

Proposed Resolution to Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The League of Women Voters

WHEREAS, on February 14, 1920, the League of Women Voters (“League”) was formed at the Congress Hotel in Chicago, Illinois:

WHEREAS, the League was formed six months prior to, but in anticipation of, ratification of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote in the United States;

WHEREAS, the League was a political experiment designed to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters by educating them about issues;

WHEREAS, from the beginning the League determined that it would be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing any political party or individual candidate;

WHEREAS, the League continues today as a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy;

WHEREAS, today the League is composed of members in over 700 local, county, and state leagues in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Hong Kong;

WHEREAS, among the state Leagues is the League of Women Voters of Illinois that was incorporated on March 22, 1920 and in turn is composed of over 40 local Leagues with almost 4,000 members;

Whereas, among those local Leagues in Illinois is Northwest Lake County MAL that was incorporated in 2018;

WHEREAS, members of the League first study and then take action on a broad range of issues after reaching consensus on positions;

WHEREAS, Leagues at all levels, among other activities, register voters, educate voters by holding candidate forums and publishing voter guides, publish public policy research, and hold meetings on key issues;

WHEREAS, the League is a civic organization that has fought since 1920 to improve government and engage everyone in the decisions that impact their lives;

WHEREAS, the League will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on February 14, 2020;

NOW THEREFORE, Avon Township of Lake County Illinois declares February 14, 2020 as a date to celebrate the League of Women Voters and its vision of democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.