CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
AGENDA ATTACHMENT 8

MEETING DATE: Thursday, September 23, 2010

AGENDA ITEM #: 12 D

ITEM: PROVIDING VOTER INFORMATION

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Commissioners will consider Commissioner Enholm’s attached proposal.
July 22, 2010

TO: County Library Commissioners

FROM: Greg Enholm
East County Library Commissioner

RE: Considering how the County Library could help the County Elections Dept inform voters

As you may have heard, Gubernatorial Elections usually have far fewer voters than the Presidential Election. For instance, in Contra Costa County, in the 2008 Presidential Election, we had 456,876 people vote compared with 308,206 voters in 2006. What will those 148,670 added voters in 2008 do in 2010? Will they vote again or decide to stay away?

My question is “What can the County Library do to inform voters so they will vote by November 2, 2010?” I have an easy answer for that. Let’s set up a “Voter Information Forum Committee” of the Library Commission (just like we did for reviewing the By Laws). That committee would hold open forums during August to gather suggestions from anyone who wants to make one.

The Voter Information Forum Committee will initially meet to set up procedures for the open forum(s) and then hold open forum(s) at one or more libraries and at one or more day/times. The Committee will review all suggestions and then put the best ones together to be considered at the Library Commission meeting on September 23, 2010. That “Voter Information Forum” would include presentations from the people the Committee selected and be limited to 30 minutes. The Commission would then discuss all suggestions and, if appropriate, make a recommendation if one or more suggestions are favored by a majority of the Commissioners.

The public and nonpartisan groups such as the League of Women Voters and the County Elections Department should be invited to the Committee’s Open Forums. While the public would be invited to the Library Commission meeting on September 23, 2010 only the groups invited by the Committee would make presentations as to how the Library could help inform voters and increase voter turnout. This activity is specifically authorized in the Library Commission’s By Laws in “Article III: Purpose” — “The Commission is created for the following purposes: ... C. To establish a forum for the community to express its views regarding the goals and operations of the County Library.”

Having the Library Commission hold both open forum(s) at Committee meetings and an invitation-only forum at a Library Commission meeting to allow the community to make suggestions as to how the County Library could help inform voters for the November 2010 election is precisely what would be covered by this By Law.

So, I make the following motion:

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The Library Commission establishes a Voter Information Forum Committee to hold one or more public forums during August to determine which groups to invite to make presentations as a 30-minute Agenda Item: Forum for the Community to Suggest How the County Library can Inform Voters” at the September 23, 2010 Library Commission meeting. Commissioners who want to serve on this Committee must send an email to Corinne Kelly by 5 PM Monday, July 26 and include times when available for an organizational Committee meeting to be held either later that week or the week beginning August 2.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.
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Register to Vote

uck to fill out this form. Then print and mail it.

California Voter Guides

- SmartVoter
- California Voter Information Guide
- League of Women Voters
- Cal-Access

Local Political Organizations

- Contra Costa Democratic Party
- Contra Costa Republican Party
- Americans Independent Party
- Green Party of Contra Costa
- League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley
- Libertarian Party of Contra Costa County
- Peace and Freedom Party in Contra Costa County

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Contra Costa County

Contact Your Representative

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Communicating with Elected Officials (C-SPAN)

Tips on what to say when writing or telephoning federal and state representatives.

Forms of Address and Salutations to Federal and State Officials

C-SPAN Podcasts

- Oil Spill
  - Government depository libraries at the University of South Alabama has posted an extensive list of online resources.
  - Federal Decree
    - Horizon Oil Spill Incident 2010

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Letter to a New President - Byrd, Robert C

Government Transparency

- Sunlight Foundation
  - Their mission: to make government transparent and accountable. Sunlight Foundation is a non-partisan, non-profit organization based in Washington, DC that focuses on the digitization of government data and the creation of tools and websites to make that data easily accessible for all citizens.

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A. Lincoln: A Biography - Ronald C. White, Jr.

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These are full-text articles from the database, General OneFile, and require a library card to access. If you don't have one, apply online now and start using your library today.

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Databases

You will need a library card to access these valuable resources. Don't have one? You can apply online now for an e-card and start using these resources today.

- Encyclopedia of the American Constitution
  - A multimedia look at the Constitutions that shape our country. The Constitution is a legal document, a frame for government, a framework for building a nation, and an
Elections

Political News

- Conservatism Turn On Karl Rove After He Trashes O'Donnell
- Democrats Salad On McConnell's Plan To Add $4.0 Billion To The Debt With Tax Cuts | TPMDC
- The First Rikers Of A Press Pushback Against Sarah Palin
- Christine O'Donnell's 1996 Anti-Masturbation Campaign On KTV's 'A Sex In The 90s' (VIDEO) | TPMDC
- Barack Obama to publish children's book
- Jersey Brown apologizes to Bill Clinton for calling him a liar
- Christine O'Donnell's win is the GOP's loss
- Fun With Republicans: Yuri Herrera's Party Picker
- Field 600,000 controversial immigration measures to defend bill
- Tea Party Signs From The Gateway Arch September Tea Party Rally
- Stop Saying Republicans Don't Have A Plan [Copious]
- Disgraced Florida Republican Recalls Busybody Of Obama's Socialist Induction Speech To School Children
- Tea Partyer Christine O'Donnell Wins Republican Senate Primary In Delaware
- Feds Spent $900,000 Economic Stimulus on African Gambling-Flashing Program
- Under Obama, Feds Raid Continue, but Publicity Stops
- GOP goes too far, Go after lawbreakers, not Constitution
- House Dems Will Not Force Vote On Middle Class Tax Cuts
- First lady asks restaurants to serve healthy foods
- The Democratic Fear-Based Strategy
- Who Says Politicians Are Out Of Touch? [CARSON]

Contra Costa County Politics

- American Independent Party (925) 933-4105
- Contra Costa Democratic Party (666) 382-1138
- Contra Costa Republican Party (258) 800-0551
- Green Party of Contra Costa (520) 635-3112
- Independent American Party 500-335-0713
- League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley (925) 282-9235
- Libertarian Party of Contra Costa County (925) 330-0205
- Peace and Freedom Party in Contra Costa County (925) 781-3895

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California Politics

- Politics
- Online Resources
- Google News

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LegalStalker

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GovFresh

- Why invest so much energy in defining what is and isn't open gov? Isn't the doing more important than debating?
- Jobs That Matter and how to find a stable, fulfilling career in public service
- Innovation for local government
- Challenge.gov brings citizens, government together for civic solutions
- WeGot10 wrap-up with SF CIO Chris Vein and CivicTrends Alison Horvath
- Crowdsourcing, ideas and innovation in government
- Is open government closing?
- Fresh wrap:GovFresh
- The future of the government forges
- Getting the Brightest: Crowdsourcing in government and enterprise

Contra Costa Times

- Stark and Herger pitch Medicare fraud bill
- Alcohol Industry ponies up against Prop. 19
- EMILY's List ready to ante up for Boxer
- Let's go straight to the negative ads, the filthblood of campaigns
- Walid Amdouni takes conservative heat on Prop. 8
- Brown's gifts of particular interest to ex-Dem party official
- San Bruno, campaigns and Prop. 19 on "TWINC"
- A015: Buchanan, Wilson spar today
- Moniz tops CA city manager pay list
- San Ramon contribution scrutiny solved

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CNN Political Ticker

- TRENDING: Fox News files suit against Cameron
- O'Donnell questions evolution
- Jimmy Carter slams Ted Kennedy on health care
- Delaware GOP Chair promises support, without monitoring O'Donnell by name
- Warren announcement on Friday
- Biden to campaign with Coons
- Senate Oks small biz jobs bill
- Some Democrats break with Obama, party leaders on tax cuts
- Obama back on campaign trail Thursday
- Boehner pushes extension of all Bush tax cuts
- Sean Duffy wants to take his ax to D.C.
- 2012 Watch: Romney backs N.H. Republican candidates
- Michelle Obama denies calling job "hell"
- Brianna Keilar: Boehner as Bogeyman? "Comes with the territory"
- Palin lends Paul a hand in Kentucky
- Boehner wants up or down vote on tax cuts
- Would a vote for Melanie mean a win for Rubio?
- Don Lothian: No Warren announcement Thursday
- O'Donnell to address major conservative conference
- Florida ballot could be trouble for Crist

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