



Northeast Ohio City Council Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 26266
Fairview Park, OH 44126

Please visit our website at www.noccassoc.org Summer 2016

President's Page:

Lloyd Anderson, NOCCA Board President & Bedford Heights Councilman

Summer has come to an end as well-deserved vacations and family retreats are now relics of the past. Children's fun days at camp and at their local swimming pools will also become a distant memory as the new school year begins. Nonetheless, your NOCCA Board members have continued to meet on the second Saturday of each month planning, among other things, to provide NOCCA members with interesting topics and speakers at our quarterly forum meetings at the Doubletree by Hilton in Independence, Ohio.

This year's Annual Dinner Meeting & Forum in February featured Frank Bova, Cuyahoga County Chief of Community and Protection; Duane Dekins, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office; Edward Krause, Cuyahoga County Director of Regional Collaboration; and Clifford Pinkney, Cuyahoga County Sheriff who offered an overview of current and future safety initiatives that promote strong and safe neighborhoods. Our NOCCA March forum featured Nancy Jacobson, founder and CEO of "No Labels," a non-profit organization who offered strategies for goal-focused problems solving and collaboration.

NOCCA will present its last two forums on September 15th and November 12th. The September forum topic, "Learning to Lead: The Building Blocks of Leadership," will be presented by Lisa Thomas, PhD, Director of the Center for Experiential Learning, Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University. Information on the November forum will be forthcoming.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to welcome our newest NOCCA member-cities of South Euclid, Walton Hills and Woodmere. Membership to NOCCA is a bargain at \$400.00 per city for up to nine (9) council members. If your city, township or village is not currently a member, please consider visiting one of our quarterly forums at the Doubletree as our guest. Details regarding NOCCA, benefits of membership and upcoming forums are available at our website: www.noccassoc.org.

I guarantee you that you will not leave hungry, as we provide a very nice light supper selection. Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 15th and Thursday, November 10th. We will be looking forward to seeing you!

**PLAN NOW TO
ATTEND THE FALL
FORUM**

Thursday, September 15, 2016
Doubletree by Hilton
6200 Quarry Lane
Independence, Ohio 44131

**Learning to Lead:
The Building Blocks
of Leadership**

Guest Speaker:
Lisa Thomas, PhD
Director of the Center
for
Experiential Learning, Leadership
Levin College of Urban Affairs,
Cleveland State University

Registration	5:30-6:00 p.m.
Light Supper	6:00 p.m.
Program	6:30 p.m.
Q&A	7:30 p.m.

Email Liz Westbrooks at nocca@noccassoc.org to make your reservation.

Forum Wrap-Up:

NO LABELS Update

Tres Roeder, NOCCA Board Member & Shaker Heights Councilman

In 1787 a group of political leaders met in Philadelphia and developed our constitution. They did not agree on everything. Some were not even convinced there should be a constitution. Nonetheless, they came together for the greater good and created an enduring blue print for democracy.

Almost 230 years later, we again find ourselves in a position where we must focus on the greater good.

At the March 17th NOCCA Forum, our guest speaker was Nancy Jacobson, founder and CEO of No Labels (nolabels.org), a non-partisan organization that assists us in that effort by calling on political leaders of all stripes to do just that ... to stop fighting and start fixing.

Ms. Jacobson spoke about how at times, partisan viewpoints and politics can interfere with the process of elected officials of working collaboratively to find solutions to common problems. As she spoke, she hit a nerve with her NOCCA audience.

As local leaders, we told her we want to work together and solve problems. Many times we're successful and as municipal leaders, we frequently resolve disputes diplomatically and effectively. Other times however, we run into barriers from the fighting. The group in the room decided the next step was to write an editorial to share with the community, our collective desire to work together.

Since the March NOCCA Forum, a number of you have asked for an update on our efforts. The Cleveland Plain Dealer subsequently published the following opinion letter from Twinsburg Councilmen Bill Furey and Shaker Heights Councilman and NOCCA Board Member, Tres Roeder:

http://www.cleveland.com/opinion/index.ssf/2016/04/no_labels_political_collaborat.html

Hope begins the moment we see a path forward. The Presidential election is shaping up to be very divisive. In December, after the Presidential election is over, No Labels will provide hope by sponsoring a collaborative planning meeting in Washington D.C. In recognition of the great barriers our nation has overcome the meeting is named "1787." In this meeting, we plan to create a path forward to new governance and legislation that will further four common sense strategic goals:

- Create 25 Million New Jobs in the Next 10 Years
- Secure Social Security and Medicare for the Next 75 Years
- Balance the Federal Budget by 2030
- Make America Energy Secure by 2024



As local leaders, you already know how to work together and solve problems. If you would like to see more problem solving at the national level, encourage your congressional representative to join the No Labels Organization.

Please visit our website at www.noccassoc.org

Board News:

NOCCA Executive Board

There are currently two openings on the NOCCA board. The NOCCA Executive Board meetings are held from 9am-10:30am on the second Saturday of each month at the Garfield Heights County Library.

Board members must be an elected official from a city, village or township that is a current member of NOCCA, and available to attend a majority of the scheduled board meetings. Only one elected official per city may serve on the board at a time. If your city is not a current NOCCA member, once membership dues are paid, the elected official may serve on the board.

For additional information about serving on the NOCCA Board, please contact Lloyd Anderson, NOCCA Board President at 216.392.5337 or any other member of the NOCCA Board.

Annual NOCCA Scholarships are Available

Annual scholarships totaling \$1,500.00 are awarded each year as follows: \$500.00 per NOCCA member-applicant to attend a University-sponsored Leadership Academy or up to \$200.00 per NOCCA member-applicant to attend a non-University sponsored leadership seminar, conference or training that directly strengthens, enhances and/or pertains to their skills and effectiveness on council.

Applications for Scholarships are available by clicking the arrow under "Requests for Scholarships" at the top right corner of the NOCCA website home page: noccassoc.org



Candidates for scholarships must maintain their elected position on council throughout the period that the Leadership Academy, class or seminar is being offered; their seat can not be open for re-election; and their city must maintain their NOCCA membership throughout the time period that the Leadership Academy, training, or conference is offered.

Once an application for scholarship has been approved, the funds for scholarships will be submitted directly to the University, Leadership Academy, Class or Seminar sponsor upon acceptance in the program or, reimbursed directly to the member's municipality or member once documentation or receipt of payment for program is submitted. A member may received only one scholarship per year and non-recipients will be considered for a scholarship award before those previously awarded a scholarship.

For additional information about the position, duties and responsibilities of serving on the NOCCA Executive Board, please contact Lloyd Anderson, NOCCA Board President at 216.392.5337.

Please visit our website at www.noccassoc.org

Member Matters:

Peggy Cleary, NOCCA Past President and Fairview Park Council-At-Large

As a newly-elected councilwoman, I began my first term in January 2006 armed only with the information offered at a seminar sponsored by the Ohio Municipal League for newly-elected officials. I was grateful for the overview on municipal finance, Ohio Sunshine Laws and remember learning that as legislators, we “cannot allow in our city what is not permitted by state law” and “cannot outlaw what is permitted by State law.” So, I began my career as a councilwoman-at-large with a clear understanding that Fairview Park cannot allow gambling in our city, as it was not permitted at the time in Ohio, and we cannot stop people with concealed carry permits from bringing a concealed weapon into our parks.

I considered myself fortunate to have joined a council where experienced council members were willing to share information and guidance to this new member of council. Once I began to attend the quarterly forums offered by Northeast Ohio City Council Association, I further expanded my knowledge and understating of some of the best practices and current trends in municipal government, regional collaboration, and welcomed the opportunity to network with other local council members in order to exchange ideas and information.

There are many benefits of attending NOCCA forums. Please plan to join us on September 15th and enjoy the benefits that include an increased knowledge base, strengthened professional skills and an opportunity to seek solutions to many of the common problems shared by cities, villages and townships throughout NE Ohio.

BENEFITS OF NOCCA MEMBERSHIP

- ✓ **Enhance professional growth, skill and effectiveness**
- ✓ **Increased opportunity to network, exchange ideas and information**
- ✓ **Facilitate communication among communities**
- ✓ **Forums designed to develop solutions and best practices to address common problems and regional concerns**

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NOCCA Remembers

“The art of being a legislator is finding common ground.”

Former Congressman Steve LaTourette

The NOCCA Board wishes to extend its sympathy to the family and friends of former Congressman Steve Latourette following his recent death in August.

As the guest speaker at the 2013 NOCCA Annual Dinner Meeting and Forum entitled: “The Art of Civility in Politics: Reaching Across the Aisle,” Steve LaTourette spoke about the need for elected officials to use civility, compromise and often, good humor to solve problems and noted that “the art of being a legislator is finding common ground.”

To view LaTourette’s entire NOCCA presentation, please visit noccassoc.org and click the link on the landing page.

NOCCA E-NEWS

Summer 2016

2016 NOCCA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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This e-newsletter is published by the
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