

President's Message

I had a great two hours at the North Country Fair on September 16th with **Carol Masterson**. There were lots of people there, and we were able to register a few new voters and recruit new members for the League. What amazed me was that **Carol Masterson** has been registering voters at this fair for more than 20 years. Please give **Carol** a pat on the back for all her service to the League and our community for all these years. Looks like she will keep doing it too.

We also need to thank **Becky Simpson** for all her work to organize the Membership Brunch. And **Anne Hartline** for inviting students from high schools in our area to attend the Brunch. We do need to do more to encourage younger folks to join the League.

Two more thank yous to **Elaine Weinreb** who is actively working with Access Humboldt and has encouraged the League to support their initiative to pass laws to preserve local access to the media. See this link for more information about this issue: [http://](http://www.accesshumboldt.net/site/media-localism-protection-national-legislation-introduced)

www.accesshumboldt.net/site/media-localism-protection-national-legislation-introduced.

And to **Keith Snow-Flamer** who is the new editor of the VOTER. **Keith** already has a big job, President of College of the Redwoods, but is taking the time to edit this newsletter that we share with you.

Our Mission Statement...

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

At our next Board meeting, October 3rd, we will be voting on a motion to do a foster care study two years earlier than previously planned. We will be discussing a request from the national League to fight against efforts by the Pence-Kobach election commission to suppress voting by American voters. Also, **Helen Hutchison**, President of the California League, has asked all the California Leagues to "... focus on how the students can be active in their communities? Rather than focusing on membership, focus on what tools we have that students can use." If you have questions or suggestions about these issues or would like the Board to consider other issues, please send me an email to rollinr2@gmail.com. Thanks to all of you for your support of the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County (<http://www.lwvhc.org/>).

Rollin Richmond
President

Watching Your Local Government By Elaine Weinreb

The first step in becoming an informed citizen is knowing what your local government is doing with issues that you care about. You can certainly get some information from reading local newspapers and websites, and you can get a few of the hottest topics of the day on local radio and TV. But there is no guarantee that reporters, who are deluged with information, will focus on the particular issues that interest you.

Watching a Meeting --at Home

To really find out what is going on, you need to watch the meetings of the public agencies that deal with your concern. You can do this from the comfort of your own home. Channel 10 broadcasts live meetings of the County Board of Supervisors, the County Planning Commission, the Eureka City Council, the Arcata City Council, the Fortuna City Council, the Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG), and the Humboldt Waste Management Authority. These meetings are also re-broadcast later on. For a schedule of Channel 10 program listings, go to <http://www.accesshumboldt.net/site/ch10>

These recordings are also posted and archived on the website of Access Humboldt, so if you miss a meeting and want to watch it on your computer, go to https://archive.org/details/access_humboldt Harbor District meetings are posted here, as well, although they do not appear on television.

The Board of Supervisors and the County Planning Commission also post their recordings on their own websites, and match them up with the agendas, which makes finding your topic a lot easier.

To watch one of these meetings, go to <https://humboldt.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> Scroll around on the page and click on the meeting that you want.

But What Will They Be Talking About?

You will need to look at an agenda. State law requires agendas of all public agencies to be posted 72 hours before the meeting. For example, if you are following the Eureka City Council, google "Eureka City Council." On the left side of the page you will find a button for "Agendas and Minutes." Look at the agenda of the upcoming meeting, and see if there is anything in it that interests you. With any agency, pay special attention to the "Consent Calendar" because a lot of times, interesting stuff is tucked away in there.

What Have They Said in the Past?

You will need to look at the minutes of the agency. Find the minutes the same way you found the agenda. If there's a particular topic you're interested in, look at several sets of minutes. There might be more than one agency involved --- for example if you're interested in a particular Eureka street, you might have to research both the county and the city. If it's a waterfront issue, it might be the city and the Harbor District.

Background Listening

For those times when you just want some interesting sound in the background, turn on KZZH-FM (96.7) which re-broadcasts local government meetings most of the day. You might be surprised at what you learn.

New Foster Care Study Initiated By Mary Lowry

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County is forming a new study on foster care in Humboldt County. We have a current position that we reviewed last year which can be found on line at <http://www.lwvhc.org/positions.html#6>.

Member **Christina Hutton** recommended we create a new study at the annual meeting. She also presented her extensive research at the board retreat in August and the board voted to initiate a new study at the September board meeting.

We would like to thank Christina for her work on promoting this study and her research. **Michele Fell-Casale** and **Mary Lou Lowry** are co-chairing the study. Anyone who would like to join the study please call or email either Michele(707-442-7872) or Mary Lou (630-415-5179 or email marylouiselowry@gmail.com.

Become a Member!

Membership in the League of Women Voters, the most respected and effective grassroots organization in the country, is open to men and women of all ages.

Our members make a visible difference by serving as community leaders using their experience to create positive, lasting change in our communities.

Membership dues and donations to the LWVHC are not tax-deductible. Donations to the LWVHC-Education Fund, through the Humboldt Area Foundation, are tax-deductible.

Annual Dues are due each year on July 1.

Visit www.LWVHC.org or mail the form below!

Yes! I want to join the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County and become a voice for citizens and a force for change. I am enclosing

- \$75 Individual membership
- \$105 Household membership
-
- Please accept my donation of _____
- Please send me more information
-

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Please make checks payable to LWVHC, P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502.

The Language of the League by Leslie Leach

The League of Women Voters is an entity large enough and important enough to have acquired its own vocabulary as well as incorporating some well-known terms and acronyms.

Following are the words and definitions continued from the “M” – “O” section of the Glossary of Terms Used by the League of Women Voters from the booklet *Writing for League* by the LWVC:

MITIGATION: The definition of mitigation is identical under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California environmental Quality Act (CEQA). It includes avoiding, minimizing, rectifying, reducing, eliminating, or compensating for environmental impacts of projects.

MONITORING: A form of action in which the League closely follows the administration of public policy and points out needed revisions in law, regulation, or procedures.

M/S/C or M/C: Moved, seconded, and carried. Shorthand for writing in the minutes that a motion has passed. The names of the persons making and seconding the motion should be included in parenthesis following M/S/C. It is the League’s practice to record the name of the person seconding the motion even though this is not required by *Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised*.

MTA-MANAGEMENT TRAINING ADVISOR: An experienced member of the League assigned to a few local Leagues to serve as a resource person, conduct board training and provide other support as needed, and to serve as a communications link between the local League and the state board.

NEGATIVE DECLARATION: A written statement by the lead agency, based on an initial study, briefly describing the reasons that a proposed project, not exempt from CEQA, will not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act

NETWORK: An informal group of organizations meeting periodically to share information and strategies. In contrast to a coalition, a network is relatively unstructured, with each member organization maintaining its own autonomy in acting in its own name.

NONPARTISAN POLICY: The League is nonpartisan in that it never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. The League may, however, support or oppose particular ballot measures in line with positions adopted as a result of study and/or consensus reached on program issues. Individuals within the League are encouraged to actively support the political parties or candidates of their choice unless they hold sensitive board positions. Each League board adopts its own nonpartisan policy which interprets for its members and the community any restrictions it places on the political activities of its board members.

OBSERVER: A representative of the League who regularly attends public meetings of elected and appointed councils, commissions, boards, or other civic bodies for the sole purpose of listening (not speaking) and reporting back to the League. Observers may respond if asked a direct question. When appropriate, observers alert the League to take action on issues in the areas of the League’s concern.

League of Women Voters of Humboldt County
2018 State of the Community Luncheon
Civic
Contribution Award Nomination

Each year, at the State of the Community Luncheon, the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County honors individuals and/or groups for contributing to our community. We are now accepting nominations for those you feel deserve this special recognition for their contributions. Please nominate a person or organization you feel should be considered for this honor and why.

Your Name _____
Address _____

Best way to contact you (phone, email, etc.) _____

Please submit nomination form (see the insert) by December 1, 2017 to:

State of Community Luncheon
P.O. Box 3219,
Eureka, CA 95502
Fax: 443-7873 or
E-mail: vote@lwvhc.org

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

434 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501
P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502
www.lwvhc.org vote@lwvhc.org

**Who's Who on Your League Board
2017-18**

ADMINISTRATION

President Rollin Richmond
Vice President Michelle Fell-Casale
Secretary Patricia-Anne WinterSun
Treasurer Deborah Downs
Director Leslie Leach
Director Byrd Lochtie
Director Carol Masterson
Director Judy Bennett
Director Anne Hartline
Director Becky Simpson
Director Kathy Johanson
Director Celeste Ruiz
Director Julie Kelly
Director Mary Lou Lowry
Director Keith Snow-Flamer
Director Elaine Weinreb

PORTFOLIO DIRECTORS

Government Julie Kelly
Natural Resources Leslie Leach
..... & Elaine Weinreb
Social Policy Mary Lou Lowry
Program Michelle Fell-Casale
Governance Chair Byrd Lochtie
Historian Elaine Weinreb
Membership Becky Simpson
Nominating Committee Chair Alex Stillman
Publications Lorey Keele
Communications Support Kathy Johanson

FUNDRAISING

Marathon Fundraiser Kay Escarda
Poll Workers Fundraiser Carolyn Otis
State of the Community Luncheon (SOCL)
Committee Chair Judy Bennett

COMMUNICATIONS

Access Humboldt Rep Elaine Weinreb
Social Media Kathy Johanson
Website Kathy Johanson
VOTER Publication Keith Snow-Flamer
VOTER Circulation Carolyn Otis

VOTER SERVICE

Voter Service Director Becky Simpson
Candidate Forums Carol Masterson
Citizen Education Judy Bennett
Election Service Byrd Lochtie

