



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 01/11/16)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 10/20/16
Agenda Item #: R.1
Est. Start Time: 9:30 am
Date Submitted: 10/11/16

Agenda Title: Resolution to Rename the Multnomah County Elections Division building in Honor of Oregon Leaders Abigail Scott Duniway and Esther Pohl Lovejoy

Requested

Meeting Date: Thursday, October 20, 2016 Time Needed: 20 minutes

Department: Non-departmental Division: District 2

Contact(s): Meeseon Kwon, policy advisor

Phone: 503-988-9451 Ext. 8-9451 I/O Address: _____

Presenters: Governor Barbara Roberts, former Oregon governor; Chet Orloff, Historian; and Invited Others

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Resolution to rename the Multnomah County Elections Division building in honor of Oregon leaders Abigail Scott Duniway and Esther Pohl-Lovejoy.

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer(s) this action affects and how it impacts the results.

Multnomah County's Elections Division building is currently located at 1040 Southeast Morrison Street, Portland, Oregon 97214. Abigail Scott Duniway and Esther Pohl-Lovejoy were two trailblazing Oregon leaders devoted to women's rights and suffrage

Abigail Scott Duniway (b. October 22, 1834; d. October 11, 1915) was a long-time leader of the movement for obtaining women's right to vote. Abigail Scott Duniway started campaigning in 1871. She left efforts for five campaign cycles, spanning over 40 years. She also ran several businesses, including a newspaper called *The New Northwest*, which promoted equality for women. Among her lesser-known accomplishments, Duniway was a prolific writer, having penned the first book to be commercially published in Oregon in 1859.

Esther Pohl Lovejoy (b. November 16, 1869; d. August 31, 1967) was a physician and the first woman appointed to direct a public health department in a major U.S. city. Esther Pohl Lovejoy led the Portland Public Health Board. When Duniway fell ill, Lovejoy stepped forward to chair the 1912 ballot measure campaign. She implemented a new, comprehensive campaign strategy that finally secured voting rights for women in Oregon in 1912.

Board approval of this resolution represents Multnomah County's commitment to honoring its history and leaders who advanced equality and rights for its people. Multnomah County Elections works to ensure all community members understand election and voting processes through education and outreach. These efforts and services represent an extension of the early advocacy and leadership by Abigail Scott Duniway and Esther Pohl Lovejoy.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

The anticipated financial cost associated with renaming and dedicating the Elections building is estimated to be no more than \$5,000. This estimate reflects the placement of vinyl lettering and plaques, which is consistent with what the County has previously done in instances of building and place dedications.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

N/A

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

Former Governor Barbara Roberts, historian Chet Orloff, and educator Mary Schutten represent a committee of community members—ranging from federal and state legislators to city and local representatives and other interested people—who developed this idea to honor two of Oregon's leaders.

Required Signature

**Elected
Official or
Department
Director:**

Loretta Smith /s/

Date: 10/11/16