



October 2021

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## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

### Calendar of Events

**Nov. 4 (Thursday): Noon**

**LWVLL Lunch & Learn  
via Zoom:**

*Lincoln's Vision for a  
Climate-Smart Future*

Miki Esposito, J.D., Senior  
Policy Advisor to Mayor Leirion  
Gaylor Baird, City of Lincoln,  
Nebraska

*See article at upper right, and  
check out the fall schedule  
and recordings of previous  
programs on page 2.*

**Nov. 4 (Thursday): 5:30 pm**  
**LWVLL Board Meeting**

**Dec. 9 (Thursday): Noon**  
**LWVLL Lunch & Learn  
via Zoom:**

*Lincoln Airport Capital  
Improvements*

David Haring - Lincoln  
Municipal Airport Director, and  
Zachary Mora James - Lincoln  
Airport Authority Board Chair  
Note that the December meeting  
will be on the **second** Thursday  
of the month, rather than the  
usual **first** Thursday.

*Check out the fall schedule  
and recordings of previous  
programs on page 2.*

### **November 4 Lunch & Learn:**

#### **“Lincoln’s Vision for a Climate-Smart Future”**

The November Lunch and Learn program sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County will feature Miki Esposito, J.D., from the Mayor’s office, speaking on “Lincoln’s Vision for a Climate-Smart Future.” That meeting will be on Thursday, November 4 at 12:00 noon, via Zoom.

If you are a member of LWVLL, or if you had registered for Lunch and Learn meetings last year, you should receive a Zoom link about a week before the event, as well as a reminder notice the evening before the meeting.

Guests are welcome and the event is free; however guests who are not League members and have not registered for previous meetings will need to pre-register at <https://lincolnleague.org/lunch-and-learn-schedule/>. Registration deadline is Monday, November 1, for the November 4 meeting.

See page 2 for information about the fall programs; watch for the spring schedule in a future newsletter.

For recordings of previous presentations, see: <https://lincolnleague.org/lunch-and-learn-schedule/#Recordings>.

### **State League Seeking Members for Communications Committee**

The State League is looking for members from each local League to be part of their Communications Committee, advising LWVNE on means to reach state-wide League members about events, calls for action, opportunities, etc. Those who are interested can help with writing content for the newsletter, website, MailChimp emails . . . bring your strengths and they will be appreciated. Contact Dianne Bystrom, at [dbystrom@lwvnebraska.org](mailto:dbystrom@lwvnebraska.org).

## Lunch and Learn: Upcoming, and Links to Previous Programs

Following is our fall 2021 schedule, and links to recordings of our 2020/2021 season Lunch and Learn speakers. Watch our newsletter for announcements of the Spring 2022 speakers.

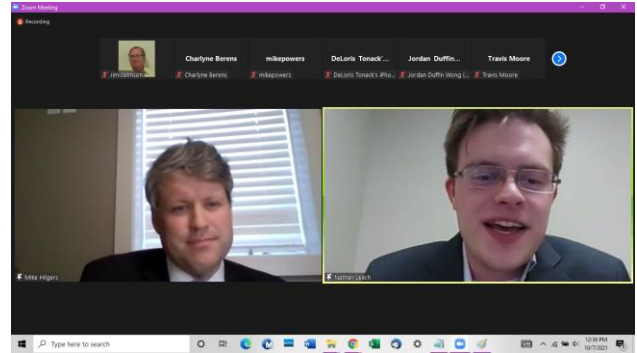
Fall 2021 Lunch and Learn Topics and Speakers		
11/4/2021	Lincoln's Vision for a Climate-Smart Future	Miki Esposito, J.D., Senior Policy Advisor to Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird, City of Lincoln, Nebraska
12/9/2021	Lincoln Airport Capital Improvements	David Haring - Lincoln Municipal Airport Director, Zachary Mora James - Lincoln Airport Authority Board Chair
<b>Videos of previous presentations</b>		
<i>September 2, 2021</i> <a href="#"><u>"Redistricting in Nebraska"</u></a> Nebraska Unicameral Senators Tom Briese and Steve Lathrop, facilitated by Rachel Gibson		
<i>May 6, 2021</i> <a href="#"><u>Together One Lincoln</u></a> Sändra Washington, Lincoln City Council		
<i>April 1, 2021</i> <a href="#"><u>Holding Cops Accountable; What is Happening Locally?</u></a> Ishma Valenti, Director, Community Engagement, Clyde Malone Community Center		
<i>March 4, 2021</i> <a href="#"><u>Can't Trust it: Race, Policing, the Prison Industrial Complex</u></a> Dr. Jeanette Jones, Associate Professor of History and Ethnic Studies, UNL		
<i>February 4, 2021</i> <a href="#"><u>The Life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg</u></a> Anna Shavers, Associate Dean, NU College of Law; Eric Berger, Professor, NU College of Law		
<i>January 7, 2021</i> <a href="#"><u>Focus on the Coming Nebraska Legislative Session</u></a> Analysts Craig Beck and Alex Serrurier, OpenSky Policy Institute		
<i>December 3, 2020</i> <i>Dr. Deborah Turner, President of the National League of Women Voters</i> Video unavailable. Please enjoy this video instead: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters/videos/588949825314829">https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters/videos/588949825314829</a>		
<i>November 5, 2020</i> <a href="#"><u>Redistricting and Apportionment</u></a> Gavin Geis, Executive Director, Common Cause Nebraska		
<i>October 8, 2020</i> <a href="#"><u>The Electoral College: Is It Still Relevant?</u></a> John Comer, Professor Emeritus, UNL Department of Political Science		
<i>September 3, 2020</i> <a href="#"><u>Voting Rights, Voting Right Now: Principals and Practicalities of Voting in Lancaster County</u></a> John Cartier, Director of Voting Rights and Dave Shively, Lancaster County Election Commissioner		

# Report on October Lunch and Learn

On October 7, the League of Women Voters-Lincoln/Lancaster County hosted a Lunch and Learn discussion about the nonpartisan history of the Nebraska Legislature. Guests were Nathan Leach from the group Nonpartisan Nebraska, and his invited guest, Speaker of the Legislature Mike Hilgers.

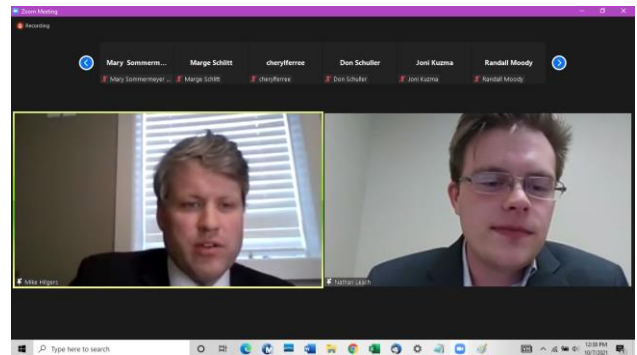
**"One Fell Swoop"**

- Went from bicameral to unicameral
- Went from partisan elections to nonpartisan elections
- Reduced membership dramatically
- Reform led by U.S. Senator George Norris

**Text of Ballot Initiative**

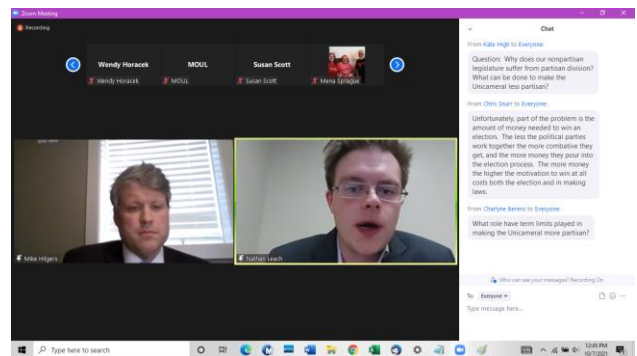
"An amendment to the Constitution of Nebraska providing that beginning with the regular session of the legislature in 1937 the legislative authority of the state shall be vested in a legislature consisting of one house of not less than thirty nor more than fifty members, the members to be nominated and elected in a non-partisan manner; to provide for the compensation and terms of office of said legislative members; to provide for sessions of said legislature and to provide the procedure of and in said legislative body necessary for the enactment of laws."



**Nonpartisanship Better Defined**

A nonpartisan government is one that does not give deference to political parties in elections, laws, or decision-making processes. Parties are treated just like any other private organization.

Although members of a nonpartisan legislature or other elected body may be associated with a political party, the system of rules and traditions adopted by that body allow officials to prioritize and act in the best interest of their constituents rather than their political party.



**Chat**


from Katy High to Everyone:  
Question: Why does our nonpartisan legislature suffer from partisan division? What can be done to make the Unicameral less partisan?

from Chris Stein to Everyone:  
Unfortunately, part of the problem is the amount of money needed to win an election. The less the political parties work together the more combative they get, and the more money they pour into the election process. The more money the higher the motivation to win at all costs both the election and in making laws.

from Charlyne Berens to Everyone:  
What role have term limits played in making the Unicameral more partisan?

Who can see your message? Recording On  
Type message here...

**Will Nonpartisanship Survive?**




**LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LINCOLN-LANCASTER**

Thank you for joining us today.  
For more information please visit [www.lincolnleague.org](http://www.lincolnleague.org)

The Lincoln Lancaster *Voter*  
League of Women Voters ®  
4600 Valley Road, Suite 306  
Lincoln NE 68510  
402-475-1411  
<http://www.LincolnLeague.org>



Time Dated Material  
Please Do Not Delay