

From: **Cindy Levine** <preslww20@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Oct 14, 2020 at 1:28 PM
Subject: New Trier Township Annual Meeting
To: <agoldberg@newtriertownship.com>, Jerome Hoynes <hoynes@newtriertownship.com>, <smozer@newtriertownship.com>, <erobbins@newtriertownship.com>, <gseisenberg@newtriertownship.com>, <jthomas@newtriertownship.com>
Cc: Wendy Zun <preslww21@gmail.com>



October 14, 2020

Dear Supervisor Goldberg; Clerk Hoynes; and Trustees Schnitzer Eisenberg, Mozer, Thomas and Robbins:

We appreciate your continued work on behalf of the Township during these challenging times. We do, however, have a concern we would like to raise stemming from the Township's recent Annual Town Meeting. We request that you post this letter online in the Board Materials for your next board meeting and also address the concerns we raise at that meeting.

The League of Women Voters of Wilmette is concerned about the process by which the vote on authorizing an advisory question for the spring ballot was conducted at the Township's recent Annual Town Meeting. We understand that the advisory question was requested by a group of registered voters, as allowed by Section 30-205 of the Illinois Township Code. Importantly, Section 30-205 provides that: "The agenda published by the township board shall include any such advisory question if the request is timely filed." However, the agenda did not include the advisory question. Section 30-205 also provides (emphasis added): "*By a vote of the majority of electors present at a town meeting*, the electors may authorize that an advisory question of public policy, for which notice has been given as required by this Section, be placed on the ballot at the next regularly scheduled election in the township." It was not clear that a majority of the electors present at the town meeting voted in favor of authorizing that the advisory question be placed on the ballot for the spring election. We watched the recording of the meeting, and noted both that the Clerk indicated that the tally was 10 for and 1 against and that another participant in the meeting said that there were 38 signed on to the remote meeting. We also saw that in a few instances there was more than one participant for a sign-on. It was unclear how many participants qualified as electors.

Publishing for citizen review a ballot authorization to be voted on, and carefully counting those votes, are necessary steps to ensure the legitimacy of ballot items and to give proper consideration to an item that citizens took the time to gather signatures for and submit to Township officials for a vote at the annual town meeting.

We applaud the Township for continuing to recognize community members who have donated their time to make the Township a better place for all of us, as was also done at the Annual Town Meeting. By honoring such citizens you highlight the power that dedicated citizens have to continue improving the Township community and citizen wellbeing.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,
Cindy Levine and Wendy Zun
Co-Presidents
LWV-Wilmette

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