

Voter Guide

Jefferson Westside Neighbors Executive Board Election 2025

Election is April 14, 2026 - 6:00pm

Lane County History Museum

740 West 13th Ave, Eugene

Instructions

In-person Voting: Voting will take place at the April 14 General Meeting, Lane County History Museum 740 West 13th Ave, Eugene

Absentee Voting: Members who cannot attend may request an absentee ballot by emailing jwneugene@gmail.com, follow these instructions.

- Requests must include the member's full name and complete street address. If you are a business owner or manager or director of a non-profit with a physical location in the JWN, identify your role and provide the name and address of your organization.
- Each absentee ballot must be requested in an individual email even if members live at the same physical location.
- Ballots will be sent as an attached file with an ID number associated with your name and address. DO NOT SHARE BALLOTS. Multiple submission using one ID number will invalidate all ballots with that ID number. All absentee ballots will be cross referenced matching the ID number, name, and address.
- Completing Ballots: Ballots require your full name, physical address, and a signature. Members may only vote for the candidates listed. If you do not support any candidate for a particular position, write NONE.
- Submitting Ballots:
 - Ballots may be dropped off via the mail slot at 971 W. Broadway NO LATER than 5pm April 14. Ballots submitted should be inside a sealed envelope that will not be open until votes are counted at the April 14 meeting.
 - Ballots must be printed and can be dropped off at the April 14 meeting by the voter or a third party but must be in the possession of the vote counter before the vote counting begins. To be safe, drop off by 6:00pm.

Nomination Process

All Board positions (Chair, Vice Chair, and five member-at-large positions) are open every year. [View the JWN Bylaws for details](#). Call for nominations was sent out via the Winter 2026 Newsletter mailed to every JWN address, posted on our website, and included in the February and March eNews. A Nominating Committee comprised of a Board member and at least two neighbors' reviews applications to ensure candidates qualify.

- March 14: Deadline for candidates to declare their intention to stand for election. Candidates are supplied a candidate information sheet. Candidates should send an email to jwneugene@gmail.com
- March 25: Deadline for candidates to submit required bio and answer candidate questionnaire.
- March 27: Completion and submission of voter's guide.
- April 1: Deadline for publication of voter's guide on JWN website.
- April 1: Ballot is complete and sent for photocopying. Electronic absentee ballots available.
- April 14: General meeting and election.

Candidates

Candidates filled out a standard form. Their answers are below.

Candidates will serve a one-year term, election date to election date, April 2026 to April 2027

Position: Chair

Candidate: Ted M. Coopman (Incumbent)

Stephanie and I had been visiting friends in family in Eugene since 1995 and bought a home in the JWN in 2012, moving here full time in 2016. I retired as a faculty member from San Jose State University in 2020. For fun, I grow fruit and veggies, and we preserve food, take our dog Raven to the park and the beach, and enjoy Broadway in Eugene shows, the symphony, and are patrons of Ballet Fantastique.

Please share any relevant experience that you feel prepares you for this position on the JWN board.

I have over 30 years' experience as an activist and have served on the JWN Board as an at-large member from 2016-2018 and as Chair from 2018 to 2025. As Board member I reactivated the Friends of Monroe Park group and still lead it, advocating for resources and organizing work parties, as well as working to put organized groups in all JWN parks. As Chair I led the effort to build the Ollie Court Affordable Housing Apartments and early learning center at 13th and Chambers, a project the JWN has been advocating for over decade. I was the only neighborhood leader invited to join the Eugene Chamber of Commerce's Business Leaders Task Force on Homelessness. I also served on the Lane Events Center Visioning Work Group and am a Board member for Eugene Neighborhoods Inc.

What are the two main things you hope to accomplish in the coming year if elected to the JWN Board?

Continue work on the Historic District Task Force project and disaster preparedness.

Board service entails attendance at monthly board and general meetings, and occasional committee work (5-10 hours/mo.). Can you commit the time necessary to serve?

Yes.

What, if any, experience do you have working collaboratively in small groups?

Serving 10 years on the JWN Board as well as leading the Friends of Monroe Park group. I served on the Eugene Chamber of Commerce's Business Leaders Task Force on Homelessness, the Lane Events Center Visioning Work Group and currently the Board of Eugene Neighborhoods Inc. I previously served on the Executive Boards of the American Communication Association and the Association of Internet Researchers as well as the steering Committee of the Live Oak Neighbors Association, Live Oak Off-Leash Advocates, and the Santa Cruz Independent Media Center, all in Santa Cruz CA.

Position: Vice Chair

Candidate: Sandra Bishop (Incumbent)

Eugene has been my home since I came to study Eastern history and languages at the University of Oregon. My husband and I lived at 10th & Jefferson for several decades, in a historic multi-unit building that we own and maintain as reasonable cost rental apartments. We now live in the south part of town. I have a deep and abiding concern for maintaining the livability of the JWN and other near-downtown neighborhoods. In 2019 after more than 30 years of running my own business as a government relations practitioner and lobbyist in the Oregon Legislature I closed the business. I currently work under contract as a writer/editor and researcher. Singing and dancing Argentine Tango keep me energized. Teaching and studying Tibetan Buddhism keeps me sane.

[Bishop Continued]

Serving as Vice-Chair for the past three years has given me a good grounding in how to address neighborhood challenges and concerns. I continue to serve as the board appointed liaison to the Neighborhood Leaders Council (NLC); attending a monthly meeting with representatives from each of the neighborhood associations in the city. Participating at the NLC level I'm proud to say, JWN is one of the most active and effective neighborhood groups in the city. I have found ways to share information and network with other neighborhoods to strengthen resources and participation in JWN. My previous work in government relations representing businesses, professional associations, non-profits and public interest advocacy groups has given me valuable experience working with individuals, groups and coalitions; helping to navigate through state, county and city bureaucracies.

What are the two main things you hope to accomplish in the coming year if elected to the JWN Board?

Continue to expand the number of neighbors who attend general meetings and encourage newer members to take leadership roles. Continue to facilitate more residents coming together on the JWN Disaster Preparedness Committee to create a network of neighborhood-level responders ready to activate in emergencies and disasters. It is critical to get more people involved to safeguard neighborhood viability into the future.

Board service entails attendance at monthly board and general meetings, and occasional committee work (5-10 hours/mo.). Can you commit the time necessary to serve? (yes/no)

Yes.

What, if any, experience do you have working collaboratively in small groups?

For decades in Eugene, I have been an elected official and/or volunteer who has served on many boards and commissions and worked with various community-oriented advocacy groups. Previously I served for 10 years as an elected member of the Eugene Water & Electric Board. As part of the 5-member EWEB board I worked cooperatively to set the budget and policies that guided the largest municipal utility in Oregon. Currently I'm a volunteer with several organizations including the League of Women Voters, City Club of Eugene Programming Committee, WOW Hall (Community Center for the Performing Arts), as well as an active member of local and international Tibetan Buddhist organizations. Work in all these organizations involves working cooperatively in small groups. I have experience and feel comfortable working with people from varied backgrounds and orientations. I'm willing and able to work with others to address mutual concerns and build stronger community ties.

At-Large Position #1

Candidate: Stephanie Coopman (Incumbent)

Ted and I moved to Eugene and the JWN at the start of 2016 after visiting for many years. When we bought our house here in 2012, we'd planned on splitting our time between Eugene and Santa Cruz, CA. Then in 2015, with the Bay Area and Santa Cruz getting more crowded and more expensive, we decided to leave our townhouse near the beach for a saner and mellower life in Eugene. Happily, we've found a home in the JWN with Raven, our golden retriever/border collie. I retired from San Jose State University in August 2023, although I still teach full-time every fall semester. I teach online courses in communication, primarily in the areas of applied communication and game studies. I started teaching online in 1999. For a few years, I taught a mix of in person and online classes. Then I moved to all online 10+ years ago. In addition to teaching, I served as chair of my department for five years.

[S. Coopman Continued]

What are the two main things you hope to accomplish in the coming year if elected to the JWN Board?

Continue leading the historic district task force and editing the JWN's paper newsletter. The task force has gotten quite a lot accomplished, especially in the past year. We were awarded a City of Eugene Neighborhood Matching Grant. We used those funds for outreach, sending a 4-page flyer to all JWN addresses as well as a letter and informational pamphlet to all homeowners. We also developed a website about the project, historicjeffersonwestside.org, that details our work and outlines the importance of historic preservation. I'm hoping to recruit more neighbors for the project along with encouraging neighbors to develop projects of their own.

Board service entails attendance at monthly board and general meetings, and occasional committee work (5-10 hours/mo.). Can you commit the time necessary to serve?

Yes

What, if any, experience do you have working collaboratively in small groups?

Extensive experience as faculty member and board member for numerous academic organizations and as a JWN Board member since 2020 and Chair of the Historic District Task Force.

At-Large Position #2

Candidate: Sue Cummings (Incumbent)

I've lived in the JWN for 25 years and have been on the JWN board since 2009. I have served as the JWN Treasurer for the past 9 years and have also served terms as secretary and vice chair. I have been a member and/or chair the events committee for several years and have worked with some great volunteers to organize the JWN summer picnic. I have helped to coordinate JWN Neighborhood Food Drives for Food for Lane County.

Currently, I help to organize clean-up events for Friends of Charnel Mulligan Park, I am a member of the JWN's Historic District Task Force and the JWN Disaster Preparedness Committee. I enjoy staying active, gardening, spending time with family and friends and like to attend local cultural events. Staying politically active and informed is important to me.

Some of the things I care about are affordable housing, finding help for the homeless, immigrants' rights, supporting neighborhood businesses, alternative transportation, parks, trees, green spaces, climate change and the overall health and safety of our neighbors and neighborhood. I believe that in order to best represent my neighbors it is important to consider diverse opinions and to be willing to stand behind the decisions that were made during votes by the JWN neighborhood association.

Please share any relevant experience that you feel prepares you for this position on the JWN board.

I have served on the JWN Executive Board since 2009 (see above).

What are the two main things you hope to accomplish in the coming year if elected to the JWN Board?

I hope to continue working with Friends of Charnel Mulligan Park, the JWN Historic District Task Force and the JWN Disaster Preparedness Committee and the Events Committee.

Board service entails attendance at monthly board and general meetings, and occasional committee work (5-10 hours/mo.). Can you commit the time necessary to serve?

Yes

[Cummings Continued]

What, if any, experience do you have working collaboratively in small groups?

I have been on the JWN Executive Board since 2009. I have worked with volunteers to help successfully plan many of our annual JWN Picnics.

At-Large Position #3

Candidate: Mary Maude

I moved to Eugene to attend the University and fell in love with the city. I have previously lived in University, Whitaker, and Friendly neighborhoods where I have furthered my appreciation for the culture and natural environment of Eugene. I have lived in JWN for the last 17 years. I chose this neighborhood because of the historic architecture and walkability. My family and I have labored over the restoration of our current home, happily bringing it back to its original intention.

I am most proud of my two amazing twenty-something daughters. I am an avid gardener and most content with my hands in the dirt or while turning compost.

Please share any relevant experience that you feel prepares you for this position on the JWN board.

I have been in leadership positions for over 35 years. My favorite part of leadership is helping others grow and develop their potential. I enjoy listening to a variety of viewpoints, finding shared perspectives, and looking for the win-win solution to issues. My current position as a Quality Analyst at a local substance abuse clinic keeps me in tune to social issues affecting our neighborhood and focused on data regarding positive quality outcomes; improving the lives of our neighbors.

What are the two main things you hope to accomplish in the coming year if elected to the JWN Board?

My goals are to be more involved in local politics and to determine how I can best support my neighbors.

Board service entails attendance at monthly board and general meetings, and occasional committee work (5-10 hours/mo.). Can you commit the time necessary to serve? (yes/no)

Yes

What, if any, experience do you have working collaboratively in small groups?

I have over 35 years of experience working on and leading groups focused on generating collaborative, outcome-focused systems and solutions.

At-Large Position #4

Candidate: Eric Noon

I have been a resident of the correct coast for my entire life. My childhood was served in the eastern and southern portions of the San Francisco Bay Area and along the shores and islands of the Puget Sound. On every trip to and from we would stop in Eugene to visit my fathers' best friend from when they grew up in Bellingham, Washington. I grew up with memories of Eugene. One of my greatest thrills was to give my father's childhood friend a tour of my house and see him revel in an environment that was his past. For me, it closed a circle of life. John moved on last year having passed the century mark. There are historical roots that run through Eugene. My great grandfather was an immigrant and found himself in the Northwest. He became a lumber jack. He built up a small private logging company. In many ways you can call me a Stamper. The family company logged around Eugene during the Depression (circa 1935-1938). I moved to Eugene on Halloween 2018.

[Noon Continued]

I have degrees in chemistry and biochemistry. I have studied pomology, horticulture, and range management. I have dabbled in forestry. I am an ecologist. I am a conservationist. I been a cattle rancher. I have been involved with local associations of ranchers, homeowners, scouts and other groups. I have worked on land use regulation. I am self-taught in computer science and have worked professionally in programming, system design, and project management. My current extracurricular activity is working on understanding how to use Large Language Model technology.

Please share any relevant experience that you feel prepares you for this position on the JWN board.

I have many prior experiences that have prepared me for this role. My prior experiences may or may not fit regular buckets. I have been self-employed most of my life. I was in the leadership of a small team developing a graphical, map-based interface of real time data of freeway incidents in Los Angeles County. The intended users were the agencies deemed First Responders. The system was eventually nixed by the CHP because of a culture clash between the patrol guys and the tech guys over attitude and hair length. Not because the system didn't work. The system was constructed using nascent ESRI software.

What are the two main things you hope to accomplish in the coming year if elected to the JWN Board?

I don't have a set of check boxes to tick off. I am less organized around hope and more organized around expectation management. As the new kid on the board, it would be unrealistic to have hope. I expect to spend the next year helping where needed.

Board service entails attendance at monthly board and general meetings, and occasional committee work (5-10 hours/mo.). Can you commit the time necessary to serve? (yes/no)

Yes

What, if any, experience do you have working collaboratively in small groups?

When I had growing children, I took an active part of their lives. I served on many boards at their Catholic grade school, particularly the spring fiesta. Later I was on the board of the high school marching band parents' group. I have a lifetime of experience in working with people. My approach to working with small groups is to listen and to think before speaking.

At-Large Position #6

Candidate: Amy Rubens

I moved here from Austin with my husband in 2024, and we purchased our home on W. 11th Ave soon after. I have been looking for opportunities to get more involved with my community and meet my neighbors as well. I feel I am in a good position to be a part of the JWN board; I enjoy the meetings and would like to get to know it better! I enjoy gardening, hiking, travel, various volunteering, and am working on starting a local tour business.

Please share any relevant experience that you feel prepares you for this position on the JWN board.

I have been a part of various volunteer groups, and participate in the neighborhood park cleanups, and go to and participate in the monthly JWN meetings.

What are the two main things you hope to accomplish in the coming year if elected to the JWN Board?

More exposure to what the JWN can provide to the neighborhood and maybe bring more community events Weigh in on the goings on in the neighborhood and greater Eugene.

[Rubens Continued]

Board service entails attendance at monthly board and general meetings, and occasional committee work (5-10 hours/mo.). Can you commit the time necessary to serve?

Yes

What, if any, experience do you have working collaboratively in small groups?

I have worked extensively in small groups. At my last job, we were a group of 3 - 4 individuals, and had to collaborate on projects, doing the same job but for different areas around the world (for about 3 years). I have also worked with small groups of various sizes in my volunteer activities. These include packing and distributing meals, garden/clean-up work at Hendricks Park and Amazon Trail, as well as at Monroe Park with the JWN neighbors. These include working with groups as small as 2 other people, to up to 20 people managing projects and day activities.