas for consideration. Improvements to the ADA accessible parking spaces in front of the library have been completed.

New Building for the North Falmouth Library Branch has been re-sited in response to the report that the Indian Burial ground to the south of the current building may contain as many as 100 graves. The new location is to the west and overlooks Cedar Lake. No plans have been finalized.

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FALMOUTH BUDGET
FOR JULY 1, 2018 TO JUNE 30, 2019**

Budget Committee: Kathie Mount, Chair, Joanne Voorhis, Treasurer,
Olivia White, Board Member

	Budget/Actual	Budget	Proposed budget
INCOME	FY2016-17	FY2017-18	FY 2018-19
Ads	200/ 125	\$400	\$400
Annual Meeting	400/515	\$400	\$500
Contributions - Friends	500/ 225	\$500	\$500
Contributions - Members	1000/ 845	\$1,200	\$1,500
Dues	4000/ 4950	\$4,000	\$5,000
Funds Raisers	0/ 65		
Interest Income			
Transfer from savings	2655/ 0	\$2,485	\$3,168
INCOME TOTAL	8755/ 6725	\$8,985	\$11,068

	Budget/Actual	Budget	Proposed Budget
EXPENSES	FY2016-17	FY2017-18	FY 2018-19
Action/Program	1000/ 523	\$500	\$1000
Administration	250/ 108	\$350	\$350
Web Site Fee	240/ 238	\$240	\$240
Annual Meeting & report	400/ 894	\$400	\$1000
Bulletin Postage	200/ 86	\$200	\$200
Bulletin Printing	300/ 267	\$350	\$350
Convention - National	400/ 0	\$1000	<u>0</u>
Convention -State	400/ 0	\$80	\$400
Membership & Directory	300/ 439	\$500	\$600
Participation	115/ 75	\$115	\$115
Per Member Pay Mass. (PMP)	2000/ 2088	\$2100	\$2743
Per Member Pay US (PMP)	3000/ 4190	\$3000	\$3920
Voter Service	150/ 80	\$150	\$150
EXPENSE TOTAL	8755 /8988	\$8985	\$11068

LWVF NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 2018

Nomnating Committee: Stephanie Miele, Chair, Alice Carey
Marcia Easterling, Kathy Mount, Olivia White

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS TO BE ELECTED—2YR TERM (2018-2020)

Alice Carey (2nd Vice-Pres.) *
Mariam Cronin (Secretary)
Richard Johnson (Natural Resources)
Sylvia Szulkin (1st Vice-Pres.) *
Joanne Treistman (At-Large) *
Olivia White (At-Large)
TBA (Legislative)

OFFICER IN PLACE

Joanne Voorhis

OFFICER TO BE ELECTED—1 YR TERM (2018-2019)

Joanne Voorhis

DIRECTORS CONTINUING—1 YR TERM (2018-2019)

Joan Boyer (Webmaster)
Doris Epstein (At-Large) *
Olivann Hobbie (Publicity)
Carol McKeon (Voter Service)
Denise Morreale (Observer Corps) *
Kathy Mortenson (At-Large)
Jacqueline Webster (Membership)

* **STEERING COMMITTEE for 2019**

MEMBERS OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2018-2019

Chairperson: Stephanie Miele

Board Members (2): Alice Carey, Olivia White

Off-Board Members(2) TBA

LWVF FRIENDS 2018

Sally Fritz
Barbara Douglass
Christina Jacobi
Winnie and Bill Mackey
Robert and Barbara Schneider
Freddy Valois
Helen Wilson



Natural Brush Clearing and Poison Ivy Control

Meghan Hanawalt, Goatherd info@getmygoatscapecod.com
774-521-8745 www.GetMyGoatsCapeCod.com

OBSERVER CORPS MEETING

Denise Morreale, Chair

We are looking forward to our June 21 7:30 P.M. meeting to be held in the Civil Defense Room at Town Hall. June presenters will be: Richard Johnson Zoning Board of Appeals, Meghan Palanza, School Committee, Aileen Jensen, Planning Board, Stephanie Miele, Board of Health and Maggie Sweasey, Board of Selectmen.



Stephanie Miele
Certified Piano Technician

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The Observer reports in this Bulletin have been condensed in order to include information pertinent to the upcoming town election. Full reports will be posted on our Website. They will also be submitted to the Enterprise for publication as space permits.

ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 12th

11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Falmouth Museums on the Green Cultural Center

“The League of Women Voters of Falmouth: Thinking Ahead - What’s Next?”

Come share your ideas about our future

\$15.00 per person. Make checks payable to LWV Falmouth and mail to:

Joanne Voorhis

League of Women Voters of Falmouth

PO Box 450

Name _____

Phone _____ email _____

people amount enclosed (\$15 per person) _____



League of Women Voters
P.O. Box 450
Falmouth, MA 02541

LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

APRIL 2018 Bulletin

JOIN

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Democracy in Action

WELCOME TO THE NEW LWVF MEMBERS

Janice Goodell, Jane Jackson, Stephanie Madsen, Mary Tamucci

WEDNESDAY APRIL 25TH LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE