



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County

www.LWV.corvallis.or.us

April 2019

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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization

- encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government,
- works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and
- influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Students in Crisis

Homelessness in our Schools Kindergarten Through Graduate School

Wednesday, April 17, 7:00 pm

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library (co-sponsor)



Presenting:

Nicole Hindes, OSU Office of Student Life
Chris Hawkins, Corvallis School District 509J



Come and learn how homelessness affects students. You might find the statistics on the number of homeless students at OSU and the Corvallis School District to be higher than you imagined. Nicole Hindes and Chris Hawkins will also give us ideas of what we can do about homelessness among youth in our community.



Housing Committee Deeply Engaged in Local Issues

Benton Habitat for Humanity, with the support of our Housing Committee, has developed an Affordable Housing Toolkit addressed to first time buyers, current homeowners and renters. We shared a booth with Benton Habitat for Humanity at the March Sustainability Town Hall. It was, as always, a fun and educational event.

We are especially interested in House Bill 2001 and how it might affect local housing needs. If HB2001 were to pass, cities over 10,000 population would allow mixed use housing e.g. duplexes and triplexes in neighborhoods zoned for single family homes. Sometimes referred to as bringing back the missing middle homes, there was a time when Oregon allowed for mixed-use housing, providing housing for single families, older persons, and young couples. Typically duplexes and triplexes are more affordable.

Our committee members are active. Nancy Evenson continues to monitor the City Council's actions on tiny houses. Lynn Jarvis is our representative to the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition's Housing Action Team. Sara Ingle was a key player on the committee to support passage of the South Corvallis Urban Renewal District. We added a new member to our committee, former City Councilor Penny York.

The Committee is looking into the process involved to expand our local league position on housing. The current position statement does not address work force housing and overall housing affordability. The Housing Committee meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 2:00 in the conference room of Benton Habitat for Humanity. All are welcome to attend.

Karyle Butcher



President's Corner

Our Hard Work is Acknowledged

On International Women's Day, the LWV of Corvallis was honored by our local Zonta Club for our work to eliminate homelessness in Corvallis. I would like to acknowledge our Housing Committee's hard work on this issue. Last year they published a LWV study on Homelessness in Corvallis that was very well received. The committee continues to follow this issue through City and County committees. Congratulations to all of the committee members! Sara Ingle poses with the flowers we received.

Thanks are also due to members of the Climate Change and Housing Committees who represented the LWV at the 11th Annual Sustainability Fair and Town Hall. This was a great opportunity to showcase the work the League is doing on several different issues.

The League was also pleased to see the passage of the Urban Renewal District ballot measure. LWV supported this measure and gave testimony in favor of it. Voters passed the measure overwhelmingly. We will continue to follow the implementation of the district.

The month of April will include a General Meeting focused on Student Homelessness, and another Saturday morning Legislative Update. It takes a great deal of planning and hard work to successfully produce all of these events. Thank you to the committees and individuals who are doing this fine work. Our League is entitled to 7 delegates at the LWVOR State Convention from May 15-17 in Ashland. Email me if you are interested in attending.

Laura Lahm Evenson, President

Events to keep you informed:

State Legislative Update Meeting

Saturday April 6, 10:00 – 11:30 am - Corvallis-Benton County Library
Meet and converse with your state legislators.

Day at the Oregon Legislature

Monday, April 29, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm, Salem
See the Oregon League website for details: lwvor.org

Voter Service Forum (tentative)

Monday, May 6, 7:00 pm – Corvallis-Benton County Library
As of this writing, there is no organized opposition to the city levy and all four races are unopposed. We will have a forum if the situation changes.

Camille Freitag, Voter Service



LWV of Corvallis

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This is the newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Corvallis, which is produced nine to ten times a year.

Contact Ann Schaubert, ann@caracolores.com, with suggestions, comments, submissions, or story ideas. We welcome your input.

Submissions are due no later than the 15th of the month.

Members subscribe through their dues. Membership in the League of Women Voters of Corvallis is open to men and women of all ages and includes membership in the League of Women Voters of Oregon and the League of Women Voters of the United States. A membership form is on the last page.

*Progress on***Updating the Buildable Lands Inventory in Corvallis**

In 2016, ECONorthwest completed an urbanization study for the City of Corvallis. Part of that study was a Buildable Lands Inventory and a Housing Needs Analysis. The Buildable Lands Inventory (BLI) indicates how much land is available for development within the city limits and urban growth boundary. The previous inventory was done in 1998. The Housing Needs Analysis uses the projected population for the next 20-year planning period to determine how much and what kind of housing will be needed.

Based on the data in this study, the consultant following processes prescribed by the state has determined that Corvallis has a deficit of land zoned for high density residential (RS-20 - 20 or more units per acre) and that in order for a new BLI to be approved, the city must designate at least 12 additional developable acres to meet this need. The amount of developable area will be much smaller than the size of a parcel due to wetland impacts. The City Council has initiated a Comprehensive Plan amendment process that will address not only the immediate 12-acre need, but also projected housing needs through 2036.

Both the City Council and the Planning Commission participated in exercises designed to select and prioritize areas within the Urban Growth Boundary that could be used to meet this mandate. Of the six subareas prioritized by the City Council, City Staff has identified four that present the best opportunities for high-density designation at this time.

<https://apps.corvallisoregon.gov/webdocs/showdoc.aspx?docID=1420792>

In Memoriam**Elizabeth "Liz" Frenkel, July 22, 1927 – March 13, 2019**

Liz spent her adult life serving her community through the League of Women Voters and the Sierra Club. She was an active member of the LWV for over fifty years with an interest in water issues. She served as the League's State Natural Resources coordinator and lobbyist from 1997 to 2008 and was involved in land use and water committees at all levels of government. She lobbied in Washington, D.C. for the NW Regional Power Act, the Hatfield Wild and Scenic River Bill, and for auto emission regulation. She was involved in environmental studies for LWV, resulting in positions we continue to use today to advocate at the state, city and county levels. Along with her husband Bob, she won the 1983 Oregon Chapter of the Nature Conservancy Service Award. In 1989-90 she was awarded the Siuslaw National Forest Public Service Award, and she was awarded University of Oregon's Distinguished Service Award in 2005. Her contributions to Corvallis and Oregon were numerous and she has left a lasting legacy to our state.

Two of the sites are within the proposed South Corvallis Urban Renewal District:

- Wake Robin property, currently designated as Limited Industrial Office (LI-O), 16.67 acres
- Corvallis Industrial Park, currently designated as Residential Medium Density (PD(RS-9)), 51.4 acres

The third and fourth sites are in north Corvallis, near the Hewlett Packard campus:

- McFadden Ranch, currently designated General Industrial (PD(GI)), 26 acres
- E.2-Circle/Walnut, currently designated General Industrial/Mixed Use Employment (PD(MUE)), 3.3 acres.

City Staff has been in contact with the property owners, who are in favor of the change to High Density Residential for their properties. The main challenge to the development of all of these properties is the significant amount of wetland contained within each property. City Staff proposes designating the impacted portions of the site as 'open space', and notes that, particularly south Corvallis, is underserved in park and recreation facilities. Neighborhood meetings were conducted in January to discuss the proposal and answer questions.

The required Comprehensive Plan Amendment and zone change public process begins at 7 pm on April 3rd at the downtown Corvallis Fire Station when the Planning Commission holds public hearings on the BLI and the proposed zoning changes.

Connie Bozarth, Community Planning Committee



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

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Welcome new member
Virginia Chatfield



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LWVCorvallis



LWV Calendar

April 2019

- Tue 2 Board Meeting, 11:30-1:00 pm
- Sat 6 Legislative Town Hall, (pg 2)
10:00-11:30 am, Library
- Wed 17 General Meeting: Housing, (pg 1)
7:00 pm, Library
- Mon 29 LWVOR Day at the Legislature,
9:30 to 3:00 pm, Salem

May 2019

- Sat 4 Legislative Town Hall, 10-11:30 am, Library
- Mon 6 Voter Service Forum (pg 2), 7 pm, Library
- Tue 7 Board Meeting 11:30 - 1 pm
- Fri 17
- Sun 19 LWVOR Convention 2019, Ashland
Details at lwvor.org
- Tue 21 Election Day
- Wed 22 Annual Meeting and Dinner, 6 pm, Library

Join the League of Women Voters

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zip+4digits _____

Phone _____

Email _____

___ \$60 Individual Membership ___ \$90 Household

___ \$15 Student ___ Renewal ___ Contribution*

___ Dues assistance information to help you join the
League of Women Voters

I would like to be considered:

Active ___ Inactive Member / Supporter ___

I first joined the League in ___ (year) ___ (place).

What special skills/talents/interests can you share with League?

Members joining after March 31 pay half dues.

LWV's membership year begins **October 1**.

Make checks payable to the LWV of Corvallis and mail to:

LWV of Corvallis, Attn: Membership

P.O. Box 1679, Corvallis, OR 97339-1679

* Regular dues are not tax-deductible *BUT* contributions to *LWVOR* or
the LWVUS Education Fund, paid with a separate check, are deductible.