

## JST Questions for Statement of interest

- 1, Women's Community League of Weston  
Patricia McGlynn President  
[mcglynnpatti@gmail.com](mailto:mcglynnpatti@gmail.com) 978-505-7279  
Laura Gagliardi Barn Manager  
[Lauragag@aol.com](mailto:Lauragag@aol.com) 781-647-9099

[www.wclweston.org](http://www.wclweston.org)

We are a recognized 501-C3  
TAX id 046113379

2.

A The Women's Community League of Weston was established in 1919 with the goal to foster community spirit, enhance the intellectual and social life of the community; and to assist with community needs.

The League provides women of Weston, including all ages and interests, with social, educational and philanthropic opportunities. Socially, we offer vibrant day and evening activities for new and established residents. The vast majority of our programs are not limited to members of the League, but, rather, are open to all.

Our philanthropic and fund-raising activities allow us to contribute to local organizations including, but not limited to, the Weston Police Department, The Weston Rec Department, Council on Aging, the Town Library, High School Dance Team, Weston Drama Workshop, the Weston PTO SPARK program, etc.

In 1983, the League established an Endowment Fund with donations from two benefactors. In the 1990's, the Fund was used to renovate the Barn in addition to funding both the Library and Community Center building funds.

Our Service and Scholarship fund is mainly funded by the Clothing Exchange. The Exchange is a consignment shop where Weston residents can bring gently used clothing, accessories, and small household items. The money raised allows us to donate a minimum of \$20,000 to deserving Weston High School graduates.

B Our Mission Statement is as follows, "The League's mission is to foster community spirit within the town of Weston and to provide support for community needs as they arise."

Our long-term goal is to remain in the Barn. We have been based in, and have been custodians of, the Barn for over 30 years. The WCL uses the Barn for Board meetings, social functions, the Speaker series, small fundraisers, classes and workshops. We also offer a low-cost rental venue for individuals, local non-profits

and organizations. This is done as a service to the Town residents and organizations. Many local people and organizations would have a very difficult time finding another venue with the atmosphere, space and affordability to meet their needs if the Barn was no longer available as a rental venue.

### 3. Leadership

A&B Board as of June 2015

#### Executive Board

President	Patricia McGlynn	<a href="mailto:mcglynnpatti@gmail.com">mcglynnpatti@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Gabrielle Clemens	<a href="mailto:gabrielleclemens@gmail.com">gabrielleclemens@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Barbara Casey	<a href="mailto:barbpcasey@gmail.com">barbpcasey@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer Elect	Yvonne Over	<a href="mailto:Yvonne.over@hotmail.com">Yvonne.over@hotmail.com</a>
Secretary	Heather Mahoney	<a href="mailto:heathermahoney@comcast.net">heathermahoney@comcast.net</a>
Advisor	Lisa Howe	<a href="mailto:lisadimasihowe@gmail.com">lisadimasihowe@gmail.com</a>

#### Board

Newcomers	Arivinda Rao Souza	<a href="mailto:vindarao@gmail.com">vindarao@gmail.com</a>
Service & Scholarship	Judy Harris	<a href="mailto:jharris009@comcast.net">jharris009@comcast.net</a>
Endowment	Gabrielle Clemens	<a href="mailto:gabrielleclemens@gmail.com">gabrielleclemens@gmail.com</a>
Special Events	Jan Feldman	<a href="mailto:jrfjrf@comcast.net">jrfjrf@comcast.net</a>
	Judy Gaughan	<a href="mailto:j.gaughan@gmail.com">j.gaughan@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality	Jan Feldman	
Newsletter	Lisa Marquis	<a href="mailto:lisa@dvlm.com">lisa@dvlm.com</a>
Clothing Exchange	Adrian Proll	<a href="mailto:abproll@comcast.net">abproll@comcast.net</a>
Membership	Barbara Casey	
Barn Manager	Laura Gagliardi	<a href="mailto:lauragag@aol.com">lauragag@aol.com</a>
	Yvonne Over	
Barn Treasure	Laura Gagliardi	
Town Liaison	Susan Littlefield	<a href="mailto:susan-martin@comcast.net">susan-martin@comcast.net</a>
Outreach	Biz Payntner	<a href="mailto:biz@payntner.com">biz@payntner.com</a>
In reach	Yvonne Over	
Garden Club	Gina Hajjar	<a href="mailto:capecodgg@comcast.net">capecodgg@comcast.net</a>
Holiday Bags	Yvonne Over	
Publicity	Leslye Fligor	<a href="mailto:leslye@fligor.biz">leslye@fligor.biz</a>
Historian	Marcia Lipson	<a href="mailto:lipson.manuel@comcast.net">lipson.manuel@comcast.net</a>

C&D Our organization is made up of hard working and dedicated volunteers. As indicated in the Board positions, most of our functions and activities are committee based. We also have members with specific areas of expertise resulting from experience and/or profession including retail store owners, project managers, management consultants, lawyers, realtors, insurance professionals, all of whom are available to provide their advice.

4. The WCL manages the Barn and offers its space as a low-cost rental to members of the community. This rental is offered as a benefit to the town. It is rented to league members, town non-profit groups, as well as Weston Arts and

Crafts, The Weavers Guild, Land Sakes dinners as well as private parties. Because of the lack of a second means of egress, we are limited to parties of 49. This restriction did not exist several years ago. Because of this limitation, we are unable to offer the Barn for use for High School reunions. All proceeds from Barn rentals are used toward our rent, utilities and maintenance of the facility.

In addition to the Barn, the WCL also operates the Clothing Exchange and Boutique in the Connector. This operates every Tuesday from September through May. Proceeds are used to support our Service and Scholarship fund used to support our high school scholarship program as well as contributions to other town projects.

The Women's Community League of Weston is a central and vital part of Weston. Our calendar of events offers entertainment, education and financial support to citizens of Weston. We use the Barn for many activities in addition to our Board meetings. These activities, all of which are open to the public, include movies, a speaker series, gardening workshops, evening cocktail parties, pot luck dinners, craft fairs, pie sales and a cookie exchange.

Our popular Speaker series runs monthly from October through the spring. The topics are compelling and relevant. We are joining with the Council on Aging to offer two Speaker series events this fall that are focused on how to deal with one's aging parents.

The League also organizes shopping events in which a portion of the proceeds go toward our Scholarship Fund. We also partner with other organizations to hold events and raise funds. We have joined with the Weston Community Children's Association to help sponsor their Speaker series. The League joined with the Rotary Club to participate in their Pooch Parade and sponsored an award for a service dog.

We plan to continue our programming and activities to be consistent with what we have done in the past. In addition to the above, our programs include gardening workshops, and fund raisers as well as social events. Our programs are open to all of our members, however, guests are invited. Our goal is to share our programs, and dedication to Weston, with other women in town.

The Women's Community League of Weston provides women of all ages with social, educational and philanthropic opportunities. Over the years, the group has provided its time, talent and treasure for the betterment of Weston.

Our value to the Town of Weston goes back to our roots. The League was established in 1919. The Scholarship program began in 1930 with a \$150 scholarship. Today, the League's Scholarship program provides the largest source of financial assistance from a community organization to need Weston high School graduates. Over the last 10 years, the League has given over \$300,000 need-based

scholarships, presented a number of merit-based awards on Class Day, had has regularly contributed to the Metco Program.

If the WCL were not able to remain in the JST, our philanthropy and good works would be greatly impacted.

5. Our primary goal is to remain in our current space. We have been housed in the Barn and Connector for many years. Residents of Weston and the surrounding towns are aware of the hours maintained by the Clothing Exchange and Boutique as well as the Café. It is well known that people are welcome to come in to shop and enjoy a light lunch on Tuesdays. Otherwise, our hours of operations vary, depending upon the programs and activities that we host for the WCL. Since rental of the Barn is scheduled through the WCL Barn Manager, Weston residents as well as other Town organizations, enjoy the use of the Barn frequently on nights and weekends throughout the year. The League's Clothing Exchange and Boutique help draw visitors to the JST and therefore help bring business to the site.

The most important physical change to the building is the addition of a second means of egress. Without this, use of the Barn, for any type of event, is limited to 49 occupants.

In the event that the Working Group, Selectmen, and the residents of Weston all agree that a restaurant in this location would better suit the needs of the Town, we would accept a move to the Tavern side of the building. We would request room sufficient for us to maintain the Clothing Exchange/Boutique and Café. We would also request access to the Ballroom for our ongoing functions and activities as well as the ability to maintain control of rental of the facility.

Whether we are allowed to remain in our current location, or move to the Tavern, we would like to request a long-term lease. We want to continue the JST to be Home to the Women's Community League of Weston.

6. & 7.

One of our biggest community-based events has been a Holiday House Tour. This has been a well-known event attracting participants from Weston and surrounding towns. This year, we are working to organize a family run/walk to raise awareness of our beautiful town center.

Other activities include a successful Thanksgiving Pie Sale, Holiday Craft (and merchant) fair, shopping nights where the retailer donates a portion of the evening proceeds to the WCL Service and Scholarship Fund, etc.

Our marketing and advertising will continue through our website, which is in the process of being updated, email directly to our members, a monthly Newsletter to membership. With events and programs open to the public, we publicize our activities by publishing articles in the Town Crier and My Grapevine in addition to sandwich boards, distributing flyers at local businesses, and displaying a banner in

the center of town. This has been the type of outreach that has been the most successful to date.

We are also planning a town-wide direct mail this year to increase membership, with an anticipated cost of approximately \$1,000.

7. I CPA funding will be required, and hopefully available to WCL, if we have to move to the Tavern side of the building. These funds will be necessary to update the rooms on the first floor rooms to be used for Board meetings as well as the Clothing Exchange/Boutique. The Ballroom will need renovations, including a kitchen as well as elevator access. The Ballroom will be used to accommodate our larger events and programs. We will also rent the Ballroom to other town organizations and residents, as we currently do with the Barn.

8.B Our revenue sources are derived from membership dues (which are very affordable at \$40 per year), Barn rental, Café proceeds and donations, Scholarship Fund contributions, Inventory sales in the Clothing Exchange/Boutique, membership programs including Holiday Bazaar, pie sale, shopping events, and membership social events. Our revenue for fiscal year 2014 was just over \$70,000. This enabled the Women's Community League to donate nearly \$40,000 in merit and need-based scholarship to Weston High School Graduates.

8.C Our continuing annual operating expenses are approximately \$21,000. These expenses included, but are not limited to, rent (\$557), utilities (\$5,161), maintenance (\$3,192), telephone (\$626), custodial (\$2,505), accountant (\$2,105), supplies (\$2,506), liability insurance (\$625, with an anticipated increase this year) and other miscellaneous expenses bringing the operating expenses to \$21,112.

8.D Our current advertising and marketing programs have been based upon what has been relevant to our audience. Marketing to our members includes our website, newsletter, email. Marketing our programs that are open to public include the Town Crier, My Grapevine, sandwich boards, and a banner in the center of Town. We are also planning joint marketing efforts with other non profits in town including the Council on Aging and PTO.

9. We believe that the Josiah Smith Tavern and Barn can be restored to revitalize the town center and build community cohesiveness. We also believe that the Women's Community League is uniquely positioned to be a leading partner in this endeavor. Our history of rallying volunteers to support the community, along with our fund-raising capabilities, is critical to ensure the success of the restoration of the Josiah Smith Tavern and Barn.

To maintain our continued presence at the JST we would require minor renovations to the interior in addition to a second means of egress. This would enable us to increase the rental value of the Barn (or Ballroom if necessary) by increasing the occupancy limit. Increased rental income would allow us to continue to maintain payment of our rent, utilities and maintenance.

Needed from the Town, necessary for us to remain in our home of over 30 years, initially is support from the JST Working Group, support of the Town Selectmen, and, finally, approval at Town Meeting.

10. The Women's Community League of Weston had been the custodian and tenant of the Josiah Smith Tavern Barn and Connector for over 30 years. It is well known in town that the Barn is the place to be on Tuesdays to shop and enjoy a light lunch. It is also the place where most of our meetings and activities take place, whether it is a social or an educational event. Our Clothing Exchange is part of the fabric of our community. It is a gathering place that helps contribute to the activity in the area on Tuesdays.

The Women's Community League currently maintains a liability insurance policy with limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$2,000,000 aggregate. In addition to my volunteer position as President of the Women's Community League, I am Vice President of the McGlynn, Clinton and Hall Insurance Agency. I have been asked to review our current policy to ensure that it sufficiently meets our needs and exposures.