

The Voter



Newsletter of
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF BOWLING GREEN OHIO**
September 2016

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

Fall Membership Meeting of League of Women Voters of Bowling Green

Saturday September 4, 2016

8:45 a.m.

**Rotary Nature Center
Wintergarden Park**

Come and help to kick off our new program year. You will have an opportunity to learn about our different committees and their plans for the year. Hopefully you will find a topic that excites you and you will join a committee to learn more. This is a great time to catch up with League friends.

For the membership meeting we try to have a guest speaker who fits with League interests and activities. This year we have two speakers--Kristin Otley, director of BG Parks & Recreation, and Denise Niese, executive director of the Wood County Committee on Aging. Both will speak about their organizations and provide information about their levies which will be on the November 8 ballot.

We can also admire the new indoor restroom/storage building which has opened this summer next to the Rotary Nature Center as phase I of the Building on Nature campaign, learn about renovations planned for the RNC, and even take a walk in the woods after the meeting if desired.

Doors will open at 8:45 for check-in and socializing. The meeting will begin at 9:00 with the usual delicious brunch prepared by Flo Klopfenstein.

The cost is \$12 per person, which may be paid at the door.

Bring a friend, neighbor, relative, or spouse who is interested in learning more about LWVBG.

**Please RSVP for the meeting to Joyce Kepke
419-353-2061 or kepkej@dacor.net**

FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, Rotary Nature Center, Wintergarden Park, Bowling Green Check-in 8:45 a.m., brunch begins at 9:00.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BOWLING GREEN
Membership for 2016-17

League members have many interests, are busy people and like to be involved. Please check where you feel you could help the League make a difference.

Join other League members to study:

- mental health services in Wood County
- local & national education issues
- environmental and land use issues
- needs of the elderly in Wood County
- consensus on primary elections in the fall

Attend and report on at least one:

- city planning committee meeting - 1st Wed. 7:00 p.m.
- city council meeting – 1st & 3rd Mon. 8:00 p.m.
- board of education meeting – 3rd Tues. 5:00 p.m.

Help with League activities:

- bring cookies/snacks for one League meeting
- phone 4 Leaguers each month to remind them of meetings
- address envelopes for the finance drive in late October
- assist with voter service – candidate meeting, newspaper voter guide
- assist with proofreading candidate information for the newspaper
- serve on the committee awarding a high school senior scholarship
- greeter at meetings
- mentor a new member

Donate to the Joan Gordon LWV Scholarship Fund (write check to BG LWV and write "scholarship" on the memo line)

Name: _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

- Dues for 2015-16:
- \$56.00 Individual
 - \$30.00 First time member, first year only
 - \$30.00 Student

Your membership dues support the National LWV, \$31.00, and the State LWV, \$25.00. The activities of the local League are supported by gifts from members and friends of the League.

Please write your check to BG League of Women Voters
Mail to Joyce Kepke, 1132 Lyn Road, Bowling Green, OH 43402

OBSERVER REPORTS

Bowling Green Board of Education meeting June 21, 2016

reported by Jean Romans

The meeting started on time and all members were present. There was opportunity for public input but none was given. Given special recognition was Sal Yerra, 2016 Ohio Elementary Girls Chess First Place Champion--outstanding! Sal is a second grader at Crim School. Also recognized were Noah Cook, Nick Lane, and Eric Rine who placed at the High School Track & Field Boys State Championship, and their coaches.

Suuperintendent Francis Scruci gave an overview of the state report on BG school facilities. There will be a public meeting on June 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School library--this will be the first of several meetings to discuss with the public what to do about facilities needs.

The board approved hiring of teachers for Summer OGT Camp and new teachers for the 2016-2017 school year; extended time for library media specialists, school counselors and school psychologists; supplemental contracts for sports including resignation of Daniel DeWitt as hockey head coach and employment as middle school athletic director; summer stipends for curriculum writing and for training sessions for Words Their Way, both paid from Title IIA funds; employment, resignation, and advancement for support personnel; Other Personnel including employment of Eddie Powers as hockey head coach. The board accepted a gift of 100 used Dell desktop computers from BGSU and an NLL Sportsmanship Banner from the Middle School from Brian Stretchberry. They approved a trip by the high school drama students to London from June 14-19, 2017.

Bowling Green Board of Education meeting July 26, 2016

reported by Jean Romans

The meeting started on time and all members were present. There was opportunity for public input but none was given. It was reported that the high school football stadium upgrade will be ready for the first game. Dr. Ann McCarty, executive director of teaching and learning, gave a presentation on the school district state report card. Jodi Anderson, coordinator of secondary curriculum, gave a report on STEAM programs available to students. Both reports were excellent. Superintendent Francis Scruci reported on the readiness of buildings for the start of the school year--first day of classes is Monday August 15.

The board approved miscellaneous contracts for teaching personnel and for support personnel; employment of home instruction tutors and Thursday/Friday school monitors for the 2016-17 school year on an as-needed basis; supplemental contracts for sports; stipends for various training and summer work tasks. They approved agreements for special needs students, adopted curriculum for preschool, approved a letter of understanding with St Mark's Lutheran Church for facility usage for BG Preschool for 2016-17 school year, accepted the 2016-17 student fee schedule and a resolution to adopt a calamity day alternative make-up plan, approved a mandatory shut down of all athletics between July 1-July 9, 2017. The board recognized the 1978 graduating class for their gift of a Bobcat statue for the high school.

Bowling Green Board of Education meeting August 16, 2016

reported by Jean Romans

The meeting started on time and all members were present. Jean was asked to lead the room in the pledge of allegiance. The Showcase Presentation was by Dr. Ann McCarty, executive director of teaching and learning, Jodi Anderson, coordinator of secondary curriculum, and Zeb Kellough, coordinator of elementary curriculum, about efforts at curriculum writing by teachers. Superintendent Francis Scruci talked about efforts to improve teacher orientation. There are 30 new staffers for 2016-17. He also commented about school fundraisers--he thinks there are too many in the community.

The board approved a few contracts involving teaching personnel; approved hiring of auxiliary service/non public allocation federal funds personnel for 2016-17 for St Aloysius School, St Louis School, Montessori School, and BG Christian Academy; approved of payments for mentees and supplemental contracts for mentors for the Resident Educator Mentor Program; approved supplemental contracts for sports and for 5th grade camp; approved employment of support personnel; approved various issues involving other personnel; approved the retirement of Carlton Schooley as director of transportation effective September 27, 2016; accepted gifts; recommended the Strategic Plan, and approved merit pay for the superintendent and treasurer for the contract year ending July 31, 2016.

When I asked the board president Paul Walker, he said that board members do get information ahead of time which makes voting quicker. But it doesn't give the audience a sense of board members' feeling on the various issues when there is not discussion.

Bowling Green City Council meeting August 15, 2016

reported by Jean Romans

The meeting started 5 minutes late due to a preceeding public meeting. The public meeting was a Council of the Whole meeting to interview applicants for the fourth ward seat vacated by Theresa Charters-Gavarone. Gavarone resigned when she was appointed to fill the seat of Tim Brown as state Representative When the regular Council meeting started, Scott Seeliger was appointed to be the fourth ward representative. Items of interest to League from the meeting: Sandy Rowland said she wants a resolution regarding the "green space" remaining a "green space". There will be a one-day conference on green energy on August 25 at Stone Ridge Golf Club which might be good for someone from League to attend. Full information is available from the mayor's office. Finally, a representative from BG Parks & Recreation will be on WBGU-TV on Thursday August 18 at 8 p.m.

CANDIDATES FORUM

SUNDAY OCTOBER 9, 2016

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with program 7-9 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
1506 E Wooster St, Bowling Green