



Argus

League of Women Voters of Lane County Newsletter

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER AND RESOLUTION
NO: 20-05-05-03

In the Matter of

Approving a Resolution Acknowledging the
Lane County League of Women Voters and
the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes and celebrates the League of Women Voters being founded in 1920 as a "mighty political experiment" to help women carry out their new responsibilities as voters; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes that the League of Women Voters of Lane County was founded in 1939; and,

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters believes that active and engaged citizens, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, or political affiliation, are the hallmark of an inclusive democracy; and,

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters works with Lane County and other organizations to achieve mutual goals, increase civic participation and create lasting change in the community;

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters' tireless efforts over the past 100 years have strengthened and fulfilled its mission to empower voters and defend democracy, the League has become a trusted nonpartisan, grassroots organization;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a revised strategic plan in December of 2019 that identifies four priorities: A Safe, Healthy County; Vibrant Communities; Robust Infrastructure; and Our People and Partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes the value of the League of Women Voters in providing a critical service to our community and that the right to participate in a democratic society through voting is tied to the equity priorities and lens that the county adopted in its revised strategic plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County **ORDERS** and **RESOLVES** as follows:

1. Honors and congratulates the League of Women Voters on its 100th Anniversary and commends the League for significant contributions to empowering voters and helping make democracy work and;
2. Recognizes that in order to make inclusive democracy a reality in our communities, there remains work to do.

ADOPTED this 12th day of May, 2020.

Heather Buch, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners



AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND HB 2001

LWV of Lane County Board and Off Board Roster 2020-21

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Voter Service
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Alexis Biddle spoke to the LWVLC Board late last year and sent this to capsulize the visit. The League shares many goals with 1000 Friends of Oregon.

Since 1974, 1000 Friends of Oregon has served as Oregon's land use watchdog organization, ensuring the goals of Oregon's land use system are carried out as intended. Most people know Oregon's land use system by its cherished "urban growth boundary" – designed to focus urban development in appropriate areas while maintaining Oregon's rural lands as working, recreational, and wilderness resources. But there is a lot more to the system than a line in the landscape.

Oregonians are fortunate to have a land use program that recognizes urban and rural communities as inseparable and mutually interdependent. Protecting rural lands from development preserves rural ways of life and provides the resources that are necessary to grow food and fiber and power Oregon's economy. But protecting rural lands is not enough: As our population grows and changes, urban communities of all sizes must adapt and evolve to ensure they remain vibrant and welcoming to everyone. Goal 10 of the land use system, "Housing," requires cities to allow for abundant, diverse, and affordable housing types to meet the needs of urban communities.

A key piece to understanding the complex problem of the unaffordable housing market is the type of homes that are available. In all our communities, most (usually at least 60%) of the homes are detached single-family dwellings. It is no surprise that these homes cost more due to the increased cost of bigger lots, larger homes, and greater infrastructure costs to serve (for example, it generally takes more roads and sewers to serve detached single-family homes than other housing

types). Less obvious, though just as important, is that Oregon communities' needs are changing. Oregon's average household size has continued to decline for decades. The average household has one or two persons, yet most neighborhoods do not offer housing choices that are affordable and meet the needs of smaller families. Evidence of this mismatch in supply and need is reflected in Lane County data: six in 10 renters and three in 10 homeowners pay over 30% of their income on housing, which the Department of Housing and Urban Development considers being cost-burdened. (Oregon Housing Alliance, Lane County, 2017)

After decades of these patterns emerging and inaction at the local level to address these needs, in 2019 the Legislature passed HB 2001, requiring cities to allow a broader diversity of housing types. By 2021 all communities with populations over 10,000 must allow duplexes on all lots in residential zones that allow single-family homes; and by 2022, all communities over 25,000 must also allow additional "missing middle" housing types (duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes, townhomes and cottage clusters) somewhere in areas zoned for single-family residential. Cities will retain some local control in implementing these policies, and community involvement will be critical to shape these locally. At 1000 Friends of Oregon, we have long advocated for the promise of Goal 10 – that every city zone residential land to meet the needs of all. HB 2001 is an important, overdue, and first step.

Alexis Biddle
Urban Advocate
1000 Friends

The above roster was accurate when published. New board members will take office on June 1, except the treasurer position which begins July 1.



ACTION TRACTION

Elections

The May primary election is behind us. Voters approved Measure 20-306, bonds for Lane Community College. The Oregon Secretary of State reported results as 58.13 percent, yes, and 41.87 percent, no. The LWVLC supported the LCC measure, with advocacy including letters to newspaper editors and a statement in the voters' pamphlet. Another local item okayed by voters was a City of Creswell charter amendment updating references to the city manager position. The League did not study and take a position on that measure.

COVID information

Looking for data on new cases and hospital admissions by county? Want to know what's going on at care facility, senior living communities and congregate living settings? Seeking demographic information broken down by age, race, ethnicity, and gender? Visit the Oregon Health Authority and Lane County Public Health websites for updates and links to additional pages—such as Governor Kate Brown's executive orders on agricultural operations, gyms and personal services providers, and state actions for an equity-centered response to COVID-19.



Action Committee

The Action Committee met via Zoom on May 6. The COVID-19 pandemic's health and economic impacts dominate local agency agendas, with each revising budgets to deal with revenue shortfalls. Employee furloughs and service changes are underway. Please contact an LWVLC Board member if you can help monitor and communicate with members about these issues.

The Lane Transit District has put the Transit Tomorrow project on hold, and its board is reviewing services. The Lane County Board of Commissioners continues to talk about redistricting, and commissioners have for now nixed a referral to voters for an independent commission. Stay tuned for updates. Commissioners also agreed to not refer a measure to voters seeking a local funding match for a new courthouse.

Keli Osborn

Action Committee Meeting

On June 1 our League will not have a chair for the Action committee. Responsibility for meetings could be passed around the group until someone volunteers for the job.

An email will be sent to past attendees to discuss and decide how and when to meet.

PEOPLE NOT POLITICIANS

The LWVLC hosted a May 21 webinar with the Eugene-Springfield NAACP and League of Women Voters of Oregon to present information on proposed statewide redistricting reform. A big thanks to Candalyne Johnson, who's been immersed for many months in this effort on behalf of the LWVOR (and now shifting to the campaign)—and to Eric Richardson, executive director for the Eugene-Springfield NAACP; Norman Turrill, LWVOR; and Amanda Crittenden, LWVOR.

The reform drive continues to put a measure on the November 2020 ballot seeking voter approval to create an independent commission for state and congressional redistricting. To view the presentation, visit: <http://lwwor.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/League-Educational-Presentation-April-2020.pdf>.

Another way to learn about the proposal and obtain a petition is to visit the People Not Politicians Oregon website: <https://www.peoplenotpoliticiansoregon.com/>

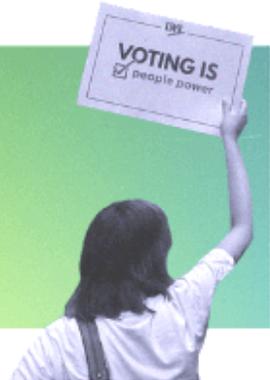
Volunteers are needed. Can you help coordinate the Lane County drive? Would you be able to contribute one hour or more toward email, phone-banking and/or texting support? Please contact Paula Grisafi.

Keli Osborn

On May 16, LWVOR hosted its first virtual Council meeting. Keli Osborn, Terry Parker, and Freddi Weishahn attended. Participants adopted a budget and approved a state board slate. We also voted to approve the following immigration resolution, to carry to the national convention in late June:

“Be it resolved the League of Women Voters reaffirms our commitment to immigration reform: laws that provide efficient, expeditious systems for immigrants to enter the United States. The League stands in solidarity with immigrants and our partners in the immigrant rights community. Congress must take immediate action to pass common sense, fair immigration policies that end the crisis at our borders, ends the separation of families, ensures their health and safety, and provides a clear path to citizenship which includes the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) young people.”

COUNCIL 2020



If members are interested in learning more about the council and the direction for the state and national Leagues in the next year, please check the LWVOR Council 2020 link:

<http://lwvor.org/council-2020/>

Keli Osborn

LWV NATIONAL CONVENTION - CRIMINAL JUSTICE CAUCUS

Later this month will be the League's first virtual convention and an unexpected way to mark the League's 100th anniversary. All members are invited to the criminal justice caucus on June 24. You can join the 4 pm session with the League of Women Voters of California Criminal Justice Committee for information about best practices in the area of criminal justice.

Visit the site to see how LWV of California is tackling this issue:

<https://my.lwv.org/california/issues/criminal-justice-reform-position>

There is no fee and all members are invited, even if not a delegate to the national convention. Registration should be available soon on LWVUS's convention website.

WHAT IS PTR?

Before decoding the acronym, a reminder that the League of Women Voters US offers resources to support self-education efforts on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Find them here:

<https://www.lwv.org/League-management/manage-your-League/diversity-equity-inclusion>

The LWVUS support also includes a monthly webinar. April's was on gender identity, while May's was on community partnerships. Among the tips and insights with the May session:

- Being an ally is about listening.
- Being an ally is not a status—it's ongoing, present-day action.
- Impacts matter—including when the impacts of our actions don't match our intents and our self-perceptions.



Now, back to the acronym. If you've ever made a decision, from communicating announcements to selecting breakfast items, you've used PTR: preferences, traditions and requirements. According to The Management Center, we all tend to conflate requirements and outcomes with preferences and traditions. The Center's advice:

Articulate requirements or outcomes.

Be explicit about preferences and traditions and why they exist.

Finally, be flexible and seek out other perspectives.

The LWVUS encourages us to reexamine traditions and preferences as we strive to become more effective. And to ask ourselves in doing our work: Who's involved? Who will be impacted? What are the intended and unintended outcomes? Does this align with our vision for an equitable and inclusive organization?

Keli Osborn

STAYING INFORMED FOR NOVEMBER WITH ONLINE FORUMS

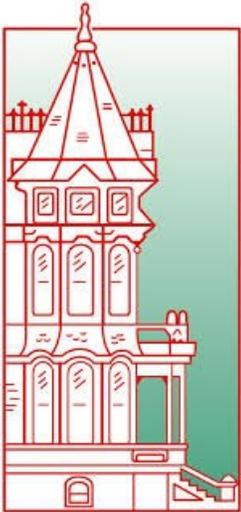
During the May primaries in Oregon the LWVOR as well as local Leagues ran many informative candidate forums. This gave us a good trial run for the lead up to the November elections. Locally, the League in collaboration with the City Club of Eugene, the Springfield City Club and the NAACP, co-hosted forums for candidates for county commissioner, mayor and city council wards for both Eugene and Springfield. Other organizations like the Eugene Chamber of Commerce ran forums for the Attorney General candidates. LWVOR ran one for the Secretary of State. Most of these were held as Zoom webinars, but other formats were also used. Forums were taped so that after the initial broadcast interested parties could watch the forums on organization web and Facebook pages. It is hard to know what will happen over the next half

year but, whatever the circumstances, it will be possible to continue to be informed voters. Watch for notices about candidate and ballot initiative forums.

Soon the forum held on May 21, giving information about the planned redistricting ballot initiative sponsored by People Not Politicians and backed by many organizations including LWVOR will be available for viewing. The initiative is currently gathering signatures to get on the November ballot. Check the LWVLC webpage for information about where to watch it. (For more information see page three.)

Paula Grisafi
Voter Service Chair

CAN'T GO TO THE MUSEUM? LET THIS ONE COME TO YOU.



The staff of **Shelton-McMurphy-Johnson House** mounted an extraordinary exhibition to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of women's suffrage. Material includes photos of events, posters, sheet music and even items from the anti-suffrage movement.

Quarantine has prevented visiting the museum in person, however much of the exhibit can be viewed on line.

https://www.facebook.com/pg/SMJHouse/photos/?tab=album&album_id=10157271072752123

Abigail Scott Duniway signing
Oregon's Equal Suffrage Proclamation
on November 30, 1912,
while Governor Oswald West and
Viola M. Coe look on.

Library of Congress





Suite 250, 380 Q STREET, SPRINGFIELD, OREGON 97477
541-343-7917

For the latest information visit our website <http://lwvlc.org/>

CALENDAR

MAY

30 - 10 am, Annual Meeting - "See" you there!

JUNE

To Be Determined -

Committees will contact members as they sort out logistics.

Action Committee (pg 2)

9 - 2 pm, Voter Service Committee

17 - 1:30 pm, Board meeting

19 - **Midnight**, *Argus* deadline

LWVLC Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
(except holidays)

11 am - 1:30 pm

DONATE NOW

<http://lwvlc.org/get-involved/donate/>

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THERE REMAINS WORK TO DO

The Lane County Board of Commissioners resolved - *Honors and congratulates the League of Women Voters on its 100th Anniversary and commends the League for significant contributions to empowering voters and helping make democracy work and;*

Recognizes that in order to make inclusive democracy a reality in our communities, there remains work to do.

Now that LWVLC is a 501(c)(3) donations and dues are tax deductible. Here is one of the ways to help.

Members receiving a stimulus check may have a number of charitable organizations they wish to help during the COVID-19 pandemic. The stimulus bill contains a one-time, above-the-line deduction for cash contributions of up to \$300 made to qualifying charities like LWVLC.

**Charlcie Kaylor,
Development**