



**SEASONS GREETINGS**

**BISCOTTI ALERT!**

For those of you who have not placed an order but would like to, there is still a bit of time. Please give Jackie a call (541-479-4486) or send an email to [jackieclary@gmail.com](mailto:jackieclary@gmail.com) with the following information:

- How many packages (each package has six biscotti, assorted flavors)
- Choice of either Regular and/or Gluten Free (How many of each)

Please send your payment (\$8 each package) to:

**LWVRV**  
**P.O. Box 8555**  
**Medford, OR 97501**

**Biscotti delivery** will be something along the lines of a Relay Race (without the running part). Orders will be sorted in Grants Pass by Zip Code, then delivered to certain members within those Zip Codes, at which point you will be notified where you can pick yours up. Bottom line: you will be notified.

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER!**

President's Pen.....p. 2	Climate and Health Updates.....pp. 9-10
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion...pp. 3-5	Observer-Medford City Council....pp. 11-12
Program Planning .....pp. 6-7	Filibuster Discussion..p. 12
Transparency/JC Commissioners..p.8	Membership/General Meetings/Calendar..13-15

## President's Pen

I hope you all had a safe and happy Thanksgiving! My mother hosted John and me in her apartment at Mountain Meadows with some wonderful mail order dishes and a few homemade. We shared food pictures on the phone with our daughter, her partner and his parents in Baltimore. We were and are thankful for our small family and that we all have security and health. Oh, and that we have the prospect of a functioning government for the people in the coming year!

December brings our "Giving Meeting—The Status of Hunger in the Rogue Valley." This year we are hosting representatives from three food bank organizations: The Ashland Emergency Food Bank, Access, and the Josephine County Food Bank. I am asking that you all submit questions for our panelists to me **before** our meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30. This is an opportunity to gift or volunteer for any of these organizations. I will send out Zoom invitations to you all on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. I hope to see you all on the 10<sup>th</sup> so that we can be together and give in the spirit of the season.

Finally, there will not be a January Voters' Voice newsletter. You will receive an email if critical information needs to be announced before the February newsletter.

Margie Peterson, President LWVRV

The League of Women Voters Rogue Valley welcomes submissions to the newsletter, *The Voters' Voice*. Editor Jim Buck can be reached at 541-830-0602 and [newsletter@lwvroguevalley.org](mailto:newsletter@lwvroguevalley.org)

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# Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – LWVRV – Our Ongoing Challenge

By Joyce Puccini Chapman

Why am I writing this column? How do we begin? Where do we begin?

Why am I writing this column? DEI is an outcome that LWVRV leaders have identified is a priority. I volunteered to write this column until the LWVRV becomes attractive and welcoming enough to BIPOC and LGBTQ communities that individuals from those communities join us and volunteer to take over our DEI effort. At that point, as our LWVUS President Deborah Turner suggested, I will sit down and stay away, and make room for one of them to lead. I hope my tenure will be short.

How do we begin? Understanding definitions specific to the social justice movement is an important first step. Some of these definitions may be unfamiliar or may make us uncomfortable. President Turner believes we must be willing to learn and to be uncomfortable. I agree.

“Equity vs. Equality: What is the Difference? ...

1. Equality is providing the same level of opportunity and assistance to all segments of society, such as races and genders.
2. Equity is providing various levels of support and assistance depending on specific needs or abilities.
3. Equality and equity are most often applied to the rights and opportunities of minority groups.
4. Laws such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 provide equality, while policies such as affirmative action provide equity.” [www.thoughtco.com/equity-vs-equality-4767021](http://www.thoughtco.com/equity-vs-equality-4767021)

Race:

“Race is not biological. It is a social construct. There is no gene or cluster of genes common to all blacks or all whites. Were race “real” in the genetic sense, racial classifications for individuals would remain constant across boundaries.”

Race and Racial Identity are Social Constructs, *NY Times*, Room for Debate 06/16/2015.

Racism:

“The problem is that white people see racism as conscious hate, when racism is bigger than that. Racism is a complex system of social and political levers and pulleys set up generations ago to continue working on the behalf of whites at other people’s expense, whether whites know/like it or not. Racism is an insidious cultural disease. It is so insidious that it doesn’t care if you are a white person who likes black people, it’s still going to find a way to infect how you deal with people who don’t look like you. Yes, racism looks like hate, but hate is just one manifestation. Privilege is another. Access is another. Ignorance is another. Apathy is another. And so on. So, while I agree with people who say no one is born racist, it remains a powerful system that we’re immediately born into. It’s like being born into air: you take it in as soon as you breathe. It’s not a cold that you can get over. There is no anti-racist certification class. It’s a set of socioeconomic traps and

cultural values that are fired up every time we interact with the world. *It is a thing you have to keep scooping out of the boat of your life to keep from drowning in it. I know it's hard work, but it's the price you pay for owning everything.*" (Emphasis added.) Scott Woods, American author and poet, former President Poetry Slam, Inc.

Where do we begin? We begin with the social constructs – the point in history where the concepts of race, racism, Whiteness and white supremacy were created about 400 years ago with the spread of colonialism. The birth of our nation coincides and is inextricably linked to this point in history. Educating ourselves about the history of colonialism and our country is a first step in becoming the diverse, equitable and inclusive organization we aspire to be. Offered below are a very few resources to begin the journey. We hope that they will help inspire the discussion groups we are in the process of forming. The LWVRV website also has a number of books, videos and articles on related topics. We urge you to explore the website.

I look forward to your feedback and suggestions [chapjp01@msn.com](mailto:chapjp01@msn.com) as we continue to broaden our scope to local and Oregon history as viewed from BIPOC and LGTBQ perspectives. See you next month.

Gerald Horne, professor of history from Houston, is a prolific writer on American history. If you are interested in reading one of his many books, we suggest his *Counter-Revolution of 1776*. If you prefer a video the link below is Professor Horne speaking at UCSB: "Counter-Revolution of 1776."

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=gerald+horne+counter-revolution+of+1776+on+youtube&docid=608015937168346406&mid=6F744943F336D1EE4ACF6F744943F336D1EE4ACF&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>

Video: "The Truth About the Confederacy in the US – ACLU" – Jeffrey Robinson, an ACLU lawyer, gives this lecture.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=The+Truth+About+the+Confederacy+in+the+US+by+Jeffrey+Robinson+on+youtube&docid=607994548180159176&mid=0DF44C64FEFB3929440F0DF44C64FEFB3929440F&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>

Videos: "Racism, Privilege and Denial – Healing White America," lecture by Tim Wise at All Saints Church in Pasadena, CA. There is a follow up lecture that is also good. People who are interested can just look up Tim Wise on YouTube and find a treasure trove of videos that are very good. I find him a bit more informative than Robin DeAngelo, but others can also look at her videos.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=racism%2c+privilege+and+denial+by+tim+wise+at+all+saints+church+in+pasadena+on+youtube&&view=detail&mid=81932A0EA619925ABB2281932A0EA619925ABB22&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dracism%252C%2520privilege%2520and%2520denial%2520by%2520tim%2520wise%2520at%2520all%2520saints%2520church%2520in%2520pasadena%2520on%2520youtube%26qs%3Dn%26form%3DQBVR%26sp%3D-1%26pq%3Dracism%252C%2520privilege%2520and%2520denial%2520by%2520tim%2520wise%2520at%2520all%2520saints%2520church%2520in%2520pasaden%26sc%3D0-72%26sk%3D%26cvid%3D4DCCB6CB65FE442B909857FD1B57FF81>

Tim Wise: "Racism, Privilege and Denial Part 2" <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=racism%2c+privilege+and+denial+by+tim+wise+at+all+saints+church+in+pasadena+on+youtube&&view=detail&mid=1E950243F86F3BD844A41E950243F86F3BD844A4&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dracism%252C%2520privilege%2520and%2520denial%2520by%2520tim%2520wise%2520at%2520all%2520saints%2520church%2520in%2520pasadena%2520on%2520youtube%26qs%3Dn%26sp%3D-1%26pq%3Dracism%252C%2520privilege%2520and%2520denial%2520by%2520tim%2520wise%2520at%2520all%2520saints%2520church%2520in%2520pasaden%26sc%3D0-72%26sk%3D%26cvid%3D4DCCB6CB65FE442B909857FD1B57FF81%26FORM%3DVDDVXX>

Article: "Oregon Was Founded as a Racist Utopia"  
<https://gizmodo.com/oregon-was-founded-as-a-racist-utopia-1539567040>

Book: *White Fragility* by Robin DeAngelo

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## General Meetings for 2020-2021

Committee members met (virtually) to plan the presentations for the coming year. Of course, the constraints of the virus precautions do not presently allow us to gather, but we still have the option of Zoom meetings. If you would like more details about Zoom meeting participation, visit the LWVOR state website at: <http://lwwor.org/covid-19-zoom> for a very good "Zoom for Beginners" explanation.

While still tentative, here is our present working schedule:

**December**—Support a non-profit Giving Meeting: Food Banks in the Rogue Valley

**January**—Program Planning

**February**—Voting Methods Review [Dr. Barbara Klein], LWV taskforce

## Tis the Season—for Program Planning!

That means it's time for local Leagues to consider if changes to their current positions are needed and, if appropriate, recommend a potential topic for local study. The first reminder for new members is that in the League, "program planning" is not event organization but instead a review of our platform on policies. Studies are used to develop a League position on a local issue, which is the basis for subsequent advocacy for or against the issue. Members are also encouraged to review state positions or propose a state-wide study (due to LWVOR February 1).

For local studies, a small group of local members typically spends 12-18 months researching and studying a local concern to write a report on the issue. Members discuss the report findings to reach consensus on the issue's policy implications, and then draft a position for member agreement.

If you're interested in proposing a study, review the 10 tips below. Form a committee (at least 5 people) to develop a proposal and organize a work plan. Submit a written proposal (scope, goals, rationale, timeline) for LWVOR approval. It is best to have part of this plan prepared for January program planning time, but a study will be officially adopted by the membership at the annual meeting.

Your committee may be interested in matters of governance, natural resources, healthcare, or other local service or area of concern. You will study and report on this policy issue to reach member consensus regarding a position on how your League will approach this issue locally.

**Action.** Program planning can also be a time to 'lobby' the board and membership about priorities of action items. Some of the same written planning and organization steps should be taken to make these proposals. Most importantly, include the League position that you are recommending action on (and which level of the League has adopted the position). (As a heads-up, in most cases, using state or national positions will demand permission be obtained from that League to go forward with local action.)

Bring any possible ideas to the January program planning meeting. Written proposals should be submitted to the Board by April 1 and address your topic, focus, scope, expected results, information resources and timeline. Watch for more information coming soon at the LWVOR website on how to conduct a study.

### 10 Tips if YOU seek to Propose and Promote a Study

It is no big mystery; any League member can PROPOSE a study. It only takes organization and commitment, with a little bit of outreach and interest in the subject.

Remember that the League does not take action on something unless there is a related position. Almost all of our positions are established by study; a few by concurrence with positions of other Leagues or special circumstances.

#### Considerations for adopting studies

Listed below are things the LWV board (at any level) will consider; thus, they are the things YOU should consider for your proposal.

Ask YOURSELF the questions below. (Don't forget to look on national/state/local websites for some answers.)

When you have MOST of the answers, present the proposal (in writing) to your local or state board through the annual program planning process. You could ask a LWV Board member for guidance. However, realize that, due to other commitments, the board generally cannot organize a study. Someone needs to chair (and own the organization of) the study. That might be you.

1. Does it fall within League Principles?
2. Does the League already have positions that can be applied to the proposal?  
**Tip:** Experience has shown that broadly written League positions allow us more flexibility than very detailed ones. Do you REALLY need to have a new study to address your issue?
3. Is government action needed? Possible?
4. How much member interest has been expressed for the issue?  
**Tip:** If YOU are really interested, and expect that others would be if they knew about it, then find a few members to include in the proposal or do an informal survey of members, recording the number of interested people.
5. Is this the crucial time for the issue?
6. Do the political realities permit effective action?  
**Tip:** “political realities” can be discouraging. If you think it is important – then teach the world!
7. Is this the appropriate level of the League to address the issue?
8. Will the League’s involvement make a unique impact? Increase the League’s influence and credibility?  
**Tip:** If the issue lends itself well to NONPARTISANSHIP this is truly an added advantage. And if the impact is a unique one it will help the League’s visibility, again, a nonpartisan *approach* is vital.
9. What are prospects for funding the study or anticipated educational activities and/or action strategies?  
**Tip:** Most studies nowadays (compared to the past) can cost little, as they emphasize virtual work & conference calls. Still think ahead, especially for later “action” activities based on the new position, if established.
10. Will the League be able to draw on allies?
11. Is there a chairperson for the study?  
**Tip:** Most likely – YOU are the chairperson. If you are not willing, rethink your proposal.
12. Are there members willing to be on this study committee?  
**Tip:** This is also an opportunity to reach out to new members who might be interested in this issue.

Sheila McGinnis, Director, LWVRV and LWVOR and  
Barbara Klein, LWVRV Action Chair

## Transparency & Jackson County Board of Commissioners

Rick Bennett, LWVRV Vice President & Volunteer Observer

The LWVRV Board recently submitted a letter to the Jackson County Board of Commissioners that expressed our concerns regarding its decision-making process and outlined several recommendations to make the process more open and accessible. The letter began,

“Five years ago, the League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley (LWVRV) brought forth several ideas for making the Jackson County Board of Commissioners (BOC) more open and accessible to the residents of Jackson County. Working together our conversations resulted in a sound system in the auditorium that made it easier for the audience to listen and follow the agenda of the regular Board meetings. Our conversations also resulted in the BOC work sessions and staff meetings being recorded and made accessible to the public – a benefit to residents who couldn’t attend those meetings in person. ... But there is always more to be done to make the governing process more transparent and accessible – that is why we are reaching out to you today.

The League of Women Voters believes democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens. That ability to participate requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen’s right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings, and making public records accessible. Indeed, the League’s position is in line with Oregon Revised Statute 192.620 that states, ‘The Oregon form of government requires an informed public aware of the deliberations and decisions of governing bodies and the information upon which such decisions were made.’

However, we do believe more could be done to make public records accessible, specifically the information that the commissioners rely on to inform themselves regarding administrative and policy decisions up for a vote. While most of this information can be accessed by the public, we believe there are several barriers to doing so. Let’s briefly consider the BOC’s decision-making process.”

Our letter went on to detail the Board of Commissioners meeting(s) structure as well as the cumbersome process the public must utilize to access public records. With this in mind, we submitted several recommendations for the Board’s consideration, including: (1) if nothing else, the public should not be charged a fee for copies of public records that are relevant to the Board’s agenda actions; (2) preferably, relevant reports, documents, maps and so forth should be included as attachments to the Board’s regular meeting agendas (most local government do this with minimal time and cost); (3) with the advent of COVID-19, the Board has provided viewing of its weekly work sessions and staff meetings via Zoom – this should be continued in the future; and (4) the Board should review its current policy of prohibiting public comment on their regular agenda for discussion/deliberation.

During the months of October and November, LWVRV leaders have met with Commissioner Bob Strosser to review our concerns. His feedback and support were helpful in drafting our letter. Commissioner Strosser was also instrumental in bringing forth our concerns during a staff meeting (10-22-20) and later asking for our letter to be placed on the Board’s work session agenda (11-17-20). As a follow-up to work session discussion, LWVRV has sent an email to the commissioners to provide clarification regarding our recommendations.

We hope to meet with the commissioners individually in December to continue this discussion.

## Climate Change News

Shirley Weathers, Climate Change Coordinator

### Jordan Cove LNG and Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline (JC/PC) Project

As mentioned before, Jordan Cove watchers are largely waiting for high profile things to happen that are pretty much out of our hands. The State of Oregon, several tribal groups, dozens of non-governmental organizations, and a group of affected landowners are waiting for scheduling of their appeals filed in the Court of Appeals of the D.C. Circuit. Those entities seek judicial review of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) March 2020 [Order](#) allowing the JC/PC to go forward. FERC denied all requests for rehearing, resulting in the appeal. The Oregon Department of Justice filed its [Petition for Review](#) in the D.C Circuit in July.

Meanwhile, an important condition of the FERC Order is that the project cannot move forward to construction without all required local, state, and federal permits in hand. Several local and state permitting processes have either not progressed or taken steps backward. For one, recall that Pembina withdrew its Removal-Fill application in January when they learned that the Department of State Lands (DSL) in January was preparing to deny it due to informational deficiencies. During recent weeks, two more DSL permitting processes have been terminated by the agency for similar reasons. However, a decision on Pembina's petition to the Secretary of Commerce to override the state's denial of the critical Coastal Zone Management Act certification is expected any time before February 8, 2021. Based on the President's own words, it's hard to imagine that the outgoing Administration won't take the opportunity to support Pembina on this very key decision before January 20. The potential impact on Jordan Cove of the Biden-Harris Administration can only be speculated.

### Climate Change, the Rogue Valley, and Beyond

Oregon, especially our Rogue Valley, now knows firsthand what California has been struggling with for several years: climate change is already here, and the impact is enormous and many-faceted. It has local, state, federal, and global implications and they go far beyond wildfires. Former Vice President Al Gore called climate change an "inconvenient truth." It's especially inconvenient for the owners and shareholders whose fortunes are inextricably intertwined with the fossil fuel industry's continued growth. The LWV—local, state, and national—has joined others in declaring a "climate emergency." That was even before the final months of the Trump Administration when, after a full four-year term of rollbacks of Obama era actions to curb climate change, plus scores of federal approvals of new fossil fuel projects, there's now an accelerated rush to put through as many regulatory curbs on addressing climate change as possible before January. The Biden-Harris team has signaled that they will move aggressively in the opposite direction on climate change in both the domestic and global arenas. They have a massive sorting-out project before them to determine what can be undone and how to do it, while mapping out what must be done proactively to actually move forward and gathering bipartisan support to accomplish it. In any case, the climate change discussion is about to change. For that we can be grateful.

Consider watching this [webinar](#) as the global Group of Thirty (G30) launch of their latest publication on Getting to a Net Zero Emissions Economy. The Biden nominee for Secretary of the Treasury, Janet Yellen, is a member of the G30 and is featured.

## Health Care Legislative Report

Bill Walsh, Health Care Coordinator

We will remember 2020 as one that set records for a deadly virus. Thanksgiving week set records related to the COVID-19 pandemic statewide and in Jackson County. Long spared from high numbers of cases, in November Jackson County surged to 1,330 cases per 100,000 population; hardest hit Multnomah County reported 1,500 per 100,000. On the day before Thanksgiving, Jackson County reported 108 new cases, third in line behind Washington County with 171 cases and Multnomah County with 210. Overall, young people account for the greatest percentages of new cases in recent months; seniors who contract the disease are the most likely to die. According to the American Medical Association's Cardiology journal, 75% of COVID survivors will experience lingering heart problems. Hospital and public health systems are strained, running on empty. Nurses, doctors, and essential workers are overworked and morale is suffering. Economic hardship among low- and middle-income workers is rampant as food and emergency programs are stressed to the max.

You can see the rate of growth of COVID cases by zip code in Oregon at this link: [https://www.thelundreport.org/content/check-latest-covid-19-case-count-zip-code?mc\\_cid=c49934de16&mc\\_eid=5ca991762a](https://www.thelundreport.org/content/check-latest-covid-19-case-count-zip-code?mc_cid=c49934de16&mc_eid=5ca991762a). You will also see three upcoming free Zoom Oregon Health Forums that may be of interest. Registration is required.

We have seen progress in understanding and treating the virus. After shortages, we now have more Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for providers. Best Practices for better patient care have been developed. Best of all, availability of vaccines is imminent. We await our turn in the rollout of distribution with fingers crossed. With the goal of avoiding as many cases as possible in the meantime, we can hope our fellow citizens will continue to isolate, wear masks, social distance, and wash hands, all likely to be required behavior going forward until the virus is totally vanquished.

Here's my hope/prediction:

The great majority of people in Oregon, nationally, and globally will want to do what it takes to overcome the COVID pandemic. Pope Francis has called it a "shared destination" and calls for solidarity to get there. The new CEO of the national Chamber of Commerce has stated that we must restore the health of our people in order to go on and achieve economic recovery. Governor Brown and other governors have made difficult decisions that are based on science and are sticking with them. When the new vaccines arrive on Main Street, I hope we will see most people getting in line to get their shots, both because it is in their own best interests and it is essential for the common good. I predict—and hope I'm correct—that politicians of all parties will decide to publicly get on board and that their constituents will support them. I think that the President will be vaccinated and take credit for it. The pandemic will change personal behavior and result in systemic health care changes that benefit all. (I am watching the Universal Health Care Task Force progress and am encouraged.) There will still be the divide of beliefs and politics, but on this occasion, common sense and decency will show through. We will do the right thing for ourselves, families, neighbors, country, and the world because we want to survive and thrive.

**City of Medford**  
**City Council Meeting**

November 5, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM. Present were Mayor Wheeler, Council Members Brooks, D'Alessandro, Gordon, Bearnson, Stark, Stine, Zarosinki, and Poythress.

\* Rogue Disposal gave an update on the recycling program - now accepting some plastics - #1 and #2.

\* Christian Nelson of the Downtown Medford Association thanked the City for grant monies to help sustain downtown businesses. Businessman Ryan also thanked the City for helping with the holiday lights. During Oral Communications, a business owner spoke to the City Council about helping with heaters for outdoor dining so the restaurants could stay open later in the year.

\* Trish, a social worker, spoke about the winter needs for the homeless. More shelters and heated rooms are needed. She spoke in praise of Kelly Shelter and how well run it is.

\* Two items were discussed regarding the new aquatic center. First, a resolution was approved concerning the tax bond money. The money must be spent within 3 years. Staff anticipates completion of the complex within that time restraint. The second item was the naming rights to the complex. Rogue Credit Union has offered \$2.145 million over a ten-year period, about \$200,000 per year for the first 3 years, \$215,000 for the next 3 years and \$225,000 for the last 4 years of the contract. The complex will be called the Rogue Credit Union Community Complex. The Credit Union shall have exclusive use of the complex 2 days per year for special events sponsored by the financial institution. The Council approved the contract.

\* Under Public Hearings section, Staff presented amendments to the Municipal Code relating to temporary and non-temporary shelters. The amendments require both types of shelters to obtain a conditional use permit (CPU). Several Council members felt having to obtain a CPU was cumbersome and a lengthy process. Ms. Brooks was against the requirement as being too constricting. Mr. Bearnson felt they create more red tape and also that the Planning Commission was not helping the homeless. He had heard that one member of the Commission had referred to the homeless as "those people" which he felt was a derogatory term. Mr. Gordon stated CPUs can take 4-6 months to complete. He'd like to see the process for shelters reduced to 2-3 weeks. Mr. D'Alessandro pointed out that shelter providers were not exactly knocking on our doors to set up shelters. He felt the CPUs were necessary for the city to have some control. The measure passed with 6 yeas and 2 nays. This was the first of two hearings on the issue.

\* The next item of note was a large proposed development between Foothill Road, McAndrews Road, and Hillcrest Road. The property currently houses the Hillcrest Orchards and Roxy Ann Winery. The development is approximately 230.75 acres. As proposed, it would have 750 dwelling units, both single family and multi-family, trails, a shopping center, possible school site, historical site, agricultural buffers, bike lanes on Hillcrest Road, a pond, and the existing creek would be preserved. Mr. Gordon again questioned when the homes will actually be built. He stated housing in Medford is needed now and feels the Council has failed in responding to this need. He feels too much new development has been approved but not built on. He would like to see a time frame set

for future building. Mr. Warmer, representing the principal owners, said the owners are committed to moving forward. He added that the higher density housing units would be built away from the hills and closer to the commercial sites. He asked for a continuance of the hearing until January 21, 2021 as the property lines are not finalized. It was approved.

\* Several items were discussed under Council updates brought up by Mr. Stine. A new Council orientation will be held on January 9, 2021 for the new Council members and will be from 9 AM to 3 PM. There is a need for increased security devices at Rail Road Park which would include better lighting. The cost is estimated to be \$94,900 which has not been budgeted so the funds will need to be requested.

\* The Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire (CPAW) recommended plan was approved unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by Sally Smith  
LWVRV Observer

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## **FILIBUSTER DISCUSSION**

Kathleen Donham

Depending on how the national 2021 Special Elections go, we may have a U.S. Senate that is very contentious and stalemated in moving legislation. We may also have a re-examination of the mechanisms of the filibuster. Is the filibuster good government? Sally Smith and I have two articles (for starters) we'd like to discuss on an informal Zoom call. If you have time and inclination, we'll be setting a date for a review. We'd welcome your participation. Notify us at [KDonham@gmail.com](mailto:KDonham@gmail.com) or 541-772-5044.

[Biden and McConnell: custodians of the Senate - Medford Mail Tribune \(newsmemory.com\)](https://www.medfordmailtribune.com/news/2020/07/20/biden-and-mcconnell-custodians-of-the-senate/)

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2020/07/why-senate-filibuster-could-be-gone-2021/614278/>



## New Members

**Please welcome our newest member:**

**Kay Vega**

Keep an eye out for Kay on our Zoom meetings until we can get together in person.

Those of us who have dues due in months other than May have a difficult time remembering, so our latest brainstorm is to send a notice a month or so before. Also included will be a Membership Form so that we can keep current on your contact information and interests. We hope this makes it easier for all of us. Thanks so much for your continued interest in LWVRV.

Again, welcome to our new recruit!

Jackie Clary  
Membership Chair

Contact membership committee persons at [membership@lwvroquevalley.org](mailto:membership@lwvroquevalley.org)

<b><u>Membership Application</u></b>	
Name _____	<u>Areas of Interest:</u>
Address _____	◇ Campaign finance ◇ Local Government
City _____	◇ Education ◇ Newsletter
Zip _____ Phone _____	◇ Election Issues ◇ Climate Change
Email _____	◇ Redistricting ◇ National Issues
Single membership — \$65.00 Spouse/student—\$32.50	◇ Observer Corps ◇ Voter Services
May we publish your information in the LWVRV Directory? Y N	◇ Healthcare Issues
Send check /application to P.O. Box 8555 Medford OR 97501	◇ Environment
Would you like a phone call reminder about meetings? Yes No	

## December 2020 Activities LWVRV

Su	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 <i>General Meeting 11:30</i>	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 <i>Board Meeting 10:30</i>	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1 <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b>	

If you are reading this newsletter on-line, maybe you don't need a mailed paper copy. Call the newsletter editor at 541-830-0602 if you would prefer *not* to get the newsletter by U.S. Mail, or leave a note at [newsletter@lwwroguevalley.org](mailto:newsletter@lwwroguevalley.org) .

You should also be receiving newsletters by email from State and National. For membership application, go to <http://lwwroguevalley.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/MembershipApplication501c3AsOf20190725.pdf>

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