



March 2019


In this issue:

- Calendar
- Announcements
- Committee Reports
- Committees and Chairs
- The Board
- Legislators' Contact Info

CALENDAR

Date/time	Event	Location
Thursday, March 7, 2019 7:00 PM	Monthly Board Meeting to discuss upcoming events - All members welcome	Mary LeSueur's home
Sunday, March 10, 2019	Annual Civics Bee area high school teams compete for the trophy	PCIS Little Theatre
March 20, 2019 9:30 AM	Voter Service Committee Meeting volunteers needed to help with Candidate's Night and other voter service projects	Martha Vautrain's 22 River St
Thursday, April 4, 2019 7:00 PM	Monthly Board Meeting to discuss upcoming events - All members welcome	Mary LeSueur's home
Thursday, April 11, 2019 7:00 PM	Vaping - Just the Facts Informative panel discussion on the Vaping Crisis in our schools	PCIS Little Theater 117 Long Pond Road
Saturday, May 4, 2019 9:15 AM	Monthly Board Meeting to discuss upcoming events - All members welcome	TD Bank Pinehills downstairs conference room
Thursday, June 13, 2019 5:30 PM	Annual Meeting more details to follow	TBD

**The Voter Services Committee
is seeking a few new members**




to join our committee as we start planning for
Plymouth Candidates Night April 25, 2019 at Plymouth Town Hall

Please come to the meeting
Wednesday, March 20 at 9:30am at Martha Vautrain's,
22 River Street. If that meeting date doesn't work for you,
contact Martha to make other arrangements
508-746-8606 or cvautrain@verizon.net

In addition to organizing **Candidate's Night** we could use help with
Get Out the Vote efforts such as:

- Placing our **Remember To Vote Signs**
- **Voter Registration in local High Schools**
- **Getting to Know Your Town Meeting Members**



LWVPA Video Library Announcement

At the request of PACTV, we now have our recent public meetings on our own hard drive, instead of the programs being kept at the PACTV station. The list of programs follows. If anyone would like to view them or use them for reference or show them again, please contact Martha Vautrain cvautrain@verizon.net. The hard drive has A LOT more space for future program transfer.

Candidates' Forum	Oct. 20, 2016	2 hr. 57 min.
Water Forum	Nov. 10 2016	1 hr. 31 min.
Candidates' Night	April 27, 2017	1 hr. 47 min.
Candidates' Night	May 5, 2017	31 min.
Know Your Plymouth Town Government	Oct. 3, 2017	1 hr. 39 min.
How to Run for Office	Nov. 16, 2017	1 hr. 15 min.
Ranked choice and Auto Voter Registration	March 1 2018	1 hr. 20 min.
Opioid Meeting	March 24, 2018	1 hr. 55 min.
Candidates Night School Committee	April 26, 2018	1 hr. 12 min.
A Healthy Plymouth - Prevent, Promote, Protect	May 31, 2018	1 hr. 26 min.
Meet Your Muslim Neighbors	Oct. 10, 2018	1 hr. 51 min.
Fall Candidates' Night	Oct. 25, 2018	2 hr. 38 min

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NUCLEAR

Eyes on Pilgrim Update, February 20, 2019

New NRC rule loosens post-Fukushima requirements. After Fukushima, the NRC required nuclear power plants to modify elements of their design and structural safety mechanisms so as to diminish the risk of events not foreseen in the original design—events “beyond design”—including ways to address newly evaluated flood risks. But now, by a vote of 3-2, the NRC has approved revisions to the NRC’s final rule. Most notably, **the revision removes requirements to address seismic and flooding hazards.**

Two of the five commissioners strongly disapproved of this change, as did the Union of Concerned Scientists: “... Owners have reevaluated seismic and flooding hazards. What they found is not reassuring. For instance, the flooding reevaluations revealed that roughly two-thirds of U.S. nuclear plants face hazards beyond what they were originally designed to handle, including higher flood levels from extreme precipitation, upstream dam failure and storm surge.” [...] “The commission majority’s action today removed that requirement and will simply maintain the uncertain—and inadequate—status quo.” Pilgrim is especially vulnerable to flooding due to heavy rains. Bottom line: ***Pilgrim’s existing current licensing basis excludes heavy rainfall events despite evaluations using NRC-accepted methods that show such events to be the dominant flood hazard at Pilgrim.***

Decommissioning plans being considered. Public comment solicited. The NRC is now considering the decommissioning plans from Entergy (current owner) and Holtec (would-be buyer). Between now and March 4th, the public is invited to make comments on each plan. **Entergy’s plan would defer full decommissioning until 2060.** Among the dangers of this plan: **(1)** fuel rods would stay in the fuel pool for a long time, prolonging the risk of exposure to extreme weather, terrorism etc. **(2)** Recent reevaluations of the nature and degree of climate change have been largely ignored in Entergy’s risk projections; nor does it enter into the NRC’s calculations. Given extreme rains, storm surges and rising seas, Pilgrim’s reactor could be water-compromised by 2060 **(3)** By 2060, all those now involved in the NRC, Entergy, the NDCAP and the federal government itself will be gone! How can we have any confidence that the basics of safety will be transmitted, understood and carried out between now and 2060?

Holtec, which will purchase Entergy (pending NRC approval) **proposes a much rapider, six-year process.** But this plan arouses serious concerns best expressed by our AGO at the NRC’s annual meeting in January. “From the Attorney General’s point of view, the proposed sale and the related transfer of license from Entergy to a Holtec subsidiary raise significant health, safety, environmental and financial concerns for the Commonwealth and its citizens. [...] Because of the significant risks to the Commonwealth ... we implore the NRC to join us in closely scrutinizing the proposal’s terms and ensure that substance dial financial assurances exist to ensure those risks are fully addressed. **To this end, the AG intends, on behalf of the Commonwealth, to intervene** in the pending license transfer proceeding to articulate these and other concerns for evaluation by the Commission and the imposition of protective safeguards and other conditions with respect to any license transfer.”

WHAT YOU CAN DO

—**File a public comment before March 4, 2019.** *Email comments to: Hearingdocket@nrc.gov.* If you do not receive an automatic email reply confirming receipt, then contact the NRC at 301–415–1677. Please include **Docket ID NRC–2018– 0279** in your comment submission. The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC will post all comment submissions at [http:// www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) as well as on NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS).

—**Attend an NDCAP meeting.** NDCAP meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Little Theatre at Plymouth Community Intermediate School (PCIS), 6:30-8:30pm.

Next meeting: March 20th.

PILGRIM-RELATED LEGISLATION PROPOSED FOR THE 2019:

HD274 (*Meschino & LaNatra*) requires licensee funding offsite emergency planning post shutdown.

HD1077 (*Balser*) requires expansion of monitoring to 20 miles and emergency plans covering 50 miles, until all fuel rods have been removed from the fuel pool.

HD1746 (*Meschino & Cutler*) increases funding to MDPH for environmental monitoring—authorizing state to assess nuclear operator annually as a reserve to guarantee cleanup shortfalls until decommissioning is complete.

SD1064 (*Vinny DeMacedo*) & **HD 1752** (*Mathew Muratore*) protects taxpayers by authorizing state to fine Pilgrim's licensee in case of failure to clean up the site to a <10 ml/rem/year cleanup and < 4 ml/rem/yr. for drinking water sources water

SD598 ([Patrick M. O'Connor](#)) establishes Trust Fund to protect Commonwealth if decommissioning funds run short.

WHAT YOU CAN DO—Thank the sponsors of all this legislation and ask your representatives to support them.

AND, IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT: Senator Ed Markey and Representative William Keating have joined Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez in sponsoring the **Green New Deal, which does not even mention nuclear energy.** Its omission from the green new deal is being challenged by the nuclear industry, but also (sad to say) by many others, even on the progressive side (e.g. Cory Booker, Barack Obama, Bill Gates). **Let Markey and Keating know what you think.**

Finally, if you are a glutton for punishment, read the newly published exposé of the NRC by its former director turned whistleblower, Gregory B. Jazko, *Confessions of a Rogue Nuclear Regulator*. It is short, mordant and hair-raising, revealing all you suspected and more: one among the many examples of a federal bureaucracy entirely corrupted by corporate agendas.

For more information, or if you'd like to be involved, please contact Henrietta Cosentino: Mobile, (323) 868-3296. Email, henrietta.cosentino@gmail.com

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Voter Service Committee is seeking a few New Members.

Please join our committee as we start planning for Plymouth Candidates Night April 25 at Plymouth Town Hall. Our meeting is Wednesday 9:30am March 20 at Martha Vautrain's home 22 River Street. If that meeting date doesn't work for you, contact me anyway to make other arrangements. In addition to organizing **Candidate's Night** we could use help with other activities: **Get Out the Vote** efforts such as placing our **Remember To Vote Signs, Voter Registration in local High Schools, Getting to Know Your Town Meeting Members.** Contact Martha Vautrain 508 746 8606 or cvautrain@verizon.net.

In hopeful anticipation! Thank you to the few someones, Martha

Plymouth Area LWV Committees

We encourage each of you to join at least one committee.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Follow Local efforts to provide Affordable Housing and encourage local government to do so.

Chair Kathy Dunn (gordod1@comcast.net or 508-747-0039)

Current Volunteers include Peg Bergiel, Sheila Bruce, Shannon Burrington

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Know Your Muslim Neighbor: Current focus on improving community perception of the Muslim community.

Chair Kathy Dunn (gordod1@comcast.net or 508-747-0039)

Current Volunteers: Judy Barber

COMMUNICATIONS

Bulletin: Monthly(ish) publication to keep membership informed. Sent by email and posted on the website. Heidi Mayo, Editor (LWVBulletin@heidimayo.com or 508-747-5467)

Website: Maintain the PlymouthLWV.org website. Deb Etzel, Editor (daetzel@gmail.com or 508-224-1667)

FaceBook Page – Maintain the Plymouth Area League of Women Voters FaceBook page Deb Etzel, Editor (daetzel@gmail.com or 508-224-1667)

EDUCATION

Civics Bee: Organizes the annual high school competition based on civics questions. March 10, 2019 is the next Bee.

Co-Chairs Erin Palladino (esutherland@hotmail.com or 617-827-8255) & Lyle Lawrence (lyle.lawrence@comcast.net or 774-343-5548)

Current Volunteers: Evelyn Strawn, Deb Etzel, Jane Goodwin, Alice Lague.

HEALTH & WELL BEING

Vaping Forum: Focus is on the physical and mental wellbeing of the community. Next session will be on Vaping.

Chair Birgitta Kuehn (Birgitta.Kuehn@gmail.com or 978-886-4026)

Current Volunteers include: Deb Etzel, Kathy Dunn, Lyle Lawrence, Vedna Heywood, Jane Goodwin

MEMBERSHIP

Finding and welcoming new members.

Chair Deanna Nealey (deannap-1@verizon.net or 508-224-3797)

Current Volunteers: Diane Flaherty, Veda Heywood, Birgitta Kuehn, Mary Tousignant, Mary LeSueur

NATIONAL OR STATE STUDIES

State Ballot Question Study: LWVMA has issued study materials for a consensus building event on the process around how MA puts community sponsored measures on the ballot.

Chair Lyle Lawrence (lyle.lawrence@comcast.net)

Current Volunteers : Sharon Reed-Eramian, Martha Sheldon, Cheryl Fisher, Deb Etzel

[Committees page 2](#)

NUCLEAR

Follows what is current regarding the Pilgrim Energy Plant and reports to the membership and suggests action to local government

Chair Henrietta Cosentino (Henrietta.cosentino@gmail.com or 508-224-3251)

Current Volunteers : Lyle Lawrence

OBSERVER CORPS

The League tries to follow local government in action. Currently we are watching the Charter Committee and County Government, other entities are out there for the watching. Those observing write brief reports to share with the local league and potentially influence action items.

Current Volunteers include: Cheryl Fisher, Mary Tousignant, Jane Goodwin, Evelyn Strawn

SUSTAINABILITY

Water: Studies topic area of interest related to Sustainability, currently Water. Other topics are encouraged. Offers local education in the topic area and/or community/governmental action. Water Study Committee - Evelyn Strawn, Don Williams, Monty Fischer

Chair Harvey LeSueur (hclesueur@yahoo.com or 508-746-4252)

Current Volunteers include: Cheryl Fischer, Henrietta Cosentino, Lois Post, Brian Harrington, Judy Barber

VOTER SERVICES

Provides voter registration when requested, plans *Get out the Vote* campaigns (GOTV) and runs candidate forums for local and state election

Chair Martha Vautrain (cvautrain@verizon.net or 508-746-8606)

Current Volunteers: Vedna Heywood, Birgitta Kuehn, Sharon Reed-Ermanian, Cheryl Fischer, Evelyn Strawn, Mary Tousignant, Ginny Johnson, Alice Lague.

Please contact the chair(s) listed above to loan your time and talents to these important projects.

Current Plymouth Area LWV Board of Directors

updated 9-6-18

Peg Bergeil	bergielmargaretta@gmail.com	508-747-4982
Deb Etzel, treasurer	daetzel@gmail.com	508-224-1667
Vedna Heywood	vklacombe@gmail.com	508-743-5568
Ginny Johnson	vjohnson1940@gmail.com	508-224-2559
Lyle Lawrence	lyle.lawrence@comcast.net	774-343-5548
Mary LeSueur	hclesueur@yahoo.com	508-746-4252
Deanna Nealey	deannap1@verizon.net	508-224-3797
Lois Post, secretary	lois@mayflowerweb.com	508-224-7294
Martha Vautrain	cvautrain@verizon.net	508-746-8606

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

U. S. Senator

Elizabeth Warren

317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510
202-224-4543
or
2400 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury St.
Boston, MA 02203
617-565-3170

U.S. Congressman District 9

William Keating

315 Cannon HOB
Washington, D. C. 20515
202-225-3111
or
2 Court St. Plymouth, MA 02360
508-746-9000

State Rep Precincts 1, 11, 13

Kathy LaNatra
24 Beacon St.
Room B1
Boston, MA, 02133
617-722-2425
kathleen.lanatra@mahouse.gov

State Rep Precincts 2-8, 10, 12, 14, 15

Mathew Muratore

State House Room 39 Boston, MA 02133
617-722-2014 Mathew.Muratore@mahouse.gov

Plymouth Board of Selectmen

26 Court St., Plymouth, MA 02360
TownManager-Selectmen@townhall.plymouth.ma.us
(508) 747-1620 ext. 10106

Chair: Kenneth Tavares kennethtavares@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Anthony Provenzano, Jr.
provenzano@townhall.plymouth.ma.us

Betty Cavacco bettyc369@msn.com

John Mahoney mahoney@townhall.plvmouth.ma.us

Shelagh Joyce joyce@townhall.plvmouth.ma.us

Town Meeting Precinct Rep Chairs

1 Christine K. Pratt, 242 Court St.
prattck1@verizon.net

2 Richard M. Serkey, 60 Allerton St
rserkev@lwwsr.com

3 Gerald E. Sirrico, 38 Mayflower St
lhsges@verizon.net

4 Clare A. Montanari, 71 Harborlight
cmontanari@iaol.com

U.S. Senator

Edward Markey

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202-224-2742
or
975 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury St. Boston, MA 02203
617-565-8519

State Senator

Vinny deMacedo

State House Room 313A
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Phone: 617-722-1330
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or
10 Cordage Park Circle
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State Rep Precinct 9

Randy Hunt

State House Room 136
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Randy.Hunt@mahouse.gov

Town Meeting Precinct Rep Chairs (con't)

5 W. Wrestling Brewster, 39 Forge Drive
wwb@bpcs.us

6 Megan Collins-Dempster, 18 Bartlett Rd
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7 Karen Buechs, 146 Bartlett Rd
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8 Terese A. Brennan, 1035 Long Pond Rd
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9 Francis E. Lydon, 74 Raymond Rd
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10 Alan M. Costello, 41 Huntington
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11 Ronald Reilly, 242 Plympton
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12 Betsy R. Hall, 43 West Long Pond Rd
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13 Anita J. Hadley, 235 Carver Road
nonni7111@verizon.net

14 Karen M. Keane, 87 Ellisville Green
kmkcjk04@aol.com

15 Michael J. Hanlon III, 2 Wayside Path
mjhanlon3@verizon.net