

JANUARY 2015



HINGHAM VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HINGHAM®

Serving the towns of Hingham, Hull, Cohasset, Norwell

STEERING COMMITTEE: KATE BOLAND, EVA MARX, CATHERINE SALISBURY, ERICA SWEENEY

TREASURER: MARISA COSTELLO

WEBSITE COORDINATOR: LIZA O'REILLY

FORUM CHAIR: MARY KENYON

SCHOOL OUTREACH CHAIR: ELIZABETH DANIS

CANDIDATES NIGHT & PUBLICITY CHAIR: CHRIS WILK

Member Event Calendar 2015

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|--|
| February 25 | 7:00 p.m. | Warrant Review; Advisory Committee, Town Hall |
| March 18 | 7:00 p.m. | State of the State: State Representatives and Senator, 74 Elm St. |
| April 15 | 7:00 p.m. | Candidates Night - Meet the Candidates, Town Hall |
| May 6 | 6:30 p.m. | All Members Annual Meeting, South Shore Country Club |

Guests are welcome!

Steering Committee Update

Happy New Year! LWVH is having a busy year. We had some excellent forums and we have more to come. Hingham has big events coming up, like proposed zoning amendments and a town history roadshow. We are grateful to all our League members and citizens who participate, facilitate and contribute to our town's events and history. Thank you Kate Boland, Chris Wilk and Catherine Salisbury for opening your homes and hosting events this past fall. Here is a recap of past events and an overview of what's to come:

Discussion with School Superintendent Dr. Dorothy Galo - Oct 29

Dr. Dorothy Galo joined league members and guests at the home of Chris Wilk. She discussed Massachusetts' switch from MCAS to PARCC, the Common Core standardized test, as well as Hingham's possible transition to full-day kindergarten. Dr. Galo and attendees discussed the challenges inherent in switching schools over to a new testing system, such as curriculum adjustments and technology requirements. Dr. Galo emphasized how much time and effort educators are putting in to make PARCC as fair and smooth as possible. The prospect of full-day kindergarten has a lot of support in Hingham, and Dr. Galo believes that full-day kindergarten will be available sooner rather than later. Her ultimate goal is to give children a helpful, supportive school environment.

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Lucy Holiday, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dorothy Galo, Marisa Costello, Kate Boland

Discussion of the Future of South Hingham with Planning Board Chair Gary Tondorf-Dick, Nov 19

Gary Tondorf-Dick, Chairman of the Hingham Planning Board, addressed members and guests in the home of member Catherine Salisbury. He explained that the largest proposed development effort in terms of acreage and complexity will be coming before the Planning Board in the next several years. The location of this proposed development is in South Hingham. The Bristol Co. owns contiguous land in the Town of Weymouth which is part of this project. These sites have not been developed to date as a result of water, sewer, and traffic issues that have proven to be extremely difficult to solve. Gary outlined the issues and concerns that the Planning Board would have regarding this development and stressed that the Town should arrange for a Master Plan for this area prior to the time that the Board is presented with an actual sub-division plan. He further said that any development on such a scale would generate larger questions such as the development's effect on the quality of life, the historic character, and the environment in Hingham.



Chris Wilk, Hingham Planning Board Chairman Gary Tondorf -Dick,
Erica Sweeney, Nancy Smalzel

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Calling ALL Past and Present LWVH Members' Memories and Photos!

Mass. Memories Road Show - Help Paint Hingham's Portrait!



Our town (and League) is participating in a very unique event! On May 17, 2015 our town will be capturing its residents' memories as part of the *Massachusetts Memories Road Show*.

It doesn't matter if your memory, photo or piece of history is from years ago or from yesterday! All of it will paint a portrait of our community from each individual's perspective. So dig out your photos and let's make sure our League is a part of Hingham's history.

We would love to have your photos for our League's archives too! Please scan any and all photos and send to kateboland@comcast.net.

If you don't have a scanner you can put them in my mailbox @338 Main Street and I promise if you put your name and address on the envelope, I will return them to you the next day!



1. Lynn Cotter and Riley
2. Julie Strehle and Margaret parade 2004
3. Hingham Parade 2003

Check out some other town's memories
<http://www.massmemories.net/> .



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Plan to Attend Day on the Hill



Last year we had seven members planning to attend LWVMA's annual lobbying day on Beacon Hill, but due to snow it was canceled. This year it will be: Tuesday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to noon at the State House.

Day on the Hill highlights some of the great work the League does! The Legislative Action Committee will review all the bills that are being introduced and their recommendations to the LWVMA board.

Nothing impresses legislators more than a personal visit from a constituent, so your presence at Day on the Hill and a visit to your Senator and Representative will greatly help promote the League's agenda in the new session.

If you would like to join our League, an RSVP email will be sent closer to the date.

Zoning Hearings Begin February 2

A proposed amendment to the Zoning By-Law suggests, among other things, changing the height requirements of certain structures; and allowing greater density by permitting accessory structures to be used as dwelling units.

Citizens are invited to speak at these hearings, so it's a perfect opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the Hingham Zoning By-Law. We are a wonderful resource to each other, so keep informed and let your voice be heard. Visit

http://www.eventkeeper.com/clients/02043/ek_02043.cfm for more information.

Interested in Informal LWVH Gatherings?

LWVH is assessing whether members would like to attend informal member gatherings for information sharing and socializing. Feel free to take this short three-question survey letting us

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know if you'd be interested and what format you'd be interested in. It should take about 30 seconds to complete. Thank you! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DZBXJL>

All Member Annual Meeting

We would love your input! Is there a topic you would like to hear discussed at our Annual Meeting on May 6, 2015? Do you have ideas about who might be an engaging speaker? Contact Erica Sweeney at kulprie@gmail.com or Kate Boland at kateboland@comcast.net.

Email Me!

Feel free to email photos and synopses of League events for the newsletter!
kulprie@gmail.com