



Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

JANUARY 2017

LWVCC Leaders

Executive Committee:

Marge Easley
Emily Medley
Nancy Murray
Judi Umaki

Secretary:

Emily Medley

Treasurer: Nancy
Murray

Directors:

Voter Service: Judi
Umaki

Program Chair: Libby
Medley

Program Committee:
Norma Jean Germond,
Lorie James

Clackson & Website:
Karan Kuntz

Membership: Hilly
Alexander

Action: Marge Easley

Off Board:

Nominating Committee:
Lyn Gordon

Unit Organization:
Joan Batten

Unit Leaders:

Betty Barber
Jean Hoffman
Katie Lu
June Routson

January General Meeting

Member Discussion on Civil Discourse and League's Areas of Focus for 2017

All members urged to attend!

When: Thursday, January 19, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

**Where: Oswego Pointe Club House, 5033 Foothills Drive, Lake
Oswego**

You won't want to miss our two-part January General Meeting. The first half will be devoted to the timely topic of the League's role in promoting civil discourse. The tumultuous 2016 election season may be over, but emotions are still raw, and many citizens have fears about our country's future. Given the extremely polarized and volatile nature of rhetoric today, what can we as League members do to encourage civil discourse among citizens, elected officials, and the media? Action Chair Marge Easley will share what other Leagues and organizations have done, gather your input, and suggest steps we might take to submit a civil discourse concurrence position to the LWVOR Convention in May.

During the second half of the meeting, Program Chair Libby Medley will take us through state and local League positions, spurring us to discuss what governmental issues are most important to us today, both in terms of increasing our knowledge and using this knowledge through advocacy. This "Program Planning" exercise for 2017-19 is a foundational League process and a powerful tool to influence the future of our communities, our state, and our entire organization. Your participation is essential to keeping us on track. Don't miss your chance to add your experiences and insights to the decision-making question: how can we best respond to the demands our government faces in the coming months and years? Program planning grids for local and state League positions are included on pages 3 and 4.

DIRECTIONS: Take State Street in downtown Lake Oswego to Foothills Road; follow Foothills Road to a 3-way stop; keep right; go downhill to the left-turn lane; turn left onto Foothills Drive; the building straight ahead is the Club House.

See you at Lunch & Learn on January 27. Details on page 5.

Proposed Biogas Facility in Wilsonville

Hilly Alexander

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) held a hearing on November 17 to receive public comments on the proposed Sustainable Organics Recycling Technology (SORT) Bioenergy, LLC facility in Wilsonville. The DEQ proposes to issue the food waste to biogas facility air quality and solid waste permits.

Overview:

Food waste from commercial and industrial sources (restaurants, cafeterias, bakeries, breweries, grocery stores) in Portland would be trucked daily to the SORT Bioenergy, LLC facility in northwest Wilsonville. The facility will have a closed negative air flow receiving building where up to 20 trucks a day will unload their (I guess smelly) cargo. The wastes will be treated in two anaerobic digesters (using bacteria, not chemicals) producing methane gas for combustion. This biogas will supply fuel for two generators. The electricity will be sold to PGE. The composting process also produces fiber solids and effluent liquids which will be separated and sent off-site for further processing.

Per DEQ engineers the facility will use a state of the art odor control system and complies with DEQ and Wilsonville's additional odor control requirements. The DEQ mandates a protocol for monitoring and self reporting and schedules inspections.

I asked about the facility's ability to withstand a major earthquake and associated risks. Paul Woods, SORT Bioenergy, LLC President, assured us that there was no risk of explosions or major spills.

The DEQ opened the public hearing... and closed it immediately since there were no public comments. That was an interesting experience.

What's next?

Metro has pre-approved SORT Bioenergy, LLC and eight other firms. Metro will authorize only one facility in the Metro area. I guess we'll have to wait for Metro to announce the winner. I forgot to ask where the other firms propose to locate their facilities.

Who will serve in Position 5 of the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners?

Jim Bernard, newly elected Chair of the Board of Commissioners, moves to Position 1. Jim has two years remaining of his four-year term in Position 5. Who will complete his term? That's for the 4 current Commissioners to decide. We may not know until February when Commissioners announce their selection.

The filing deadline for applications was midnight on January 3. Minimum qualifications for the position are U.S. citizenship, age 18 or older, Clackamas County residence for at least 12 months, and Clackamas County voter registration.

Commissioners will start interviews of top applicants on January 23. Interviews with finalists start the week of January 30 in public meetings. If a second round is necessary, interviews continue the week of February 6.

LWVCC POSITIONS as of January 2013	Retain	Drop	Update	Restudy	Action
GOVERNMENT - COUNTY					
Governmental Structure '69, '81,'89,'95					
Library Facilities and Services 2000, '11					
Emergency/Disaster Planning & Preparedness 2008					
GOVERNMENT - CITIES					
Lake Oswego City Charter '72, '79, '97					
Lake Oswego City Library 1999					
LAND USE PLANNING - NATURAL RESOURCES COUNTY					
Long Range Comprehensive Planning 1973					
Land Use 1974					
Parks and Open Space 1975					
Local Improvement Districts 1977					
Economic Impact of Growth 1979					
Water 2004					
LAND USE PLANNING - NATURAL RESOURCES WEST CO.					
Growth and Infill '91, '92					
Stafford Area 1993					
Tree Ordinance 2001					
LAND USE PLANNING - NATURAL RESOURCES CITIES					
Parks and Recreation - Lake Oswego 1967					
Planned Unit Development - Lake Oswego 1970					
Comprehensive Plan - West Linn 1974					
East End Redevelopment - Lake Oswego 1981					
Comprehensive Plan - Lake Oswego 1987					
Lake Oswego Water System 1992					
TRANSPORTATION - COUNTY					
Transportation and Traffic 1991					
HUMAN RESOURCES - COUNTY					
Health 1974					
Child Care 1979					
Public Health Facilities in CC w/Special Care for Indigent 1985					
HUMAN RESOURCES - CITIES					
Youth Activities & Facilities for Lake Oswego & West Linn 1986					
EDUCATION - COUNTY					
Clackamas Community College 1974					
Communication & Citizen Involvement CC School Dist. 1978					
EDUCATION - CITIES					
Elementary School Utilization - Lake Oswego 1983					
Secondary School Utilization - Lake Oswego 1984					
REGIONAL (held with EMCO & LWV Portland)					
Promotion of Orderly Metro. Government '67,'79,'94, 2000					
Metropolitan Government '92,'94, 2000					
Regional Planning and Governance 1996					
Urban Growth Management '92,'94, 2000					
Metropolitan Transportation '77,'87,'94,'98					
Port of Portland '75,'94					
Solid Waste '72,'85,'94					

LWVOR Positions	Retain	Drop	Update	Restudy*
GOVERNANCE				
Citizen Participation and Access				
Constitutional Provisions				
Economic Development Revenue Bonds				
Election Laws				
Election Methods				
Emergency Board				
Fiscal Policy				
Initiative, Referendum, and Recall				
Oregon State Courts				
Redistricting				
NATURAL RESOURCES				
Air Quality				
Coastal and Offshore Management				
ENERGY:				
Conservation				-
Nuclear				
Land Use				
Parks				
Seismic Risks				
WATER:				
Policy – Quality and Quantity Resources—Columbia Basin				
SOCIAL POLICY				
Adult Corrections				
Child Care				
Children at Risk				
Education—Postsecondary				
Farmworker Issues				
HEALTH POLICY:				
Adult Mental Health				
Mental Health Services for Children and Youth				
Homeless Youth				
Juvenile Justice				

In Memoria: Mary Hughes

Mary Hughes was a longtime member of the League of Women Voters. She worked for over 40 years as microbiologist. The last 16 years of her career she worked at Oregon Health and Science University as the Supervisor for the Pediatric Microbiology. She was a founder in the OHSU Center for Ethics in Health Care. She moved to Mary's Woods in 2003. She is survived by her 3 children, Susan Tolle, Marjorie Willis, & Ronald Willis.

Library News

Joan Batten, former Library Study Chair

When Katie Lu delivered Voter Service information to county libraries, she discovered that Canby has opened their new library that was on the drawing board when we completed our Library study. She also found that the new addition to the historic Carnegie Library in Oregon City was opened in October. These projects were supported by the League, and we are delighted that they are both open. If you are in Oregon City or Canby, take a look at these projects.

January Lunch & Learn

Join us for LWVCC's first Lunch and Learn for 2017 at **11:30 on Friday, January 27** at Szechuan Kitchen, 15450 Boones Ferry Rd., Lake Oswego. Sandy Carter, local League member and member of the Willamette Falls Taskforce, will speak about the Willamette Falls Navigation Canal and Locks. To make a reservation contact Sonja Kollias (503-636-2187, vskollias@aol.com) by Wednesday, January 25.

LWVOR Action Team Priorities

The LWVOR Legislative Action Team prioritized four key areas for the 2017 session:

🗳️ **REVENUE AND TAX REFORM** by adopting stable and fair revenue policies and tax reforms to adequately fund services and functions critical to the well-being of Oregonians.

🗳️ **PROTECTING DEMOCRACY** by minimizing the influence of money in politics and promoting more representative elections systems.

🗳️ **ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE** by supporting legislation to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions fast enough to avoid serious damage to the global climate ecosystem.

🗳️ **ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS** to help low income citizens move toward financial stability.

Coming Events

LWVOR Legislative Process Day: January 10: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm, Oregon State Library, Salem.

General Meeting: Civil Discourse Discussion and Program Planning: Thursday, January 19, 1:30 pm, Oswego Pointe Club House, 5065 Foothills Rd in Lake Oswego.

LWVCC Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 24: 9:30 am Social, 9:45 AM Meeting, Pacific West Bank, West Linn

Lunch and Learn: Friday, January 27: LWVCC member, Sandy Carter will update us on the Willamette Falls area. 11:30 am, Szechuan Kitchen, 15450 Boones Ferry Rd., Lake Oswego

Unit Meetings: Public Postsecondary Education Consensus: February 20-24, 2017

Members should receive a printed copy of the report from LWVOR in January. The February Clackson will include consensus questions and an Executive Summary.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of Clackamas County
PO Box 411
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
lwvclackamas@lwvclackamas.org
www.lwvclackamas.org

Join the League of Women Voters!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email

- I am a new member.
- I am renewing my membership.
- This is a gift membership. (Please provide the recipient's contact information above.)
- I am interested in volunteering for the League. Please contact me.

Annual dues: \$70 Individual. \$105 Household. \$35 Full-time student attending an accredited institution or adult under age 35. Membership grants are available.

Total Enclosed _____

Please make checks payable to League of Women Voters of Clackamas County.

Mail to: LWVCC, PO Box 411, Lake Oswego, OR 97034