

## **September 10, 2016 meeting results**

On Saturday, September 10 from 10am to 11:30, the League of Women Voters Volusia held a meeting of the membership at the Ormond Beach Public Library auditorium to discuss legislative priorities for 2016. There were 33 attendees (31 members and 2 former members who had not yet renewed). Sharon Crow (LWVVC member and lobbyist with the firm Byers-Crow) gave a brief power point tutorial about lobbying. Her presentation tied together the explanation of selecting legislative priorities and the activities of Legislative Summit in March.

Attendees were given handouts of the legislative priorities from the previous year, a summary of the Capitol Report wrap up, and a summary of state program 2015-2017.

Thirty three seemed to be a manageable number as everyone had the opportunity to participate. Had there been a larger turnout, we might have needed to break up into smaller discussion groups with discussion leaders.

The results were emailed to Tony Dutton on Sunday, September 11, ahead of the September 16 deadline.

In addition to the legislative priorities, our volunteers recorded the following concerns and issues the group would like more information about. They are as follows:

1. Civil citations vs criminal records
2. Coastal and estuary issues and beach preservation
3. The three hospital taxing districts in Volusia County
4. The housing first approach to homelessness and federal housing grant history
5. Common core curriculum and testing – what is it exactly?
6. Docs vs glocks bill – what is it and what impact have the courts had on the issue

### **Legislative Priorities 2016 from League of Women Voters Volusia County**

#### **1. Justice and suffrage**

Restoration of Voter Rights for convicted felons

#### **2. Land and Water**

Land use protection for fresh water

Climate change (mitigation and planning)

#### **3. Gun Safety**

Continue to oppose legislation that would make it legal for those with concealed weapons permits to carry firearms on Florida public college and university campuses.

Continue to oppose legislation that would allow school boards and superintendents to designate employees to carry concealed firearms on K- 12 school grounds.

Oppose legislation that would create exceptions to existing laws that prohibit reckless discharge of firearms in residential areas.

Repeal the docs vs glocks bill in the event the 11<sup>th</sup> circuit does not resolve

Ban firearms with large capacity magazines

#### **4. Education**

Continue to address proposals to change the statewide assessment program to assure that a national assessment instrument is used, with such assessments applicable to every Florida student educated with public funds and reported at appropriate intervals related to children's educational cognitive development and ensure the process is transparent.

Enforce home rule for local school boards with regard to charter schools so that the legislature cannot over rule a school board that denies a charter school a permit to open.

#### **5. Health Care**

Accept federal funding to expand health care access and coverage and offset the costs of uncompensated care to hospitals and providers.