

Save the Dates

Friday, April 7
League of Women Voters
State of the
Community Luncheon
Adorni Center
1011 Waterfront Drive
Eureka
Doors open at 11:30 AM

Thursday, April 27
General Plan Update Process
“Phase TWO”
Sequoia Conference Center
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka
7 PM

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.



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MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK!

General Plan Update Process Panel "Phase ONE" by Nancy Kay

At the end of the last Annual Meeting, the membership asked the Board to look into why it took so long for the County to complete the General Plan Update process.

Saturday, March 19th, the first of two panels to address the issue was convened. This first panel was asked to focus on the past: why the process takes so long. **Elaine Weinreb** presented an overview of the process, and then the panel was presented with questions from the League and from the attending public. Panelists were drawn from several of the actual participants in the process: Tina Christensen (Humboldt Coalition for Property Rights), Jill Duffy and Mark Lovelace (former county supervisors), **Mary Gearheart** and Mel Kreb (former County Planning Commissioners), and Dennis Mayo (rancher and current board president of the McKinleyville Community Services District). Great effort was made to include as many differing points of view as possible.

The panel was instructed to focus on the process, and

on this delay are as follows:

- Staffing shortage of the Planning Department,
- Concerns that the process required by the Framework Plan was not followed,
- The various elements of the plan were not examined in an organized sequence,
- Concerns about transparency expressed by various citizens and interest groups,
- Concerns about the level of community input,
- The sheer volume of information and complexity of the process,
- Knowledge lost over extreme length of time,
- Differing values of community members.

Interestingly, the bulk of the General Plan Update is completed at this date. It was submitted for approval in 2012 but has yet to be finally approved by the Board of Supervisors.

I would like to commend and thank **Kay Escarda**, **Judy Bennett**, and **Elaine Weinreb** for their outstanding work on putting this event together. Their professionalism and sensitivity to what could have been a very contentious and emotionally fraught community undertaking should not be undervalued. I would also like to thank **Becky Simpson**, **Anne Hartline**, and **Kathy Johanson** for helping with the myriad of details, where the devil resides!



Byrd Lochtie, Nancy Kay, and panel of General Plan Update Process Panel "Phase One"

not the results, of the General Plan Update. It is clear that when the make-up of the Board of Supervisors changes, often the make-up of the Planning Commission changes, too, since the commissioners are appointed by the supervisors. But beyond that, what causes such delays? Some of the panelists' opinions

Save the Date!

***Annual Membership Meeting
Thursday, May 18
6 PM
Humboldt Area Foundation***

General Plan Update Process Panel "Phase TWO" by Nancy Kay

LWVHC members asked for it at our Annual Meeting, so here it is:

The second panel regarding the General Plan Update process will meet on **Thursday, April 27th at 7:00 pm at the Sequoia Conference Center (next to the Humboldt County Office of Education)**. The meeting is open to the public, and Access Humboldt will record it for future airings. Although you may watch "Phase II" on Access Humboldt, please attend this panel discussion in person. A large audience of League members will demonstrate the full interest and concern of Humboldt County's active and engaged League.

This second panel will address the future and how the update process can be improved. This is a natural follow-up to the March 19th panel, which discussed some of the past causes of delay in completing the General Plan Update. Again, panel members have been selected with great care and concern to include several points of view. Panelists are **John Woolley** (former county supervisor), Martha Spencer and Tom Hoffweber (both formerly of the County Planning Department), Craig Compton (Green Diamond Director of Land Management), Larry Glass (former Eureka City Councilperson and community activist) and one or two other panelists.

This panel discussion addresses an interesting and vital community issue. Please plan to attend.



Audience, panel, and **Nancy Kay** (at lectern) of General Plan Update Process Panel "Phase ONE"



From The National League of Women Voters

Climate March April 29

The League is excited to participate in the 2017 [People's Climate March on April 29 in Washington, DC](https://www.peoplesclimate.org/march/april-29). We will march to advance solutions to the climate crisis and demand answers from members of Congress. If you are planning to attend the March in Washington, please let the League know by filling out this form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSce_I13SUz10CHktqplNhYomIXTGgMwMfN0-tPzN4fONcnhDA/viewform?usp=sf_link. We hope to see you in DC on April 29 or at a Sister March! Questions may be directed to Emily Yost (eyost@lwv.org).

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.

Following are the words and definitions from the "A" section of the Glossary of Terms Used by the League of Women Voters from the booklet Writing for League by the LWVC:

ACTION: Steps taken to influence public policy consistent with League positions at all levels of the League. Techniques used to achieve League goals include lobbying; legislative testimony; public statements; media campaigns; public forums; letters to newspapers; campaigns on specific measures at elections; joining coalitions, and litigation.

Individual members are not bound by League positions and may act privately for or against measures as they choose (whether or not they agree with the League), but they may not use the name of the League when expressing an opinion contrary to a League position.

ACTION ALERT/CALL TO ACTION: A carefully timed request from the national, state, inter-League organization or local League board asking members to take action on behalf of a League position. A request for legislative action is known as a call to action by the LWVC and an action alert by the LWVUS.

ACTION GUIDE: An election-year guide published by the LWVC covering ballot measures, League recommendations (support or opposition), and information to assist local Leagues' action campaign.

ADVOCACY: The LWVUS preferred term for action.

ANNUAL MEETING: A general meeting which is the main business meeting of the year for local League membership. It is generally held near the end of the League year. At that time members choose local program for the coming year, elect new officers and directors, adopt a budget and amend bylaws.

Community Participation Fair

by Mary Lowry



Mary Lowry and Julie Kelly (top) and Judy Bennett at the Community Participation Fair

On Thursday March 16, Freedom of Information Day, the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County held its second annual Community Participation Fair at the Arcata Community Center. The Arcata Community Center was a good venue for our displays to set up and be seen. One of the highlights of the evening was the lovely music provided by **Laura Hennings**. Those who attended enjoyed the evening and, no doubt, learned more about their community.



Board Briefs

by Patricia-Anne WinterSun

In March, your board

- agreed to sponsor A Choice Affair,
- welcomed Anne Hartline back on the board,
- named our delegates to LWVC Convention
- decided to donate \$300 to LWVC's *VOTERS EDGE*,
- followed LWVUS in changing the age of voting members to sixteen,
- updated our Foster Care Position based on the results of our Foster Care Membership meeting,
- decided to raise our dues to \$75 individual/\$105 household/\$60 student

News and Information from the LWVUS

Together, through our votes, we take control over what happens to our families and communities.

But voting rights across the country are under attack – [join with fellow voters and pledge to honor and protect our constitutional right to vote.](#)

Voting brings us together as Americans – *it is the one time when we are all equal*. It doesn't matter if you're rich or poor, young or old, liberal or conservative; elections are our opportunity to have a say in America's future. A lot is at stake in every election – by voting, we're taking control and impacting the issues and policies that will be debated and affect our daily lives.

It is critical that we ensure every American can cast a vote and have it counted. **Our democracy's future is on the line** – [pledge to protect voting rights.](#)

Rooted in the movement that secured the right to vote

The League Participates in Youth Leadership Summit by Nancy Kay

As a participant in the 2017 Northcoast Youth Summit Workshop on Saturday, March 18th, the League presented to middle school aged students a program on how young people can have a voice in government. **Willa Mauro** and **Nancy Kay** talked to students about how to get involved.

The youth that attended were bright, concerned, and interested young leaders, and they wanted to know how, as youth, they could make a difference. A range of concerns, from healthy school lunches to health care were mentioned by the students. Methods of research, how to create awareness, build support, connect with the community, and interact with decision makers were presented to the students. Real-life examples of youth successfully acting in their communities to effect change were introduced. These young leaders then broke into groups to "brainstorm" ideas of how to proceed to address some of the concerns they had previously identified. This hand-on exercise was a great success.

The curriculum for this program was developed by **Anne Hartline**. It is a terrific curriculum and ready to use. If you have a group of young people who would benefit from such a presentation, let Nancy Kay, our Community Education Director know.

for women, the League of Women Voters has always been committed to registering and turning out voters, and *we're not stopping now*. We protect and defend voting rights across the country in order to ensure that our elections are fair, free and accessible to all eligible citizens. We've helped defeat laws that restrict voters' rights, block such laws where they have already passed, and fight laws designed to curb organizations like ours from registering voters.

Ultimately elections are about voters like you. [Join us in protecting voting rights and safeguarding this right for all Americans.](#)

Thank you for making democracy work.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Senecal
League of Women Voters

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 aged 16 and up.

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 for my annual membership:

- ☐ \$60 Individual membership
- ☐ \$90 Household membership
- ☐ \$60 Associate membership
- ☐ Please accept my donation of _____
- ☐ Please send me more information
- ☐ I am interested in becoming a board member

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

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

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
(707) 444-9252

**Who's Who in Your League Board
2016-2017****ADMINISTRATION**

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

PORTFOLIO DIRECTORS

Government Julie Kelly
Natural Resources Patricia-Anne WinterSun
Program Anne Hartline and Judy Bennett
Social Policy Mary Lou Lowry
Governance Chair Byrd Lochtie
Historian Carole Ziskin
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 and Celeste Ruiz
Website Kathy Johanson
VOTER Publication Leslie Leach
VOTER Circulation Carolyn Otis

VOTER SERVICE

Voter Service Director Becky Simpson
Candidate Forums Carol Masterson
Community Education Nancy Kay
Election Service Byrd Lochtie



Find Us on Facebook!



P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

Get Involved!

We all have a unique set of skills to contribute and limited time to afford. Working together we become a viable force for change. Call or email today to say you want to participate.

Visit www.lwvhc.org or call (707) 444-9252.

Our Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. Not only shall there be no barriers to membership and participation in the LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, nor political affiliation, but also the LWVHC will actively seek to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, board and programs.

Making Democracy Work!

LWVHC Calendar

Tue., April 4 5:30 PM	Board Meeting League Office 434 7th St., Eureka
Fri. Apr. 7 Doors open at 11:30 AM	State of the Community Luncheon Adorni Center 1011 Waterfront Drive Eureka
Thurs., Apr. 27 7 PM	General Plan Update Panel Part 2 Sequoia Conference Center 901 Myrtle Avenue, Eureka
Thurs., May 18 6 PM	Annual Membership Meeting Humboldt Area Foundation