

MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET

Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk

This form is a public record

MEETING DATE: 10-20-16

AGENDA ITEM # R1 OR NON-AGENDA SUBJECT: Election Bld. naming

FOR: AGAINST:

NAME: Governor Barbara Roberts

CONTACT INFORMATION (optional):

ADDRESS: 7870 S.E. 13th #210

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland, Oregon 97202

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: Gov.BKR@gmail.com

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD IN PERSON:

1. Fill out this form and submit to the Board Clerk 15 minutes before meeting begins.
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IF YOU WISH TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE BOARD IN LIEU OF GIVING ORAL COMMENTS:

1. Complete this form and submit it along with your written testimony to the Board Clerk at the meeting, or by e-mail at: lynda.grow@multco.us
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MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMISSION

OCTOBER 20, 2016

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NAMING OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY ELECTIONS BUILDING AFTER ABIGAIL SCOTT DUNIWAY AND DR. ESTHER POHL LOVEJOY.

Chair Kafoury and Members of the Commission;

Today we propose an opportunity to honor two women who changed Oregon history: Women of commitment; women of determination; women who fought for equality, fairness and full citizen participation.

Abigail Scott Duniway and Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy stand historically as the heroes of the story of Oregon women gaining the right to vote.

And I will share with you the role Multnomah County played in that history from the very beginning. When the Oregon Constitutional Convention met in 1857, one of the 60 delegates working to create our new state constitution, (all MALE delegates, of course), moved that the word “male” be stricken from the designation of “voting citizen”. That delegate was from Multnomah County. The motion failed but the stage was set, the dream had been verbalized.

In 1870, Oregon’s earliest suffragists began the decades-long efforts to put the issue on the ballot. The ALL-MALE legislature finally placed it on the 1884 ballot. The ALL-MALE voters defeated it with only a 28% approval.

A decade later, Abigail and her fellow suffragists were back again. Abigail was no quitter. She arrived with her family and eight siblings on the Oregon Trail. She knew about tough journeys and she fully intended to vote — in Oregon. After 16 years it was finally back on the ballot—this time it came near success—48% yes votes in 1900.

Abigail and her followers pushed forward. Oregon's new initiative petition law sent the measure to the ballot in 1906, 1908, and 1910. Only MALE voters could sign the petitions...AND THEY DID. But voter support was going down with each election.

Yet Abigail Scott Duniway was undeterred. She prepared early for the 1912 election. In spite of growing unrest in Oregon's suffragist movement, Abigail had the required petition signatures almost two years in advance. But many questioned the campaign strategies that continued to fail. They urged Duniway to begin active, visible campaign efforts rather than what she preferred as a "strategy of working privately." Duniway opted against any change in the election efforts.

Was there hope for the 1912 measure? Well, fate stepped in.

First, at age 77, Abigail became ill and was confined to bed for most of the 1912 campaign.

Secondly, Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy returned from her advanced medical studies in Vienna. A long-time supporter of the women's vote, she agreed to give her skills to the campaign. The campaign took on a new look, a new activism, and created one of the strongest political coalitions Oregon had ever witnessed.

Pro-suffragist groups blossomed across Oregon—stronger, larger, and more diverse than in any previous effort...groups like the Men's Equal Suffrage Club of Multnomah County and the Quaker Equal Suffrage Society. Endorsements came from everywhere: The Central Labor Council, the Oregon Grange, and the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

They had banners buttons, flags and brochures. They marched in parades including the Pendleton Round-Up. They held a rally at Oaks Park—10,000 people attended.

And in November of 1912 the ballot measure passed with a 52% margin. After 40 years and 6 ballot measures, our women were voting citizens.

We feel it is time to acknowledge and honor the two women leaders who gave Oregon women the privilege and right to add their voice and their vote to our democracy.

Abigail Scott Duniway and Esther Pohl Lovejoy have earned our thanks and deserve this public recognition. Multnomah County Elections office is a perfect place to extend our thanks and your recognition.

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AGENDA ITEM # R1 OR NON-AGENDA SUBJECT: Naming Elections Bldg

FOR: X AGAINST: _____

NAME: CHET ORLOFF

CONTACT INFORMATION (optional):

ADDRESS: 18200 NW Sammie Island Rd

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Food, OR, 97231

PHONE: 503-805-5461 E-MAIL: chetorloff@gmail.com

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MEETING DATE: 10/20/10

AGENDA ITEM # R1 OR NON-AGENDA SUBJECT: Naming Elections

FOR: AGAINST:

NAME: Mary Schutte

CONTACT INFORMATION (optional):

ADDRESS: 6901 SE Oaks Park Wy #31

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland, OR 97202

PHONE: 503-869-5965 E-MAIL: meschutte@gmail.com

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**Mary Schutten's Testimony for the passage of Resolution to
Name the Multnomah County Elections Office**

My Name is Mary Schutten, Educator & Chair of Oregon Chapter of National
Organization *Women*

6901 SE Oaks Park Way, Slip # 31, Portland, OR 97202

Today I am representing the "Committee to Name the Mult. Co. Elections Office" First, I would like to thank Gov. Roberts for educating me about the two great women we wish to honor, to Mr. Chet Orloff for suggesting the Mult. Co. Elections Office as a fitting tribute, to the diverse and wide ranging support from Oregonians who signed the petition, to Comm. Smith for bring it forward, and to the hard work of staff person MeeSeon Kwon for getting the details right. Finally, I would like to thank the Commissioners for hearing us today. I believe this is a fitting tribute to Abigail Scott Duniway and Esther Pohl Lovejoy because it is instructive to our youth and provides them with inspiring role models. Finally, this tribute respects female accomplishments of the past which made our City, County and State GREAT! As they say, "You cannot be what you cannot see." I respectfully request the honorable Mult. Co. Commissioners pass this resolution so everyone can see and learn about the amazing contributions Duniway & Lovejoy made to our democracy. Thank you.

Here is a partial list of supporters for this resolution:

Governor Barbara Roberts
U.S. Representative Earl Blumenauer
Former Mayor Bud Clark
Former Mayor Vera Katz
Jewel Lansing, former City Auditor
Ron Lansing
Chet Orloff, Historian
Carolyn Myers-Lindberg
Mike Lindberg, former City Councilman
Kerry Tymchuk, Director, Oregon Historical Society
Lynn Duniway, descendent of Abigail Scott Duniway
Phil Keisling, former Secretary of State
Darlene Hooley, former member of Congress
State Representative Jennifer Williamson
State Representative Kathleen Taylor
Mike Houck
Mayor-elect Ted Wheeler

(Continue on the back)

Mike Burton, former Executive Officer of Metro
Thomas Lauderdale
Connie Ozawa
Dr. Gail Johnson, author
Elaine Cogan, former Chair, PDC
Ethan Seltzer
Jim Mark
Joey Pope
Julie Vigeland
Mark Edlen
Mary Schutten
Paddy Tillett
Richard E. Brown
Rick Gustafson, former Executive Officer of Metro
Scott Langley
Stuart Emmons
Wendy Lane
Zari Santner