WESTERN ASSET MUNICIPAL PARTNERS FUND INC.

Form DEF 14A February 26, 2010

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

(Rule 14a-101)

## INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

## SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant X

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant O

Check the appropriate box:

O	Preliminary Proxy Statement
0	Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
X	Definitive Proxy Statement
o	Definitive Additional Materials
0	Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

## WESTERN ASSET MUNICIPAL PARTNERS FUND INC. (Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Fi	ling Fee (Check the a	opropriate box):					
X	No fee required.						
0	Fee computed on	Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.					
	(1)	Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:					
	(2)	Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:					
	(3)	Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed purs to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing calculated and state how it was determined):					
	(4)	Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:					
	(5)	Total fee paid:					
0 0	Check box if any	ly with preliminary materials.  part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule g.  Amount Previously Paid:					
	(2)	Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:					

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

## WESTERN ASSET MUNICIPAL PARTNERS FUND INC.

## 55 Water Street, New York, New York 10041

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

February 26, 2010

To the Stockholders:

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Western Asset Municipal Partners Fund Inc. (the "Fund") will be held at 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, New York, on Wednesday, March 31, 2010 at 10:30 a.m., New York time, for the following purposes:

- 1. A proposal to elect two Class III Directors to the Fund's Board of Directors; and
- 2. The transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on January 29, 2010 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Robert I. Frenkel Secretary

February 26, 2010

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR SHARES BE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING IN PERSON OR BY PROXY; IF YOU DO NOT EXPECT TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE COMPLETE, DATE, SIGN AND RETURN THE PROXY CARD (which will be made available to you separately) OR PROVIDE VOTING INSTRUCTIONS BY TELEPHONE OR VIA THE INTERNET.

## **Instructions for Signing Proxy Cards**

The following general rules for signing proxy cards may be of assistance to you and avoid the time and expense to the Fund in validating your vote if you fail to sign your proxy card properly.

- 1. Individual Accounts: Sign your name exactly as it appears in the registration on the proxy card.
- 2. Joint Accounts: Either party may sign, but the name of the party signing should conform exactly to a name shown in the registration.
- 3. *All Other Accounts:* The capacity of the individual signing the proxy card should be indicated unless it is reflected in the form of registration. For example:

Corporate Accounts	Registration	Valid Signature
(1)	ABC Corp	ABC Corp. (by John Doe, Treasurer)
(2)	ABC Corp	John Doe, Treasurer
(3)	ABC Corp., c/o John Doe, Treasurer	John Doe
(4)	ABC Corp. Profit Sharing Plan	John Doe, Trustee
Trust Accounts		
(1)	ABC Trust	Jane B. Doe, Trustee
(2)	Jane B. Doe, Trustee, u/t/d 12/28/78	Jane B. Doe
<b>Custodial or Estate Accounts</b>		
(1)	John B. Smith, Cust., f/b/o John B. Smith, Jr. UGMA	John B. Smith
(2)	John B. Smith	John B. Smith, Jr., Executor

## WESTERN ASSET MUNICIPAL PARTNERS FUND INC.

#### 55 Water Street, New York, New York 10041

#### PROXY STATEMENT

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Western Asset Municipal Partners Fund Inc. (the "Fund") of proxies to be voted at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Fund to be held at 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, New York, on Wednesday, March 31, 2010 at 10:30 a.m., New York time, and at any adjournments or postponements thereof (the "Meeting"), for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Notice").

This Proxy Statement and the accompanying materials are being made available to stockholders on or about February 26, 2010.

The Fund is organized as a Maryland corporation and is a registered investment company.

Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC ("LMPFA"), whose principal business address is 620 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10018, is the Fund's investment adviser and administrator. Pursuant to respective sub-advisory agreements with LMPFA and Western Asset Management Company ("Western Asset"), is the Fund's sub-investment advisor. LMPFA and Western Asset are all wholly-owned subsidiaries of Legg Mason, Inc. ("Legg Mason").

Even if you plan to attend the Meeting, please sign, date and return a proxy card, or provide voting instructions by telephone or over the Internet. If you vote by telephone or over the Internet, you will be asked to enter a unique code that has been assigned to you, which is printed on your proxy card. This code is designed to confirm your identity, provide access into the voting sites and confirm that your instructions are properly recorded.

All properly executed proxies received prior to the Meeting will be voted at the Meeting in accordance with the instructions marked thereon or otherwise as provided therein. Unless instructions to the contrary are marked, shares represented by the proxies will be voted "FOR" the election of each nominee in Proposal 1. In accordance with the Fund's By-Laws, a quorum is constituted by the presence in person or by proxy of the holders of record of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund's common stock entitled to vote at the Meeting. For purposes of determining the presence of a quorum for transacting business at the Meeting, abstentions will be treated as shares that are present but which have not been voted.

The Board has fixed the close of business on January 29, 2010 as the record date (the "Record Date") for the determination of stockholders of the Fund entitled to notice of and to vote at the Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof. The Fund has two classes of shares: Common Stock, par value \$.001 per share, and municipal auction rate cumulative preferred stock ("Preferred Shares"), which have a liquidation preference in the amount of \$50,000 per share (collectively with the Common Stock, the "Shares"). Shareholders of the Fund as of the Record Date will be entitled to one vote on each matter for each Share held and a fractional vote with respect to fractional Shares, with no cumulative voting rights. As of the Record Date, the Fund had outstanding 9,719,063 shares of Common Stock and 1,700 Preferred Shares outstanding.

Annual reports are sent to stockholders of record of the Fund following the Fund's fiscal year end. The Fund will furnish, without charge, a copy of its annual report and most recent semi-annual report succeeding the annual report, if any, to a stockholder upon request. Such requests should be directed to the Fund at 55 Water Street, New York, New York 10041 or by calling toll free at 888-777-0102. Copies of annual and semi-annual reports of the Fund are also available on the EDGAR Database on the Securities and Exchange Commission's Internet site at www.sec.gov.

Please note that only one annual or semi-annual report or Proxy Statement may be delivered to two or more stockholders of the Fund who share an address, unless the Fund has received instructions to the contrary. To request a separate copy of an annual or semi-annual report or the Proxy Statement, or for instructions as to how to request a separate copy of these documents or as to how to request a single copy if multiple copies of these documents are received, stockholders should contact the Fund at the address and phone number set forth above.

## **Vote Required and Manner of Voting Proxies**

A quorum of stockholders is required to take action at the Meeting. A majority of the shares of the Fund entitled to vote at the Meeting, represented in person or by proxy, will constitute a quorum of stockholders at the Meeting.

Votes cast by proxy or in person at the Meeting will be tabulated by the inspector of election appointed for the Meeting. The inspector of election, who is an employee of the proxy solicitor engaged by the Fund, will determine whether or not a quorum is present at the Meeting. The inspector of election will treat abstentions and "broker non-votes" (i.e., shares held by brokers or nominees, typically in "street name," as to which proxies have been returned but (a) instructions have not been received from the beneficial owners or persons entitled to vote and (b) the broker or nominee does not have discretionary voting power on a particular matter) as present for purposes of determining a quorum.

If you hold shares directly (not through a broker-dealer, bank or other financial intermediary) and if you return a signed proxy card that does not specify how you wish to vote on a proposal, your shares will be voted "FOR" Proposal 1.

#### **Required Vote**

Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the holders of shares of the Fund's Common Stock and Preferred Shares voting together as a single class present in person or represented by proxy at a Meeting at which a quorum is present.

For purposes of the election of Directors, abstentions and broker non-votes will not be considered votes cast, and do not affect the plurality vote required for the election of Directors.

In the event that a quorum is not present, or if sufficient votes to elect Directors in Proposal No. 1 as set forth in the Notice and this Proxy Statement are not received by the time scheduled for the Meeting, the persons named as proxies may move for one or more adjournments of the Meeting to permit further solicitation of proxies with respect to such proposal. In determining whether to adjourn the Meeting, the following factors may be considered: the nature of the proposal that is the subject of the Meeting, the percentage of votes actually cast, the nature of any further solicitation and the information to be provided to stockholders with respect to the reasons for the solicitation. Any such adjournment will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present at the

Meeting. If an adjournment is proposed, the persons named as proxies will vote the shares that they are entitled to vote in their discretion.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Meeting to be Held on March 31, 2010

The proxy statement and related materials are available at http://www.amstock.com/proxyservices/viewmaterial.asp?CoNumber=14644

#### **Proposal No. 1: Election of Directors**

In accordance with the Fund's charter, the Fund's Board of Directors is divided into three classes: Class I, Class II and Class III. Under the terms of the Fund's charter, the holders of preferred stock are entitled as a class, to the exclusion of the holders of common stock, to elect two Directors of the Fund (the "Preferred Share Directors"); and the Fund's charter further sets forth that one of the two Preferred Share Directors shall be a Class I Director and the other shall be a Class II. The charter also provides that the remaining Directors shall be elected by holders of common stock and preferred stock voting together as a single class. At the Meeting, the holders of the Fund's common stock and preferred stock voting together as a single class will be asked to elect two Class III Directors, William R. Hutchinson and Jeswald W. Salacuse. No Preferred Share Directors have been nominated for election at this Meeting. The terms of office of the Class III Directors expire at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in the year 2013, or thereafter in each case when their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. The terms of the remaining Class I and Class II Directors expire at the year 2012 and 2011 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, respectively, or thereafter until their successors have been duly elected and qualified or until they resign or otherwise removed. The effect of these staggered terms is to limit the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund by delaying the replacement of a majority of the Board of Directors.

The persons named in the proxy intend to vote at the Meeting (unless directed not to vote) "FOR" the election of the nominees named below. Each of the nominees is currently a member of the Fund's Board of Directors and has indicated that he or she will serve if elected. However, if any nominee should be unable to serve, the proxy will be voted for any other person determined by the persons named in the proxy in their discretion.

Certain information concerning the nominees is set forth on the following page.

## **Persons Nominated for Election as Directors**

Name, Address and Birth Year Nominees to se	Position(s) Held with Fund rve as Class III Di	Term of Office and Length Time Served rectors un	Principal Occupations During Past Five Years Itil the 2013 Annual Meeting of Stockholders	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex** Overseen by Director	Other Directorships Held by Director
NON-INTERE	STED DIRECTO	R NOMIN	EES		
William R. Hutchinson c/o Chairman of the Fund Legg Mason & Co. LLC ("Legg Mason & Co.") 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10018 Birth year: 1942	Director and Member of Audit and Nominating Committees	Since 2003	President, W.R. Hutchinson & Associates Inc. (consulting)	21	Director (Non-Executive Chairman of the Board (since December 1, 2009)), of Associated Banc-Corp. (banking) (since 1994)
Jeswald W. Salacuse c/o Chairman of the Fund Legg Mason & Co. 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10018 Birth year: 1938	Director and Member of Audit and Nominating Committees	Since 2000	Henry J. Braker Professor of Commercial Law and formerly Dean, The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University (since 1986); President, Arbitration Tribunal, World Bank/ICSID (since 2004)	21	Director of two registered investment companies advised by Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C.; India Fund, Inc. and Asia Tigers Fund, Inc. (since 1993)

<sup>\*\*</sup> The term "Fund Complex" means two or more registered investment companies that:

<sup>(</sup>a) Hold themselves out to investors as related companies for purposes of investment and investor services; or

<sup>(</sup>b) Have a common investment adviser or have an investment adviser that is an affiliated person of the investment adviser of any of the other registered investment companies.

The following table provides information concerning the remaining Directors of the Fund:

Name, Address and Birth Year Class I Director	Position(s) Held with Fund rs serving until 201	Term of Office and Length Time Served	Principal Occupations During Past Five Years Meeting of Stockholders	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex** Overseen by Director	Other Directorships Held by Director
NON-INTERES	STED DIRECTOR	RS			
Carol L. Colman c/o Chairman of the Fund Legg Mason & Co. 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10018 Birth year: 1946	Director and Member of Audit and Nominating Committees	Since 2002	President, Colman Consulting Co.	21	None
Leslie H. Gelb c/o Chairman of the Fund Legg Mason & Co. LLC 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10018 Birth year: 1937	Director and Member of Audit and Nominating Committees	Since 2001	President Emeritus and Senior Board Fellow, The Council on Foreign Relations (since 2003); formerly, President, The Council on Foreign Relations (prior to 2003); formerly, Columnist, Deputy Editorial Page Editor and Editor, Op-Ed Page, <i>The New York Times</i>	21	Director of two registered investment companies advised by Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C.; India Fund, Inc. and Asia Tigers Fund, Inc. (since 1994)
Dr. Riordan Roett c/o Chairman of the Fund Legg Mason & Co. 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10018 Birth year: 1938	Director and Member of Audit and Nominating Committees	Since 1997	The Sarita and Don Johnston Professor of Political Science and Director of Western Hemisphere Studies, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, The Johns Hopkins University (since 1973)	21	None

<sup>\*\*</sup> The term "Fund Complex" means two or more registered investment companies that:

<sup>(</sup>a) Hold themselves out to investors as related companies for purposes of investment and investor services; or

<sup>(</sup>b) Have a common investment adviser or have an investment adviser that is an affiliated person of the investment adviser of any of the other registered investment companies.

Name, Address and Birth Year Class II Directo	Held with Fund ors serving until 2	of Position(s) Time Served 2011 Annua	Office and Length Principal Occupations During Past Five Years I Meeting of Stockholders	Number of Portfolios in Overseen by Director		Fund Complex** Other Directorships Held by Director
NON-INTERE	STED DIRECTO	ORS				
Daniel P. Cronin c/o Chairman of the Fund Legg Mason & Co. 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10018 Birth year: 1946	Director and Member of Audit and Nominating Committees	Since 2002	Retired; formerly, Associate General Counsel, Pfizer, Inc. (prior to and including 2004)	21	None	
Paolo M. Cucchi c/o Chairman of the Fund Legg Mason & Co. 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10018 Birth year: 1941	Director and Member of Audit and Nominating Committees	Since 2007	Professor of Italian and French Languages, Drew University; formerly, Vice President and Dean of College of Liberal Arts at Drew University (1984-2009).	21	None	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The term "Fund Complex" means two or more registered investment companies that:

Term

<sup>(</sup>a) Hold themselves out to investors as related companies for purposes of investment and investor services; or

<sup>(</sup>b) Have a common investment adviser or have an investment adviser that is an affiliated person of the investment adviser of any of the other registered investment companies.

Name, Address and Birth Year INTERESTED	Position(s) Held with Fund DIRECTOR	Term of Office and Length Time Served	Principal Occupations During Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex** Overseen by Director	Other Directorships Held by Director
R. Jay Gerken, CFA* Legg Mason & Co. 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10018 Birth year: 1951	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer	Since 2002	Managing Director, Legg Mason; Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of LMPFA; Chairman of the Board, Trustee, or Director of 147 funds associated with LMPFA and its affiliates (since 2006); Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason or its affiliates; President and CEO, Smith Barney Fund Management LLC and Chairman, President and CEO, Citi Fund Management, Inc. (formerly registered investment advisers) (since 2002); formerly, Managing Director of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (prior to 2006); formerly, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Travelers Investment Advisers Inc. (2002 to 2005)	134	Former Trustee, Consulting Group Capital Markets Fund (2002-2006)

<sup>\*</sup> Mr. Gerken is an "interested person" as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), because he is an officer of LMPFA and certain of its affiliates.

- (a) Hold themselves out to investors as related companies for purposes of investment and investor services; or
- (b) Have a common investment adviser or have an investment adviser that is an affiliated person of the investment adviser of any of the other registered investment companies.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The term "Fund Complex" means two or more registered investment companies that:

#### **Security Ownership of Management**

The following table provides information concerning the dollar range of equity securities owned beneficially by each Director and nominee for election as Director as of December 31, 2009:

Name of Director/Nominee NON-INTERESTED DIRECTORS	Dollar Range <sup>(1)</sup> of Equity Securities in the Fund	Aggregate Dollar Range <sup>(2)</sup> of Equity Securities in all Funds Overseen by Director/Nominee in Family of Investment Companies <sup>(2)</sup>
Carol L. Colman	В	Е
Daniel P. Cronin	Е	E
Paolo M. Cucchi	A	С
Leslie H. Gelb	A	A
William R. Hutchinson	E	E
Dr. Riordan Roett	В	В
Jeswald W. Salacuse	С	С
INTERESTED DIRECTOR		
R. Jay Gerken	D	Е

<sup>(1)</sup> The dollar ranges are as follows: "A" = None; "B" = \$1-\$10,000; "C" = \$10,001-\$50,000; "D" = \$50,001-\$100,000; "E" = Over \$100,000.

At January 29, 2010, the nominees, Directors and officers of the Fund as a group beneficially owned less than 1% of the outstanding shares of the Fund's Common Stock.

No Director or nominee for election as Director who is not an "interested person" of the Fund as defined in the 1940 Act, nor any immediate family members, to the best of the Fund's knowledge, had any interest in the Fund's investment adviser, or any person or entity (other than the Fund) directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with Legg Mason as of November 30, 2009.

## **Director Compensation**

Under the federal securities laws, and in connection with the Meeting, the Fund is required to provide to stockholders in connection with the Meeting information regarding compensation paid to the Directors by the Fund, as well as by the various other investment companies advised by LMPFA. The following table provides information concerning the compensation paid to each Director by the Fund during the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009 and the total compensation paid to each Director during the calendar year ended December 31, 2009. Certain of the Directors listed below are members of the Fund's Audit and Nominating Committees, as well as other committees of the boards of certain other investment companies advised by LMPFA. Accordingly, the amounts provided in the table include compensation for service on all such committees. The Fund does not provide any pension or retirement benefits to Directors. In addition, no remuneration was paid

<sup>(2)</sup> The term, "Family of Investment Companies", means any two or more registered investment companies that share the same investment adviser or principal underwriter or hold themselves out to investors as related companies for purposes of investment and investor services.

during the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009 by the Fund to Mr. Gerken who is an "interested person" as defined in the 1940 Act.

Name of Directors	Com from for Fisca	ggregate opensation othe Fund al Year Ended 1/30/09	from th Fund Co Calendar	Total Compensation from the Fund and Fund Complex <sup>(1)</sup> for Calendar Year Ended 12/31/09	
Directorships(2)					
Carol L. Colman	\$	9,507	\$	206,000	
Daniel P. Cronin		9,507		204,000	
Paolo M. Cucchi		9,507		204,000	
Leslie H. Gelb		9,507		203,000	
Willian R. Hutchinson		10,416		224,000	
Dr. Riordan Roett		9,507		203,000	
Jeswald W. Salacuse		10,643		230,000	

<sup>(1) &</sup>quot;Fund Complex" means two or more Funds (a registrant or, where the registrant is a series company, a separate portfolio of the registrant) that hold themselves out to investors as related companies for purposes of investment and investor services or have a common investment adviser or have an investment adviser that is an affiliated person of the investment adviser of any of the other Funds.

(2) Each Director currently holds 21 investment company directorships.

#### Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that the Fund is managed in the best interest of its stockholders. The Directors oversee the Fund's business by, among other things, meeting with the Fund's management and evaluating the performance of the Fund's service providers including LMPFA, Western Asset, the custodian and the transfer agent. As part of this process, the Directors consult with the Fund's independent auditors and with their own separate independent counsel.

The Board of Directors has four regularly scheduled meetings each year, and additional meetings are scheduled as needed. In addition, the Board has an Audit Committee and a Nominating Committee that meet periodically and whose responsibilities are described below.

During the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009, the Board of Directors held four regular meetings and one special meeting. Each Director attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board and the committees for which he or she was eligible. The Fund does not have a formal policy regarding attendance by Directors at annual meetings of stockholders.

The Directors review the Fund's financial statements, performance and market price as well as the quality of the services being provided to the Fund. As part of this process, the Directors review the Fund's fees and expenses to determine if they are reasonable and competitive in light of the services being received and while also ensuring that the Fund continues to have access to high quality services in the future. Based on these reviews, the Directors periodically make suggestions to the Fund's management and monitor to ensure that responsive action is taken. The Directors also monitor potential conflicts of interest among the Fund, LMPFA and its affiliates and other funds and clients managed by LMPFA and Western Asset, to ensure that the Fund is managed in a manner which is in the best interest of the Fund's stockholders.

#### **Audit Committee**

The Fund's Audit Committee is composed of all Directors who have been determined not to be "interested persons" of the Fund, LMPFA, Western Asset or their affiliates within the meaning of the 1940 Act, and who are "independent" as defined in the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. Currently, the Audit Committee is composed of Ms. Colman and Messrs. Cronin, Cucchi, Gelb, Hutchinson, Roett and Salacuse. The principal functions of the Audit Committee are: to (a) oversee the scope of the Fund's audit, the Fund's accounting and financial reporting policies and practices and its internal controls and enhance the quality and objectivity of the audit function; (b) approve, and recommend to the Independent Board Members (as such term is defined in the Audit Committee Charter) for their ratification, the selection, appointment, retention or termination of the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm, as well as approving the compensation thereof; and (c) approve all audit and permissible non-audit services provided to the Fund and certain other persons by the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm. This Committee met five times during the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009. The Fund's Board of Directors most recently reviewed and adopted an Audit Committee Charter at a meeting held on February 11, 2010, a copy of which is attached hereto as Annex A.

## **Nominating Committee**

The Fund's Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee (the "Nominating Committee"), the principal function of which is to select and nominate candidates for election as Directors of the Fund, is currently composed of Ms. Colman and Messrs. Cronin, Cucchi, Gelb, Hutchinson, Roett and Salacuse. Only Directors who are not "interested persons" of the Fund as defined in the 1940 Act and who are "independent" as defined in the New York Stock Exchange listing standards are members of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee may accept nominees recommended by the stockholder as it deems appropriate. Stockholders who wish to recommend a nominee should send recommendations to the Fund's Secretary that include all information relating to such person that is required to be disclosed in solicitations of proxies for the election of Directors. A recommendation must be accompanied by a written consent of the individual to stand for election if nominated by the Board of Directors and to serve if elected by the stockholders. The Nominating Committee met once during the Fund's fiscal year ended November 30, 2009. The Fund's Board of Directors most recently reviewed and adopted a Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee Charter at a meeting held on February 11, 2010, a copy of which is attached hereto as Annex B.

The Nominating Committee identifies potential nominees through its network of contacts, and may also engage, if it deems appropriate, a professional search firm. The Nominating Committee meets to discuss and consider such candidates' qualifications and then chooses a candidate by majority vote. The Nominating Committee does not have specific, minimum qualifications for nominees and has not established specific qualities or skills that it regards as necessary for one or more of the Fund's Directors to possess (other than any qualities or skills that may be required by applicable law, regulation or listing standard). However, as set forth in the Nominating Committee Charter, in evaluating a person as a potential nominee to serve as a Director of the Fund, the Nominee Committee may consider the following factors, among any others it may deem relevant:

whether or not the person is an "interested person" as defined in the 1940 Act and whether the person is otherwise qualified under applicable laws and regulations to serve as a Director of the Fund;

whether or not the person has any relationships that might impair his or her independence, such as any business, financial or family relationships with Fund management, the investment manager of the Fund, Fund service providers or their affiliates;

whether or not the person serves on boards of, or is otherwise affiliated with, competing financial service organizations or their related mutual fund complexes;

whether or not the person is willing to serve, and willing and able to commit the time necessary for the performance of the duties of a Director of the Fund;

the contribution which the person can make to the Board and the Fund (or, if the person has previously served as a Director of the Fund, the contribution which the person made to the Board during his or her previous term of service), with consideration being given to the person's business and professional experience, education and such other factors as the Committee may consider relevant;

the character and integrity of the person; and

whether or not the selection and nomination of the person would be consistent with the requirements of the Fund's retirement policies.

#### Officers

The Fund's executive officers are chosen each year at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fund, to hold office until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. In addition to Mr. Gerken, the Fund's Chairman, CEO and President, the executive officers of the Fund currently are:

Name, Address and Age Kaprel Ozsolak Legg Mason & Co. 55 Water Street, New York, NY 10041 Birth year: 1965	Position(s) Held with Fund Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	Length of Time Served Since 2007	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 years  Director of Legg Mason & Co.; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason; formerly, Controller of certain mutual funds associated with certain predecessor firms of Legg Mason (2002-2004)
Ted P. Becker Legg Mason & Co. 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10018 Birth year: 1951	Chief Compliance Officer	Since 2006	Director of Global Compliance at Legg Mason (since 2006); Managing Director of Compliance at Legg Mason, (since 2005); Chief Compliance Officer with certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason (since 2006); Managing Director of Compliance at Legg Mason or its predecessors (2002-2005). Prior to 2002, Managing Director Internal Audit & Risk Review at Citigroup Inc.

		Length	
Name, Address and Age	Position(s) Held with Fund	of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 years
Albert Laskaj	Controller	Since	Vice President of Legg Mason & Co. (since 2008); Controller of certain funds associated with Legg Mason
Legg Mason & Co.		2007	(since 2007); formerly, Assistant Controller of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason (from 2005 to 2007); formerly, Accounting Manager of certain mutual funds associated with certain predecessor firms of Legg Mason (from 2003 to 2005)
55 Water Street,			Legg Mason (from 2003 to 2003)
New York, NY 10041 Birth Year: 1977			
Steven Frank	Controller	Since	Vice President of Legg Mason & Co. (since 2002); Controller of certain funds associated with Legg Mason or
Legg Mason & Co.		2007	its predecessors (since 2005); formerly, Assistant Controller of certain mutual funds associated with Legg Mason predecessors (from 2001 to 2005)
55 Water Street,			
New York, NY 10041 Birth Year: 1967			
Robert I. Frenkel	Secretary and Chief	Since	Managing Director and General Counsel of Global Mutual Funds for Legg Mason and its predecessor (since
Legg Mason & Co.	Legal Officer	2003	1994); Secretary and Chief Legal Officer of mutual funds associated with Legg Mason (since 2003); formerly, Secretary of CFM (2001-2004)
100 First Stamford Place			
Stamford, CT 06902			
Birth year: 1954			

# Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "1934 Act") and Section 30(h) of the 1940 Act in combination require the Fund's Directors and officers and persons who own more than 10% of the Fund's common stock, as well as LMPFA and certain of its affiliated persons, to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the Securities and Exchange