

The Voter



Newsletter of
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF BOWLING GREEN OHIO
March 2017

PO Box 873 Bowling Green OH 43402 www.wcnet.org/~lwvbg

Mental Health Concerns in Older Adulthood

a presentation by

Lisa Myers, LISW-S
Director of Social Services, Wood County Committee on Aging

March 22, 2017
7:00 p.m.
Wood County Public Library meeting room

**This public program is a joint effort of the LWVBG committees on
Mental Health and on Senior Concerns.**

Seniors and their family members are encouraged to attend.

Lisa Myers is a Licensed Independent Social worker. She is currently the Director of Social Services at the Wood County Committee on Aging, where she has worked for the past 8 years. Lisa obtained her Bachelors of Science in Social Work degree from Bowling Green State University and her Master's in Social Work from The Ohio State University. Lisa also currently co-chairs the Wood County Suicide Prevention Coalition and Wood County Elder Forum. Lisa has a background that specializes in working with mental health clients and older adults.



Mental Health Concerns in Older Adulthood WEDNESDAY MARCH 22, 7:00 p.m. at Wood County District Public Library meeting room. Light refreshments.

Please plan to attend and invite friends.

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green Presents



Civics 101

Get Informed, Get Engaged, Get Results

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



April 1: Foundations of Federal Government

Overview of the Constitution and three branches of government. Bring your questions for congressional staffers and federal employees!

Maumee Valley Unitarian

Universalist Congregation

20189 N. Dixie Hwy

Bowling Green, OH

April 8: All Politics Is Local

Hear directly from state and local officials on the interaction between state, county, and city government.

All sessions 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Discussion until 1:30 p.m.

April 15: Power to the People

Learn about potential barriers to a healthy democracy-including money in politics and gerrymandering, and how to be an engaged citizen.

To RSVP and for more information go to Facebook.com/Civics101BG

SPONSORED BY:

BGSU Center for Community
and Civic Engagement

GFWC Women's Club of Bowling Green
The Common Good

OBSERVER REPORT

Bowling Green City Council Meeting February 21, 2017 reported by Jean Romans

All City Council members were present.

The Mayor welcomed a troop of Boy Scouts to the meeting. He presented a proclamation to Publisher Karmen Concannon & Advertising Director Banks Dishmon on the 150th anniversary of the Sentinel-Tribune which began on February 22, 1867. The paper became known as the Sentinel-Tribune in 1906. The Mayor commented on the Presidents Day Open House at BGSU for prospective students and their parents. He heard many positive comments about BG by these visitors to town & campus. The Mayor announced that Council president Mike Aspacher will join TMACOG. Mr. Edwards will take on the chairmanship of "Wooster Green" project after Eric Myers decided to resign as chairman of the steering committee which developed the plan. Finally, Mr. Edwards commented on the Nexus pipeline issue. He has done his own research with regard to the concerns expressed about the BG fault and the proximity of the proposed pipeline to the BG water treatment plant. He consulted with scientists and conferred with Senator Sherrod Brown and Representative Bob Latta & sent a message to R Johnson from Nexus--Johnson has not responded. Mr. Edwards feels that the probability of problems is very unlikely.

Municipal Administrator Lori Tretter said that the new solar field operated at 20 mW capacity four of the last five days.

Planning Director Heather Saylor reported that about 75 people attended the Community Action Plan public meeting at the Wood County Courthouse on February 7, 2017. Another meeting is planned for March 22. Good Neighbor handouts will soon be available.

Parks & Recreation Director Kristin Otley commented that despite recent warm weather, the pool would not be open the following weekend!

Public Works Director Brian Craft reported that work is continuing on Conneaut Ave. There is a plan to repave downtown Main Street. There will be no new configurations, but ADA ramps would be upgraded.

During Lobby Visitation, a resident expressed concerns regarding her parents' garbage service--they are elderly with health problems and cannot get cans to the curb safely. She requested to have the assistance that her parents previously received from city employees restored. Another resident spoke about Nexus and water quality with regard to fracking if the project should go through.

First readings were given to:

an ordinance relative to salaried city employees not subject to overtime pay.

an ordinance authorizing the municipal administrator and the utilities director to seek qualifications and/or advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for design, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction, and other services relating to improvements for State Route 25/64 pavement rehabilitation and utility improvements.

Second readings were given to:

an ordinance regarding salary schedule established;

an ordinance authorizing the utilities director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts and/or participate in State of Ohio purchasing program for the purchase of vehicles and equipment as well as the trade-in, transfer or sale of vehicles and equipment being replaced and/or no longer needed for municipal purposes.

an ordinance authorizing the utilities director to request qualifications and enter into a contract or contracts for professional services associated with a Geographic Information System (GIS) joint use pole audit;

an ordinance authorizing the utilities director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for water distribution and wastewater collection projects.

an ordinance regarding nuisance conditions prohibited.

Third readings were given to the following which were also adopted:

a resolution authorizing the city attorney to petition the Board of County Commissioners of Wood County to change township lines.

a resolution approving revisions to the Parks & Recreation Department Section of the Comprehensive Master Plan of the city of Bowling Green.

a resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an annual application and execute a contract upon grant application approval under the Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program as authorized by the Housing & Community Development Act of 1974.

a resolution authorizing the Mayor to file a four year capital and operating plan for the years 2017 through 2021 with the Ohio Department of Transportation for grants through the US Department of Transportation.

an ordinance authorizing an agreement between the city of Bowling Green and the Wood County Regional Airport Authority.

an ordinance authorizing the municipal administrator and the utilities director to enter into a contract or contracts with specified vendors for work that may exceed \$50,000 annually for calendar year 2017.

an ordinance authorizing the municipal administrator to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for sidewalk improvements, pavement striping, deicing salt, and improving streets, alleys, and other public ways in the city of Bowling Green.

an ordinance authorizing the municipal administrator to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts and /or participate in State of Ohio or Federal purchasing programs for the purchase of vehicles and equipment as well as the trade-in or outright sale of vehicles and equipment being replaced and /or no longer needed for municipal purposes.

an ordinance amending the Zoning District Map of Bowling Green for 510 E Wooster Street from B-2 General Commercial to B- Transitional Central Business District zoning.

an ordinance amending the Zoning District Map of Bowling Green for 516 E Wooster Street from B-2 General Commercial to B- Transitional Central Business District zoning.

First, second and third readings were given to the following which was then adopted:

an ordinance providing supplemental appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the city of Bowling Green during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2017.

Second reading given and third reading suspended to the following which was then adopted:

a resolution authorizing the municipal administrator to participate in The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) for the purpose of purchasing machinery, materials, supplies or other articles and building supplies. □

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Monday May 8, 2017 public meeting on education 7 p.m. Wood County Public Library meeting room

April 1, April 8 and April 15, 2017 Civics 101 programs, Maumee Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 20189 N Dixie Highway, each session 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with discussion until 1:30 p.m.

Saturday June 3, 2017 9-11 a.m. annual meeting details TBA

OBSERVER REPORT

Bowling Green City Council Meeting March 6, 2017 reported by Jean Romans

Roll call: Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Seeliger, Zanfardino were present. Council President Aspacher is acting mayor since Mayor Edwards is out of town.

No Mayor's report.

Municipal Administrator: Lori Tretter mentioned the Interfaith Breakfast on April 5th which is free but reservations are required. She spoke about the family asking at the last council meeting for a waiver of the 75-foot limit for assisted garbage pick-up for their parents. After discussion, this was approved. One problem is that the residence is located on Wooster St & the garbage truck is 40 feet long. It is challenging to find a safe location to park the truck so driver can retrieve the garbage cans on foot, then return the cans to the residence.

No Planning Director report.

No Parks & Recreation report.

Utilities Director Brian O'Connell met with staffs of Representative Latta, Senator Portman, and Senator Brown regarding taxes/financing. First Energy charges as the rules change frequently. He spoke about required monitoring of water lines to BG customers. BG is responsible for lines to curb and customer is responsible for lines from curb to house/building. City has posted on website map of all water lines. Report to the state EPA is due March 9. Most of BG is clear of lead pipes since 1998. City cannot force residents to change pipes but will counsel residents on dangers of lead. To home test, water faucet tested must not have been used for the previous six hours. O'Connell also said that Conneaut will be under construction for another seven months.

Public Works director Brian Craft reported that large item pickup will begin in two weeks in ward 1. Mattresses will be picked up only if pre-paid. The intersection of Poe & Fairview will be getting new signal lights. Work on Conneaut Ave will continue after pipe work is done--resurfacing & Bike Lane.

Lobby Visitation: Family of disabled parents are not satisfied with action the Council took following the Council meeting 2 weeks ago regarding trash pick-up. The daughter pointed out that the drive is 37' wide at the street so why does the truck need to drive over a large portion of the lawn. She had discussion with city official and changing the Ordinance is not an option. The son said that the city will assist as long as the parent or parents are alive and in residence. The city respects ACA guidelines and will make reasonable accommodations. Rowland suggested a Council member and family get together to see if common ground can be found.

First reading was given to the following:

a resolution expressing support of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) efforts to establish U.S. bicycle routes.

an ordinance regarding city fees and fees charged for services.

Second reading was given to the following:

an ordinance relative to salaried city employees not subject to overtime pay;

an ordinance authorizing the municipal administrator and the utilities director to seek qualifications

and/or advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for design, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction, and other services relating to improvements for State Route 25/64 pavement rehabilitation and utility improvements.

Third readings were given to the following, which were then adopted:

an ordinance regarding salary schedule established.

an ordinance authorizing the utilities director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts and/or participate in State of Ohio purchasing program for the purchase of vehicles and equipment as well as the trade-in, transfer or sale of vehicles and equipment being replaced and/or no longer needed for municipal purposes.

an ordinance authorizing the utilities director to request qualifications and enter into a contract or contracts for professional services associated with a Geographic Information System (GIS) joint use pole audit;

an ordinance authorizing the utilities director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for water distribution and wastewater collection projects;

an ordinance regarding nuisance conditions prohibited. (An example: this ordinance gives the city the ability to board up an abandoned building.) □

An attentive audience enjoyed a talk by Dr. Melissa Miller on March 7. Titled The Trump Train: How the 45th President Won, the talk covered topics such as why the polls failed to predict the Trump victory, who made up the Trump coalition, and the factors that motivated Trump voters--the latter two using data from Ohio exit polls. The meeting was covered by the Sentinel-Tribune.



RAFFLE

**to raise funds for Joan Gordon
League of Women Voters Scholarship**



First Prize: basket of goodies from Farm Girls Vintage Boutique
donated by the Board and Farm Girls Vintage Boutique

Second & Third Prize each consist of two \$25 gift cards for restaurants
gift cards donated by Lubrizol

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10
Raffle tickets available at LWVBG public programs

March 7 at 7 p.m. at Wood County Library meeting room
March 22 at 7 p.m. at Wood County Library meeting room
May 8 at 7 p.m. at Wood County Library meeting room

Tickets also available from Ellen Dalton edalton@bgsu.edu

Winners will be drawn at LWVBG annual meeting June 3, 2017.