

ST JOHNS COUNTY CIVIC ROUNDTABLE

Minutes of October 8, 2018 Meeting

The meeting of the St. Johns County Civic Roundtable was opened at 9:05am by President Rick Lofgren.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the September 10, 2018 meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: A balance of \$212.68 was reported to be in our account.

President Lofgren introduced Patricia Gill, Ph. D , president of The League of Women Voters. Dr. Gill discussed the 13 State Initiatives/Amendments to be voted on at the election on November 8, 2018.

Amendment 1: Increased Homestead Tax Exemption. League opposes.

Amendment 2: Limitations on Property tax Assessments. League opposes.

Amendment 3: Voter Control of Gambling in Florida. League supports.

Amendment 4: Voting Restoration Amendment (Restores voting rights for convicted felons who have completed sentence, parole etc.) League supports

Amendment 5: Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize or Raise taxes League Opposes

Amendment 6: Rights of Crime Victims and Change Mandatory Retirement of State Judges from 70 to 75 League opposes.

Amendment 7: First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities League Opposes.

Amendment 8: School Board Term Limits and Duties: Public Schools. This amendment has been removed from the ballot by court action.

Amendment 9: Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Workspace Settings League Supports.

Amendment 10: State and Local Government Structure and Operation League Opposes.

Amendment 11: Amendment 11 Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes League has no opinion.

Amendment 12: Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers League has no position.

Amendment 13: Ends Dog Racing (by 2020)
Split Opinion. Some League members support, others oppose.

The ballot contains a more complete description of each amendment. Review all elements before voting.

Roundtable Business:

Bill McCormick offered to supply additional information to support the Roundtable's letter to the County Commissioners, opposing the Kings Grant development. This was done and the letter submitted. As many of you know the County Commission turned down the King's Grant proposal at the October meeting.

Bill Jones – Noted the lack of transparency in the St Johns County selection of the organization to run the Farmer's Market. He also said the terms of the accepted bid were modified after the contract was awarded.

Adjournment: A motion was made and passed to adjourn at 11:35.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Froio, Secretary