

LWV of East Alabama — Observer Corps Report

Agency: Opelika City Commission Meeting Date: September 4, 2018

Location: 204 South 7th Street Opelika, AL

Website: <http://opelikacityal.iqm2.com/Citizens>

Type of meeting: Work Session and Regular Meetings

Staff present : N/A Media coverage? Yes

Number in Audience: 50 +/- Most attendees were Opelika students honored for awards in swimming and baseball

FEATURE EVALUATED	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Did meeting start on time?	X		Work Session and Regular Session
Were all members present?	X		
Were members attentive?	X		
Did the members appear to have done their "homework"?	X		
Were members courteous to each other and the public?	X		
Was the agenda online at least 24 hrs. before?	X		
Did agenda items clearly describe what was to be discussed?	X		
Was there adequate opportunity for public input?	X		
Was there the appearance that some action items were discussed in closed rather than open session?	X		Select items listed in <i>Resolutions</i> (Item 13 of the Agenda). Full agenda, including documents, were and remain available for review on website.
Was background information available to public?	X		.

Were any topics on the agenda relevant to any LWV state or local positions or programs? Rocky and Shealy Langley (334.444.6255; shealy.langley@gmail.com; <https://www.wrbl.com/news/local-news/opelika-creeklime->) presented **Opelika's Greenway along the Blueway – The Creeklime project** at the Commissions' Work Session. The Project is intended to complement Auburn's **Saugahatchee – Creek Blueway Project**, of which Phase I has been approved for construction under the Department of Parks and Recreation. Auburn's project extends roughly from the Saugahatchee Creek at North Donahue to Richland Road. Langley's project would tie into Auburn's, and expand well beyond that. Both projects will involve canoeing, pedestrian trails, bicycle paths, among other opportunities. In short, both projects will provide multiple recreation opportunities for people of all ages and physical capabilities. This is the first presentation made to the City Council by the Langleys. Although no action was taken by the Opelika Commission, several commissioners expressed support for the project and encouraged them to pursue it. It represents two citizens independently striving to present new recreational and economic development opportunities to the citizens of Opelika and its environs.

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues? Yes. Langley's project is in its infancy. LWV should research the Langley's project and evaluate its merits in improving the quality of life of its citizens and contributing to the economic development of the region. If the project is found viable, LWV members may help promote the project by assisting in networking the Langleys with others with common interest, including AU, consultants, among others.

Observer: BOU

Date Submitted: September 9, 2018

Report should be emailed to lwveastal@gmail.com along with the URL of the meeting's agenda and supporting documents. Thank you!