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LWVN CALENDAR to October 27, 2015

Click here to visit the LWVN’s Calendar Page for details.
Monday, August 10, 7:00pm:
BoA vote on the Charter Commission

Monday, August 24, 7:00pm:
LWVN Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 7:00pm:
All About Charter Commissions

Thursday, September 3, 7:00pm:
Ward 2 Alderman-at-Large Candidates’ Forum

Tuesday, September 8, 7:00pm:
LWVN Board Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 3:30pm:
LWVN Environmental Issues Committee Mtg

Thursday, September 24, 7:00pm:
BoA Land Use Committee Meeting on Austin Street

Tuesday, October 6, 7:00pm:
BoA Land Use Committee Meeting on Austin Street

Tuesday, October 13, 7:00pm:
LWVN Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 20, 7:00pm:
BoA Land Use Committee Meeting on Austin Street

Tuesday, October 27, 7:00pm:
Possible BoA Land Use Committee Meeting on Austin Street

Don’t forget to check our online calendar for any late-breaking changes!
http://www.lwvnewton.org/calendar/

Find us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/lwvnewton

Keep up with the workings of the Board of Aldermen!
Read the LWVN Docket Digest, available each week at www.lwvnewton.org
Dear LWVN Members:

It’s only August and we have already had a very busy summer already! Two Board members, Chris Steele and Rhanna Kidwell, have recently resigned from the Board to run for office, per our non-partisan policy. We thank them for all their hard work on behalf of the League—we are a better organization due to their efforts.

Voters’ Service: The 2015 election season is very exciting with one preliminary race on September 17, seven general election races on November 3, the charter commission question and candidates, and a second question on the Yankee Pilgrim Power Plant (both on November 3).

LWVN will hold a Candidates’ Forum for the Ward 2 Alderman-at-Large race on Thursday, September 3, at 7 p.m. in the NewTV studio. We are also currently organizing Candidates’ Forums for the general election races, with dates to be announced as soon as possible. The LWVN Voters’ Guide will also be produced and available before the November election.

Charter Commission: LWVN volunteers deserve a huge amount of credit for completing the petition drive to put the question of a charter commission on the ballot in November. This effort started with a separate group of volunteers in 2007, with LWVN continuing it in 2012 with determination, perseverance and a great deal of patience. With enough signatures to put the question on the ballot regardless of their vote, the Board of Aldermen voted on August 10 to include it in November. This is an opportunity for the community to discuss potential improvements to our government, to help lead Newton into the future.

Now that the question will be voted on in November, LWVN has taken the responsibility to inform the voters on the question itself as well as the candidates. On September 1, LWVN will hold a forum to explain and answer questions about the responsibility of charter commissions, the extent their power, and expectations for the public. Please see the next page for more information on this event. It promises to answer many questions about charter commissions for voters and, for potential candidates, what it would be like to serve on one.

LWVN is currently in the planning process for a special edition of the Voters’ Guide (dedicated to the charter commission candidates) as well for opportunities for voters to meet and ask questions of the candidates. While this is complicated by the large number of expected candidates, we are excited by the challenge.

We are also creating a special event for candidates and their supporters this year that focuses on how to interact with a variety of media. This is relevant to both seasoned candidates as well as brand new ones, as we will feature experts on print and online media, websites and on public presentations. Look for more information to come!

Austin Street: Regarding the Austin Street project, the LWVN Board voted to join the Friends of Austin Street (FAS) coalition. FAS is a group of organizations and individuals from around Newton who support the current proposal to build a mixed-use development and parking lot on the site of the current Austin Street parking lot in Newtonville. LWVN has given testimony at a June hearing by the Land Use Committee of the Board of Aldermen, and will continue to speak in favor of the project until the Aldermen vote on it in November. We encourage League members to send in letters of support to their Aldermen.

Other Activities: In addition to preparing for the municipal election, the charter commission campaign, and the Austin Street vote, LWVN committees are active and engaged in many other areas. The Environmental Issues Committee and Land Use and Housing are both monitoring many different changes around the City. The Education Committee will soon begin work on a Civics Bee, possibly to be held in the spring in conjunction
with the proposed All America Day. The Municipal Finance Committee is planning a fall forum on how development works.

**What Can You Do To Help:** Many hands make light work, and with so much happening around the city, we could use your help! Specifically, we are looking for volunteers to help with:

- Candidates’ Forums
- Leaflets on the Charter Commission
- Voters’ Guides (both general election and charter commission)
- Voter Registration
- Letters to the Editor and the Board of Aldermen in support of the Austin Street proposal
- Civics Bee

If you are interested, we will find a task that best uses your time and appeals to your interests! Please email info@lwvnewton.org to help or if you have any questions.

In League,

Sue Flicop

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**Tuesday, September 1, 2015 - Forum: All About Charter Commissions**

Join us for an interesting and informative evening for voters and candidates alike…

This November, Newton will vote on the question “Shall a commission be elected to revise the charter of Newton?” Hear from a charter expert, a member and an observer of the Everett Charter Commission about the process, the kinds of changes that can result, and the responsibilities of serving on the commission. Mark your calendar:

**Tuesday, September 1st 7:00 p.m.**

Newton Free Library

This event is free and open to the public

Forum Panelists:

- **Marilyn Contreas** – charter expert recently retired from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- **John Hanlon** – member of the City of Everett charter commission that concluded in 2011; current Everett city councilor, past alderman and mayor
- **David Flood** – member of Everett’s Charter Review Committee; active observer during Everett’s charter commission

**Charter Commission – LWVN’s FAQ sheet**

League of Women Voters of Newton’s Guide to the Charter Commission Ballot Question in Newton

This information has been compiled by the League of Women Voters of Newton to provide voters with factual information about the upcoming vote on electing a charter commission.

*Charter Petition, Charter Commission -- What Do I Need to Know?*

This November, Newton will have the opportunity to elect a charter commission. There will be a question on the ballot that asks “Shall a commission be elected to revise the charter of Newton?” On the same ballot, vot-
ers can vote for up to 9 people to serve on the commission. If the “Yes” vote carries, the 9 candidates with the most votes become Newton’s charter commission.

**What is a Charter?**

A city’s charter is like a constitution. Newton’s charter is a 25-page document that defines how our city government works. A city charter determines such things as the size of the city council or school board, the length of term for an elected office, or whether an elected office has term limits. ("Charter" is a general word referring to the founding documents of entities such as cities or schools.)

**What is a Charter Commission?**

A charter commission is a group of nine citizens elected to serve a single, unpaid 2-year term. Their job is to review the city’s charter, gather public input, and propose changes. The proposed changes must be approved or rejected by voters in an election two years after the commission is elected. This means that Newton voters will vote in November 2017 on the proposed changes to the charter. Approval from the mayor or the Board of Aldermen is not required.

**Why is this question on the ballot?**

Fifteen percent of Newton’s registered voters (8,481 citizens) signed a petition to put this question on the ballot. In 2008, a group of citizens led by Tom Sheff and Alan Dechter began collecting these signatures. In 2012, the League of Women Voters of Newton began a signature drive to complete the petition.

**Where can I read Newton’s Charter?**


**Who can run for the Charter Commission?**

Any registered voter in Newton may run for a seat on the charter commission. All candidates run at large, not from any particular Ward. The nine candidates with the most votes become the commission.

**How do I run for Charter Commission?**

To get on the ballot, a candidate must collect 100 certified signatures from other registered Newton voters by September 22, 2015. Nomination papers are available now from the City Clerk’s office at City Hall.

**Are there risks of electing a charter commission?**

The charter commission is a well-tested process governed under Massachusetts state law that is designed to allow cities and towns to pursue charter reform without the involvement of the mayor or the city council. The legislation, known as the [Home Rule Amendment](http://mass.gov/dor/local-officials/dls-newsroom/ct/charting-a-route-for-charter-change.html), was adopted in 1966 to give cities and towns more say in how they govern themselves.

Any proposed changes must be reviewed and approved by the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office for consistency with state law.

According to the mass.gov website, 180 charter commissions have been elected in Massachusetts since the legislation was enacted in 1966, and at least 37 have been elected in the last 17 years. (See more at: [mass.gov/dor/local-officials/dls-newsroom/ct/charting-a-route-for-charter-change.html](http://mass.gov/dor/local-officials/dls-newsroom/ct/charting-a-route-for-charter-change.html)).

**What happens next if we elect a Charter Commission?**

By state law, the commission has 16 months to gather public input and propose changes. During that time, it must hold a minimum of 2 public forums. The Commission must present a final report within 18 months. The final report must be reviewed by the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office to ensure that it is consistent with state law. Once approved by the state, the proposed charter must be approved by voters on the next ballot.

**How can I help Newton succeed in revising its charter?**

1. Consider running for the charter commission, or encourage others to run
2. Learn about the candidates who are running
3. Vote on November 3, 2015!
4. Participate in community meetings about the charter, or advocate for changes that are important to you by emailing the commission.

**What makes a good candidate for the Charter Commission?**

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes individual candidates. Our focus is to provide voters with the tools required to cast an informed vote. We plan to hold a candidates’ forum and to provide an online voters’ guide where all candidates are invited to answer a set of relevant questions (submit your suggested questions [here](#)). In addition, our website offers general tips for choosing candidates effectively: [lwvnewton.org/voters-service/how-to-pick-a-candidate](http://lwvnewton.org/voters-service/how-to-pick-a-candidate). Note: Newton’s present charter allows current elected officials to serve on the charter commission while also serving as an Alderman or School Committee member.

A charter commission has a very concrete challenge: drafting a revised charter that voters will approve. To accomplish that, a successful commission will need to seek public input, weigh multiple alternatives, and make compromises. Serving on the charter commission will require a significant time commitment for regular meetings, public forums, informal communication with voters, and study of alternatives.

Voters will need to evaluate candidates based on their personal characteristics as well as their stated approach to crafting a new charter, i.e. whether they prioritize specific changes or an open-minded approach to the process.

**Where can I learn more?**

For more information about the signature collection process, the history of Newton’s charter, and the specific changes the LWVN supports, see the LWVN’s websites:

- [Charter Commission Petition a Success!](#)
- [Charter Commission Initiative](#)
- [LWVN 2010 Charter Study](#)

**What is the League of Women Voters?**

The League of Women Voters is an organization open to women AND men whose goal is “making democracy work.” It operates on the local, state, and national level. It was founded in 1920, just before women were granted the right to vote, and was established to help women “carry out their new responsibilities as voters.” Arising as it did from the 72-year campaign for women’s suffrage, the League has always believed strongly in grassroots advocacy. Members study and advocate on a wide range of public policy issues. From its start, however, the League has never endorsed or supported specific candidates. Instead, it supports issues, and then works to bring voters unbiased, nonpartisan information about candidates so that they can cast informed votes.

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**Helping with Charter Commission and other Voter Service activities**

**Charter Reform Education Committee is Launched**

On July 1st, the League received the great news from David Olson, Newton’s City Clerk, that we had surpassed the threshold of 8,353 signatures required to get the question of a charter commission on the ballot this November. But there was little time for celebration—we quickly shifted into education mode! On July 15th, the Charter Reform Education Committee held a kickoff meeting. Ten League members brainstormed ideas for educating Newton voters about the charter commission ballot question. The committee came up with a great list of ideas, with opportunities for other League members to get involved! Advocating for a “yes” vote:

- **Leafleting** – the committee has created a leaflet with a brief overview of the charter commission process, and information about the charter changes supported by the League. We plan to hand these out at events such as
the Farmers Markets, Newtonville Village Day and the Harvest Festival. This is so much easier than collecting signatures! Contact Sharyn Roberts, <SharynLRoberts21@gmail.com>, to join the leafleting team!

- **Boston Globe, Newton TAB, Village 14, NewTV and WNTN** – All the news outlets are covering and will continue to cover the election until November. The Globe ran a story about the charter question on July 25th in the MetroWest section. Village14.com regularly has online discussions about the charter commission and candidates, while the Newton TAB is monitoring the story. NewTV and WNTN have both had news segments about the charter commission. We look forward to continuing the public discussion so the public can be as informed as possible.

- **Other forms of campaigning** — look for things like lawn signs and other campaign materials as we get closer to the election. If you want to help organize or have a lawn sign in front of your house, just let us know! Contact info@lwnewton.org to join this team!

**Informing both voters and candidates:**

- **Charter Question Voter Information Guide** – the committee has created a Q&A document (Charter Commission – LWVN’s FAQ sheet, seen above in this Newsletter) that explains in greater detail what a charter commission is all about. We intend to distribute this to as many Newton-based email lists and organizations as we can. If you know of a Newton-based list serv, email group, or organization that might distribute our information, please contact email Lisa Mirabile, Lisa@Birchile.com.

- **Educational Forum** – the League will hold a panel discussion entitled “All About Charter Commissions” on Tuesday, September 1st at 7:00 pm at the Newton Free Library. Panelists will include Marilyn Contreas, a charter expert recently retired from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, John Hanlon, who served on the City of Everett’s recent charter commission, and David Flood, who presently serves on Everett’s charter review commission.

- **How To Use Media Effectively** — watch the LWVN website and check LWVN emails for more information on this event for candidates and their supporters. Panelists will discuss how to best use all the media available and how to present themselves, in particular in print, on blogs, websites, and television, and during public events. It’s still being planned, so more info to come!

**Voters’ Service is kicking into high gear for 2015!**

**Preliminary Candidates’ Forum:** Join LWVN and NewTV on September 3, 2015, for a Candidates’ Forum with the Ward 2 Alderman-at-Large candidates. Five candidates will answer questions from LWVN members and from the public in a taped event. Join us to watch live at NewTV in the NewTV conference room that evening or watch it on NewTV at a later date. You can help in two ways: volunteer for one of the tasks that evening and submit questions for the candidates.

Contact info@lwvnewton.org for both!

**October Candidates’ Forums:** Look for more information about forums for all seven contested elections this year. We are still in the planning process and hope to have dates soon. If you can help, we’d love it!

**Voters’ Guides:** LWVN will be producing a Voters’ Guide for all Aldermen and School Committee candidates, with a special section specifically for Charter Commission candidates. We are looking for volunteers to help with organizing and producing this valuable and informative document. Contact info@lwvnewton.org to help!

**“Civil Discourse: Constructive Disagreement”**

By Linda Morrison, 8/5/2015

Our final Topic Meeting of the 2014-2015 year met in June, and was facilitated by Marilyn Peterson, co-President, LWVMA.

She shared that coalitions in communities such as Harvard MA and Oshkosh WI have formed to try to find ways to overcome or at least mitigate some of the problems we are experiencing across the country in managing
public conflict and promoting civility. When local LWVs, university committees, service organizations, and state government offices co-operate with the specific goal of increasing respect and civil discourse in public affairs, we may have a chance to improve the climate around political discussions.

A particular local topic discussed was raising the standards of discourse for our appointed boards and commissions. Membership on these bodies needs to change more frequently and become more representative of the community in areas such as age, gender, race, and social background. Setting standards of respect, openness and reaching out to varied constituencies when responding to complaints or problems should be realistic goals.

**Look for our fall listing of Topic meetings come September (probably on the 2**nd **Wednesday of each month)!**

Help Register New Voters at Faneuil Hall on August 27th [and after...]

Help register newly naturalized citizens at Faneuil Hall! There will be a number of naturalization ceremonies at Faneuil Hall throughout the summer and fall. LWVMA will be setting up a table to register new citizens as well as anyone walking by who wants to register to vote. If you can help out, please contact intern@lwvma.org.

The remaining dates will be (there was one also on August 20):
August 27th, September 3rd, September 10th, and September 17th.

**LWVN Annual Meeting, May 2015!**

Our Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Newton was held in a new location this May: in the community room added to the City’s “newest” historic house, the Durant-Kenrick house at 286 Waverly Ave. The LWV N had supported funding restoration of the ca. 1734 Durant-Kenrick with Community Preservation Act money. We found the venue pleasant and useful.

Routine business met with no problems. The treasurer’s report included the news that we raised over $4,000 by means of our April “Champagne and Chocolate” event. (Also held at a venue new for LWV N events: the All Newton Music School).

Members greeted with enthusiasm the reports that the archives project has been completed and the organization’s archives have been moved to protected storage at the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America. Rhanna Kidwell has led many volunteers in collecting signatures to place the question of a Charter Commission on the municipal ballot this November. Members greeted with applause the news that we have almost reached our goal for signature collecting.

One program position provoked discussion. Our Charter Commission study had recommended removal of the provisions for Neighborhood Area Councils from the City Charter. Since 2010 three new NACS (Neighborhood Area Councils) have been established, and the City has taken over staffing Area Council elections (previously run by LWV N volunteers.) The meeting passed a motion to amend our City government position to rescind the provision dropping NACs from the Charter.

We discussed our work on the Charter Commission petition, and the next phase, in which people will run for (the 9) seats on the Commission. Although we believe that the petition has now garnered enough signatures, we need a few hundred more to ensure that duplicates and other “dropped” names do not reduce the total below the required number. Ruthanne Fuller pointed out the advantage current elected officials will have in running for the Commission (name recognition, etc.). We need to encourage other candidates to join them, and to disseminate information on how to run. The meeting voted to continue prioritizing work on the Newton City Charter Commission proposal.
The proposed budget was presented by Sue Rosenbaum. Our per member payments to LWV MA and LWV US continue to absorb most of the yearly dues we collect, so raising money to fund our activities remains near the top of our agenda. Our membership numbers are down due to our dropping former members who have not paid dues. Anne Borg (LWV MA) encouraged us to apply to the Scharfman Fund for grants to support voter service and citizen education projects. The proposed budget was adopted.

The new slate of officers and directors was introduced by Robin Maltz, chair of the nominating committee. The slate [see last page] was elected as presented.

Lisa Mirabile presented the Jane Leighton Volunteer of the Year award to Sue Flicop, saying in part that it was for her “ability to keep both the big picture and the minutiae in focus at the same time, and her skill at eliciting diverse opinions and then corralling them into an ‘LWV consensus’.”

Suggestions to the Board were voiced by about ten members, about Open Houses, environmental issues, and diversifying the memberships of City boards and commissions. The use of social media and outreach to local colleges to increase visibility and membership was discussed. We should also consider partnering with members of the General Federation of Woman’s Clubs.

Our 2015 Annual Meeting was an enjoyable and successful event.

### 2015 LWVMA State Convention, “Women Leading the Way”

Priscilla Leith

At the LWVMA State Convention in Springfield on May 15-16, Newton delegates Priscilla Leith and Lois Levin organized a Transportation Caucus, sending out email notices to Local League leaders prior to the Convention and obtaining a caucus room. It was attended by about 30 people, including several members of the incoming State Board. Robin Roberge, the designated LWVM specialist who has been representing LWVM at meetings with other organizations aiming to improve MBTA and commuter rail service, also attended. Names and email addresses were collected and given to Robin, who used the list to develop a communication network she is now using to notify people of forthcoming action needed, such as letters to legislators or Governor Baker that fit with current LWVM positions on transportation.

The Newton League now has a Transportation Committee that will be following up on these notices and keeping in touch with Robin Roberge. It is chaired by Lois Levin and Alicia Bowman.

Priscilla Leith

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**Welcome New Members, plus some LWVN Membership Notes**

**by Linda Morrison**

Bryan Barash...Rena Getz...Theresa Fitzpatrick...Sallee Lipshutz

- For more info about the League of Women Voters of Newton, please visit [http://lwvnewton.org](http://lwvnewton.org) or contact us by email: info@lwvnewton.org.

- Members! Don't forget to renew your membership!
  You can renew your membership online at [Renew LWVN](http://lwvnewton.org), or send your dues to LWVN, PO Box 610207, Newton MA 02461
Washington, DC – The League of Women Voters added their voice to those sounding nationwide for restoring our historic voting rights, marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

“The Voting Rights Act (VRA) is one of the most significant pieces of legislation in American history,” said Elisabeth MacNamara, President of the League of Women Voters of the U.S. “The VRA ensures the right to vote of every eligible American regardless of race, ethnicity or language and protects against election laws and practices that have disparate impact on groups of voters, whether state and local officials intended that impact or not.”

“The most significant provisions of the VRA were Sections 4 and 5 which created criteria for requiring federal oversight of states and localities based on patterns of discriminatory practices,” MacNamara said. “Two years ago, however, the U.S. Supreme Court declared the Section 4 criteria unconstitutional, effectively gutting the Section 5 preclearance structure in Shelby County v. Holder.”

“The almost immediate result of the Shelby County v. Holder decision was passage or implementation of laws that would not have been pre-cleared under Section 5,” said MacNamara. “North Carolina was one of the first states to take advantage, passing one of the nation’s most restrictive election laws. The North Carolina League was there to fight back and is now awaiting a decision on their lawsuit challenging the omnibus election ‘reform’ bill.”

“We are thrilled to hear President Obama today call for restoration of the VRA and also urging eligible Americans to be sure they are registered to vote,” MacNamara said. “For democracy to work best, we need everyone to weigh in. As one of the founding organizations behind National Voter Registration Day (NVRD), hearing the President proclaim September 22nd as the day this fall that we will fan out to get people registered is energizing. Voter empowerment is what we have been doing for nearly 100 years and NVRD is the front door to participation for thousands of eligible voters.”

“On this day there is good news: Congress can fix the Voting Rights Act to restore voter protections the Supreme Court stripped away,” concluded MacNamara. “The League has been a vocal supporter of provisions currently pending that would repair the VRA but we need to keep up the pressure and get the word out that the vote is our most fundamental right. To deny it to any eligible voter is wrong.”

Contact: Kelly Ceballos, 202-263-1331, kceballos@lwv.org.
Clean Power Plan Outlines Key Ways to Stop Climate Change

By: Jessica Jones, LWV, 08/05/2015

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released the final version of the Clean Power Plan - the first ever limits on carbon pollution from power plants. The Clean Power Plan takes the necessary steps to reduce this dangerous greenhouse gas effectively protecting our children and future generations from the effects of climate change.

The EPA sought the public’s involvement throughout the regulation process, which resulted in around the largest public engagement campaign the agency has ever conducted and over 4 million comments from the public, environmentalists, public health groups and industry officials regarding the proposal. League supporters generated over 90,000 messages to President Obama and the EPA over the course of the rules finalization process. League supporters also attended the public hearings and listening sessions that the EPA held across the country. The final rule reflects much of the feedback that the EPA received.

The Clean Power Plan is the biggest and most ambitious action the U.S. has ever taken to tackle climate change. It will save lives, improve health, spur economic growth and protect our environment. Here are just a few key parts of the plan:

**Cuts Carbon Pollution from Power Plants**

Carbon pollution is the number one contributor to climate change. Power plants contribute over 30 percent of the total U.S. carbon emissions. The Clean Power Plan will cut carbon emissions by 32 percent by 2030 based
on 2005 levels. This means people will live longer, our planet will be cleaner and our economy will be strengthened by promoting a stronger emphasis on renewable energy.

**Provides States Flexibility to Meet State Goals**
Drafting State Implementation Plans is the next step to a successful Clean Power Plan. States must use the common sense building blocks, defined in the Clean Power Plan, to meet state goals outlined by the EPA. Plans for implementation are due in September 2016, but after submitting an initial plan, states can request an extension of up to two years to finalize their plans. Even if states are unable to draft their own plans, a proposed federal implementation plan will fill the gap any state is unable to fill.

**Invests in Renewable Energy**
In the League’s comments to the EPA we called for a proposal “strengthened by providing for greater use of renewable energy and energy efficiency in displacing carbon emissions from power plants.” The final Clean Power Plan makes aggressive and necessary investments in clean energy technologies, resulting in 30 percent more renewable energy generation by 2030 while continuing to lower costs. It also gives states a reward for making early investments in clean energy by establishing a Clean Energy Incentive Program.

**Protects Public Health**
It’s not just the environment that is affected by climate change, public health will also improve thanks to the Clean Power Plan. Cutting carbon pollution will reduce premature deaths from power plant emissions by nearly 90 percent in 2030 compared to 2005 according to a White House press release. It will also lead to 90,000 fewer asthma attacks in children by decreasing the pollutants that contribute to this health issue.

**Paves the way for an International Climate Agreement**
In December, leaders from around the world will meet in Paris for the UN Climate Change Conference. Countries from around the world have already made preliminary pledges to reduce carbon emissions. The Clean Power Plan is a major step in international leadership. The US coming to the table with a plan to cut carbon dioxide emissions will go a long way in procuring commitments from others to do the same.

The rule may be finalized, but there is still more work to come as states work to draft plans for implementation and we work to fight off attacks from big polluters and their allies in Congress. It will be up to all of us to encourage our state and local leaders to fulfill the commitments of the Clean Power Plan in our own communities. The League will continue to work to ensure that the Clean Power Plan is implemented properly in every state and that these life-saving measures are enacted.

Join the League in thanking EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and President Obama for their leadership in fighting climate change and protecting public health.
The LWVN Board of Directors meets monthly. All members are welcome. Meeting times will be posted in both the Newsletter and the calendar section of the Web site. Attending board meetings is a great way for new members to learn League process and for more seasoned members to stay connected. We hope to see you there!

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization. Regular membership is open to all citizens, men and women, of voting age. Associate membership is open to young people and noncitizens. Your annual dues give you membership in local, state and national Leagues.

For more information about the League of Women Voters, including information on joining us, call 617-383-4598 or visit www.lwvnewton.org. And find us at: www.facebook.com/lwvnewton

LWVN needs (more than) a few good League members for both long-term and short-term commitments - have fun while you help your LWVN!

- Observer at Board of Aldermen Finance Committee
- Events planning
- Photographer to record events for our Facebook page
- Membership Team
- "Ambassadors" to greet and sign in people at events
- Publicity
- Fundraising
- Print and web communications: newsletter, monthly postcard, email blasts, website, LWVN Facebook (training provided)
- Editor for our Newsletter /*/
- Committees: Archives, Environmental Issues, Education, Elections, Housing, Municipal Finance

/* The current editor will be leaving (Doug Leith, jdleith@verizon.net)

Contact Sue Flicop at info@lwvnewton.org if you are interested or have questions! YOU are the League!