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|  | **League of Women Voters of LaPorte County  *Making Democracy Work*** | **A screenshot of a cell phone  Description generated with high confidence** |  |

April 22, 2018

**SUBJECT: Staying Legal: Navigating Indiana’s Open Door and Freedom of Access Laws**

You’re invited to attend a half-day conference to learn about Indiana’s laws regarding open meetings and public access. It will be held on Saturday, May 11, in the Great Hall of the James Dworkin Student Services and Activities Complex at Purdue University Northwest, 1401 U. S. Highway 421 in Westville. The session is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of La Porte County and the La Porte County Better Government Study Group. It will provide a non-partisan forum for dialogue and discussion. An outstanding faculty has been selected, and there should be significant insights for all who attend. We’ll start with coffee and soft drinks at 8:30am, and the opening session will convene at 9:00am. The conference will end by Noon, but speakers will remain afterward to respond to questions. There is no charge, and advance registration is not required. The agenda is as follows:

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| **AGENDA** |

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| 8:30am | **Coffee and Conversation** | Everyone |
| 9:00 to 9:10am | **Welcome, Introductions and Overview** | Jo Ann Engquist, President,  League of Women Voters of LP Co. |
| 9:10 to 10:00am | **Overview:** Indiana’s Public Access and Open Meeting Laws—History and Philosophy, Roles of the Public Access Counselor, and the Hoosier State Press Association. | Luke Britt,  Indiana’s Public Access Counselor |
| 10:00 to 10:15am | **Break** |  |
| 10:15 to 10:45am | **Insight:** Indiana’s Transparency Portal:   * Visibility, Openness and Accountability of State Government * Public Access to Financial Information—Agency Budgets, State Contracts, Local Government Finances and More | Tera KLutz, CPA  Auditor, State of Indiana |
| 10:45 to 11:15am | **Insight:** Local Government Finance   * Property tax assessment * Local government budgeting for counties, cities, towns, townships, school corporations, libraries, and other entities with tax levy authority. | Fred Van Dorp, Budget Director Department of Local Government Finance |
| 11:15 to 11:45am | **Pressure Points:** (Attendees will be asked to Submit Topics)  (E.g., Public Records: Reasonableness of requests, timeliness of responses, redacting documents; Open Door: Appropriate use of Workshops, Caucuses and Executive Sessions, Economic Development Negotiations, Approval of Documents outside of Meetings; Final Action after an Executive Session, Noticing Requirements) | Panelists: Luke Britt, Tera Klutz, Fred Van Dorp, and Dan Granquist, Attorney. Member, Better Gov. Study Grp; Justin Kiel, Publisher, Regional News and Westville Indicator and Member, Better Government Study Group |
| 11:455 to 11:55am | **Follow Up:** Identification of Issues Requiring Additional Research, Clarification or Action | Jim Jessup, Co-Convener, Better Gov. Study Grp. |
| 11:55am | **Conclusion:** Overview of the Educational Role of the Better Government Study Group and the League of Women Voters of La Porte County | Jim Jessup, Co-Chairman, Better Gov. Study Grp. |
| 12:00pm | **Adjournment** |  |

If you need more information or have questions, please contact

* Jo Ann Engquist, League of Women Voters of LaPorte County at [jaengquist@comcast.net](mailto:jaengquist@comcast.net) or 219-874-9939 or
* Leigh Morris, La Porte County Better Government Study Group at [lmorris@csinet.net](mailto:lmorris@csinet.net) or 219-363-2294. OR
* Jim Jessup, La Pore County Better Government Study Group at [jimjessup@frontier.com](mailto:jimjessup@frontier.com) or 219-797-4407

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