## PROCLAMATION CELEBRATING THE 100<sup>TH</sup> 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 six months prior to, but in anticipation of, ratification of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote in the United States; and

**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; and

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

**WHEREAS,** there are currently over 700 Local, County, and State Leagues in all 50 States, also including the District of Columbia, Virgin Islands, and Hong Kong; and

**WHEREAS,** the League of Women Voters of Illinois was incorporated on March 22, 1920 and is composed of over 40 Local Leagues totaling almost 4,000 members; among them, the League of Women Voters of Oak Park and River Forest, incorporated on May 13, 1924 and consisting of 184 members; and

**WHEREAS,** Leagues at all levels, register voters, educate voters by holding candidate forums and publishing voter guides, publish public policy research, and hold meetings on key issues; the League is a civic organization that has fought since 1920 to improve government and engage everyone in the decisions that impact their lives;

**NOW THEREFORE,** I Anan Abu-Taleb, President of the Village of Oak Park and the Board of Trustees, hereby proclaim February 14, 2020 as a day to celebrate the **League of Women Voters' 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** and its vision of a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

**DATED** this 3rd day of February, 2020.

Anan Abu-Taleb Village President

ATTEST:

Vicki Scaman Village Clerk