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Catherine Bostick-Tullius Selected Michigan Municipal League Board Vice President
Grand Rapids Mayor Rosalynn Bliss Named President

MACKINAC ISLAND, Michigan – Lapeer City Commissioner Catherine Bostick-Tullius was selected as the 2016-17 vice president of the Michigan Municipal League Board of Trustees.

Bostick-Tullius was named board vice president by the 19-member board during the Michigan Municipal League's 2016 Convention taking place this week on Mackinac Island. As vice president, she is line to become League president in 2017-18. In related action, the board selected Grand Rapids Mayor Rosalynn Bliss as the League's 2016-17 president.



Bostick-Tullius, an attorney, has served as city commissioner for Lapeer since 2009. Her relationship with the city of Lapeer began in 1997, when she served as a board member on the Zoning Board of Appeals and on the steering committee that established the Pix Arts Council for Greater Lapeer, Inc. in 2001. She is treasurer of the Lapeer Downtown Development Authority, a member of the Lapeer planning commission and a member of the Lapeer Main Street steering committee. She has served as president and treasurer of Lapeer County Habitat for Humanity, as president for the Lapeer County Bar Association. Bostick-Tullius has been practicing law since 1995, and has had her family law practice in Lapeer since 1997.

"I am honored to be selected to serve as the League's vice president," Bostick-Tullius said. "I look forward to working with newly elected League President Rosalynn Bliss in the next year and helping to achieve the goal of reforming Michigan's broken municipal finance system."

Bliss has served on the League board since 2013, including the past year as League vice president. Her goals as League President include fixing the state's broken system for funding municipalities and restoring more local control to local governments.

"The League plays an important role in our state and is a strong voice for local units of government in Lansing – and we need that," Bliss said. "There is real power in numbers and value in cities coming together to actively work toward a common goal. The League is a great support for that."

Bliss became the City of Grand Rapids' first female Mayor when she took office on January 1, 2016. She previously served as a Second Ward City Commissioner for 10 years. Mayor Bliss also is an adjunct professor at Grand Valley State University's School of Social Work. Bliss has been recognized and honored locally as well as statewide for her commitment, dedication, and work in the field of child abuse and neglect and her leadership in the community.

In addition to selecting its officers, the League board also welcomed six newly-elected members during its annual meeting Sept.14. The six members are Christine Burns, Spring Lake Village Manager; Andy LeCureaux, Hazel Park Councilmember; Richard Lewis, Traverse City Commissioner; Brenda Moore, Saginaw Councilmember; Mark Vanderpool, Sterling Heights City Manager; and Juan Pete Zamora, Leslie Mayor.

The newly elected trustees join Executive Director & CEO Dan Gilmartin and the other volunteers who remain on the 2016-17 Board: Bliss; Bostick-Tullius; Kim Corcoran, Mayor Pro Tem, Ironwood; Wendell Dompier, Baraga Village President; Maureen Donker, Midland Mayor; Jason Eppler, Ionia City Manager; Rebecca Fleury, Battle Creek City Manager; Ken Hibl, Clare City Manager; Marcus Peccia, Cadillac City Manager; Melanie Piana, Ferndale City Councilmember; and Rusty Showalter, West Branch Mayor Pro Tem; Jeff Thornton, Negaunee City Manager; and Adam Umbrasas, Three Oaks Village Manager.

The board also thanked for their years of service outgoing President Jack O'Reilly, Dearborn Mayor; and board members Dan Greer, Jackson Councilmember; Bobby Hopewell, Kalamazoo Mayor; and Ed Klobucher, Hazel Park City Manager.

For photos of the League board members go to the "Award Winners and Honors" album in this Michigan Municipal League collection on flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/michigancommunities/collections/72157673505540116/>. Photos can be downloaded from the League's flickr page for free. We just ask that the following photo credit be given: *Michigan Municipal League/mml.org*.

For additional information, contact Matt Bach, Michigan Municipal League media relations director, at mbach@mml.org and (734) 669-6317.

Michigan Municipal League is dedicated to making Michigan's communities better by thoughtfully innovating programs, energetically connecting ideas and people, actively serving members with resources and services, and passionately inspiring positive change for Michigan's greatest centers of potential: its communities. The League advocates on behalf of its member communities in Lansing, Washington, D.C., and the courts; provides educational opportunities for elected and appointed municipal officials; and assists municipal leaders in administering services to their communities through League programs and services. Learn more at mml.org.

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