Italics are action, study or monitor items; dates indicate date of study beginning, not necessarily the end date of the study, monitor, action, support.

COLUMBIA-BOONE COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
LOCAL PUBLIC POLICY POSITIONS AND PROGRAM 2008

STRUCTURE AND ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT:

Support of effective government for Boone County. (1982)
Study the political subdivisions within the boundaries of Boone County. (2006)

Support of the City Charter and evaluation of any proposed charter changes. (1977)
Support of public hearings on city and county budgets before adoption.
Monitor the effectiveness and use of City Boards and Commissions. (1982)
(The Observer Corps was created to implement this before 1970)

Support of improved election procedures.
Local reapportionment and redistricting (Ward & Precinct)
Fairness of ballots
Get out the vote campaigns
Study the use of Instant Runoff Voting in local elections (2001/2004)

NATURAL RESOURCES:


Support of improved recreational facilities including development of the downtown portion of Flat Branch area. (1975)

Support for environmentally sound management of solid wastes with emphasis on waste reduction, recycling, and reclamation of valuable resources. (1970, 1995, 2005)
SOCIAL POLICY:

Child Abuse:
Monitor related laws and the role of public agencies (1980)(1997) and
monitor Children at Risk programs (2000)

Child Care:
Support of adequate child care services, including after-school programs and
day care and nursery programs and facilities and support efforts to address the
Support governmental funding at all levels. (1986)

Education: “The LWVMO believes in support for equal opportunity in
education, access to quality programs, and adequate financing.” (2006)
Support of the arts as an integral and vital part of education. (1981)
Support of school libraries. (1976)
Support to improve the quality of special education programs,
to improve programs for:
the gifted;
a school-community program of early childhood screening;
improved reading programs at all levels;
the expansion of the elementary counseling program and
improvement of the secondary counseling program both in numbers and in
diversity (1975); with an emphasis on non-violent conflict resolution; (1994)
expanding vocational educational programs and facilities including full use
of existing community involvement. (1975)
Support of the Partners-in-Education program and encourage League in the
Classroom as a "Partnership Friend" (1993) and mentoring programs. (2005)
Support the use of volunteer and paid aides in our schools. (1975)
Support healthful food, physical exercise and nutrition education in the
schools and encourage the elimination of beverages and snacks
of minimal nutritional value. (2005)
Study of community based education and service organizations (2001)
Study of Charter Schools (1999) and voucher programs (2001) LWVMO

Health: “The LWVUS believes that a basic level of quality health care at an
affordable cost should be available to all US residents. (2006)
Basic level of care includes: prevention of disease, health
promotion and education, primary care (including prenatal and
reproductive care), acute care, long term care, and mental health care.
Support mental health care for the mentally ill who are in jail. (2001)  
Support use of mental health options to jails for the mentally ill (2001).  
Support adequate funding for mental health needs. (2006)  
Monitor the mental health tax issue. (2000/2006)  
Monitor the Mental Health Board of Trustees. (1993/2004)

Support of a program providing dental services for the medically indigent of Boone County, with emphasis on children. (1977)(1999)  
Action to find a solution to the lack of dental care for Medicaid patients. (2000)

Support of the City-County Health Department (2005)  

Support of county-owned nursing home facilities to meet the need for practical and/or professional nursing home care for residents of Boone County who are unable to finance care in privately owned nursing homes. (1977)

Support for continued supplemental funding of non-profit home health care by city and county government to support continuity of adequate health services. (1978)(1999)

Support of a school health program in the clinical services, a healthy school environment, and a health education program. (1977)  
Support healthful food, physical exercise and nutrition education in the schools and encourage the elimination of beverages and snacks of minimal nutritional value. (2005)

Support legislation which allows marijuana for medical treatments when approved by a physician. Support moving marijuana from Schedule I on the Controlled Substance Act List to a schedule that allows physicians to prescribe it. Support measures to allow patients to legally obtain marijuana for medical use. Support the continuation and expansion of research on the effects of the marijuana plant on the human body. Support adequate funding for effective prevention education and treatment programs and an emphasis on marijuana abuse treatment programs in preference to punishment and incarceration. Support the use of drug courts and law reforms that reduce penalties for possessing small amounts of marijuana. Support treating possession as one of the lowest law enforcement priorities. Support efforts to keep marijuana out of the hands of our children, to remove the criminal element from the distribution process, and to advocate measure to manage the production of marijuana in order to control its purity and strength. (2006)
**Housing:**
Support of LWVUS Position:
“The League's dual commitment to work for fair housing and an expansion of housing supply for low and moderate-income families continues at every level of government.” Housing is a basic human need. (1984)

Support cooperation between the Columbia Housing Authority and the city administration. (1984)

Support greater participation of county government in federally funded housing programs to benefit low and moderate-income persons. (1984)

Support measures and adequate funding to assure safe energy-efficient affordable housing:
- Up-to-date building codes and minimum energy standards for new construction in Columbia and Boone County;
- Timely inspection and enforcement of rental housing standards;
- Adoption of an energy efficiency ordinance for existing housing;
- A local Office of Energy Management which offers residents energy conservation information, free energy audits, and incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements;
- The use of community development funds for insulation, weatherizing and rehabilitation. (1984/1997)

**Human Rights:**


Study of privatization of public property (streets, right of way, Court House Square, the airport tarmac, etc.) (2004-2005)

**Justice:**
Support of the provision of adequate city and county detention facilities and rehabilitation programs for juvenile and adult offenders, and release on recognizance where appropriate. (1975/1982)

See Marijuana positions under Health. (2006)

**Library:**
Support of adequate funding for the Columbia Public Library and the Boone County Library District (2004) and work to increase the local levy as needed. (1973) (1999)
Local Program Planning – LWV 2007

16 members participated in the discussion in 3 units. The LWV Board reviewed and recommended the following for 2007-8.


We rearranged the data from past years the following way:

*Italicics are action, study or monitor items;* dates indicate date of study beginning, not necessarily the end date of the study, monitor, action, support.

**Added to the title:** Local Public Policy Positions and Program 2006

**Under Natural Resources:** Monitor Energy sources (2001) becomes:
Monitor *developments regarding Columbia’s energy sources and contracts.* (2007)

**Under Child Care:** Drop the last sentence and add to the first support position:
Support of adequate child care services, including after-school programs, day care and nursery programs and facilities, and efforts to address the problems of teen age parenting. (1988-1998).

**Under Health:** Add “The LWVUS believes that a basic level of quality health care at an affordable cost should be available to all US residents.”

**Under Human Rights:** Add: *Monitor the local impact of the Patriot Act I and II and other legislation affecting Civil Liberties.*
Add to Local Program, under Natural Resources:
Note to board: Choose one of these, or re-word??? Broad and simple is the wisest:

Support efforts to decrease the local contribution to global warming.

Support ways to reduce global warming pollution.

Support the LWVUS initiative to reduce local global warming impacts.

Action to support the LWVUS initiative to make global warming a priority issue.

Study of local global warming pollution.

Study of ways to reduce local global warming pollution.

As direction to board, we ask the following: Action to support the LWVUS initiative to make reduction of pollution affecting global climate change a priority issue. Work for implementation of Columbia’s Climate Protection Resolution in support of the US Mayor’s Climate Protection Agreement and work for reduction of local global warming pollution. (2007)

Individual members show interest in the following:

Study the use of eminent domain in Boone County. (2007)

Observer corps --Work to strengthen this function of LWV.

Clean Water: Quality and Quantity -- Emphasis on conservation of water resources. (See LWVUS position)

Response to unfair campaign ads; monitor political statements (CLC)

Immigration: – this will be a national study 2006-2009