



# 2018 Annual Meeting Kit

## CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

*All members of the League of Women Voters of Alameda are invited to the Annual Meeting to approve a budget, issues of emphasis for action, and elect a new Board.*

**Saturday, June 23, 2018 – 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM**

**Otaez Mexican Restaurant (upstairs), 1619 Webster Street**

**LUNCH RESERVATIONS ARE DUE TO LWVA BY WED. JUNE 20**

**(See reservation form on back page)**

*You may attend the meeting, which begins at 12:45 pm, without attending the lunch.*

### AGENDA

11:30 a.m. Sign in; socialize; cash bar (second floor)	
12:00 noon Speaker – Jennifer Williams, AUSD Board Member	
12:45 p.m. Call to Order	Page
Credentials Report – Doris Gee	
Introduction of Parliamentarian – Donna Vaughn	
Adoption - Order of Business and Rules of the Meeting	2
Approval - Minutes of Annual Meeting of June 24, 2017	3
Appoint Committee to Review 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes	
Introductions of Guests & Former LWVA Presidents	
President’s Message – Georgia Gates Derr	4
Treasurer’s Report – Marian Breitbart	5
Presentation of 2018-2019 Budget – Adina Singer	5
Recommended Program	13
Board Recommended Local Positions Revision (one)	13
Re-adoption of Continuing County Positions Revisions	15
Debate and Adoption of Program	
Debate and Adoption of Budget	
Nominating Committee Report – Kathryn Sáenz Duke	17
Election of 2018-2019 Board and Officers	
Directions from Members to the New Board and Committees	
Announcements	
2:30 p.m. Adjourn	

***Please Bring this Kit with You to the Annual Meeting!***



## **RULES OF THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING**

### **1. QUORUM**

The meeting shall not begin until a quorum is present. In accordance with Article IX, Section 4 of the By-Laws, twenty members shall constitute a quorum.

### **2. ELIGIBILITY**

In accordance with Article IX, Section 6 of the By-Laws, the Board has set the record date for establishment of notice and voting rights to the 2018 Annual Meeting as May 23, 2018. Members who are current in payment of dues as of that date are eligible to receive notice and vote at the Annual Meeting. Article IX, Section 3 prohibits absentee and proxy voting.

### **3. WRITTEN MOTIONS**

Main motions and substantive amendments shall be given to the secretary in writing, with the name of the maker of the motion included. Forms will be provided.

### **4. DEBATE TIME**

There shall be two minutes per member for debate. Members and guests who are not eligible to vote on motions may not speak to them during debate. No one may speak for a second time on a given item until others wishing to speak have had their turns. Each speaker shall address all remarks to the Chair and shall limit such remarks to the item being considered. There shall be no interruption of the speaker while the presentation is being given. The moderator of the Meeting shall have the authority to announce the total time dedicated to debate on a given matter when there are many wishing to speak. Time will be allowed at the end of the meeting, as is our custom, for "Directions to the Board", following which guests may add brief comments.

### **5. PROGRAM ADOPTION (Referring to New and Ongoing Studies, Position Updates or Position Review for Adoption of Concurrence with another League's Position)**

- a. Each recommended program item shall be moved and seconded, but there will be no vote on any item until all items (recommended and non-recommended) have been discussed. A majority vote is needed to adopt a recommended item.
- b. Any non-recommended program item may be moved for consideration by a majority vote of members present and voting. A two-thirds vote in favor is needed to adopt a non-recommended item. Non-recommended studies require a prepared scope, budget, and name of proposed chair.
- c. The vote will be taken on recommended items (with possible amendments) in the order moved, followed by the vote on non-recommended items. Amendments may be deletions from, but not additions to, program positions.

### **6. NOMINATIONS**

Additional nominations for Officers, Directors, and the Nominating Committee may be made from the floor, provided that the consent of the nominee shall have been secured in writing in advance of the meeting.

### **7. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

Must be related to existing positions, whether local, state or national, and are not considered to be the same as Program. An action item may be adopted by a simple majority of those voting. Debate of Board recommended action items is limited to ten minutes and will be moderated by the President.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ALAMEDA  
MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
JUNE 24, 2017, 11:30 AM -2:30 PM, Otaez Mexican Restaurant**

**Guest Speaker: 12:00.** Nancy O'Malley, Alameda County District Attorney, spoke on Children at Risk – Human Trafficking

**Call to Order: 12:45. LWVA President Alice Fried**

**Credentials Report:** Doris Gee reported there were 43 eligible voting members present meeting the quorum requirement of 21 voting members.

**Parliamentarian:** - Donna Vaughn was introduced as the Parliamentarian.

**Adoption:** A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to adopt the Order of Business and Rules of the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes for the 2016 Annual Meeting. Kate Quick, Anne McKereghan and Robertamarie Kiley were appointed to review the 2017 Annual Meeting minutes.

**Introduction of LWVA Presidents and Guests:** The former Past Presidents introduced themselves and guests were introduced.

**State of the League:** President Alice Fried presented a film available on the LWV website called "A Transformational Journey." This film was shown at the convention. President Alice Fried reviewed the achievements of the LWVA.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marian Breitbart presented the report as presented in the Annual Meeting Kit. There were a few questions asked and responded to. The report was placed on file for audit.

**Budget Report:** Marian presented the 2017-2018 Budget on behalf of Adina Singer and responded to questions. There were no objections to the budget. It will be filed for audit.

**Local Positions:** Administrative Vice President Ruth Dixon-Mueller directed members to review the local League positions on pages 13-14 of the Annual Meeting Kit, A motion was made and seconded to re-adopt the current positions as listed. An amendment was moved and seconded to add to the Land Use position the use of waterways to point II and the maintenance of shoreline access to point IV. The Board's justification for eliminating the previous position on the Port of Oakland was discussed. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt the listed positions as amended. There were two abstentions.

**Approval of Budget:** A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the 2017-2018 Budget as presented.

**Nominating Committee:** Kathryn Sáenz Duke moved the approval of the slate of officers and board members presented in the annual membership kit. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to elect the slate as presented.

**Officers Elected at the Annual Meeting:**

President	Georgia Gates-Derr
Administration VP	Ruth Dixon-Mueller
Program VP	Patricia Young



Membership VP	Doris Gee
Secretary	Cynthia Silva
Treasurer	Marian Breitbart

**Directors nominated and elected at the Annual Meeting:**

Action co-chair	Karen Butter
Action co-chair	Felice Zensius
Communications chair	Keasha Martindill
Fundraising chair	Linda Asbury
Voter Service chair	Juelle-Ann Boyer
Bay Area League Liaison	Sally Faulhaber
At Large	Kate Quick
At Large	Ken Werner

**Nominating Committee for 2018 elected at the Annual Meeting (two board members to be appointed by the board)** Kathryn Sáenz Duke, Anne Spanier and Gayle Thomas

**Looking Forward: Issues of Emphasis and Call for Committee Volunteers:** Those chair members present gave a brief presentation on what their committees plan to study or accomplish in the coming year.

**Directions to the Board** None  
**Board Retreat, August 5, 2017**  
**Adjournment 2:21**

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Silva, Recording Secretary

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Thanks to the support of our membership, LWVA is a strong and vibrant presence in our community. Accomplishing the work of our League requires a reliable group of volunteers functioning together as a team and I’m pleased to report that our team is solid. All standing committees are chaired by exceptional leaders who have recruited a full complement of actively engaged members. To review their achievements, please read Committee Reports found within or visit the LWVA website for archived eBlasts & Voter Newsletters.

A special note of gratitude for Ruth Dixon-Mueller, who is leaving the Board but not the League. She has been the *wind beneath our wings*; we are grateful for her leadership, extraordinary organizational skills, and boundless energy.

The League at all levels (national, state, local) envisions a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate. Because we embrace the promise of **Making Democracy Work**, our organization remains active and relevant.

Together we will continue to fight the good fight!

Georgia Gates Derr, President, LWVA





5. Easy Web Maintenance	400	400	400
6. Dues Rebate	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$646</b>	<b>\$628</b>	<b>\$630</b>
*Dues Assistance has been removed as a budgeted item but remains available per standing rule			
<b>B. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION</b>			
1. Officer Expenses	50	50	50
2. Board Tools	25	97	50
3. Membership brochures, renewal kit, new member kit	350	360	350
4. Membership renewal Postage	90	90	90
5. Administration/Comm/Membership	215	215	200
6. Retreat	100	340	200
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>940</b>
<b>C. CONVENTION/ANNUAL MEETING</b>			
1. National/state/Conv/Council	4,300	5,850	2,200
2. Annual Meeting (net)	100	100	100
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>4,400</b>	<b>5,950</b>	<b>2,300</b>
<b>D. PER MEMBER PAYMENTS</b>			
1. County Council	0	0	0
2. LWV Bay Area @\$2.50/member/\$0.50 family*	150	139	225
3.LWVC @\$28/\$14 per member/family member	3,150	3,150	2,842
4. LWVUS @\$32/\$16 per member/family member-17/18	3,600	3,600	3,248
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>6,900</b>	<b>6,889</b>	<b>6,315</b>
*Increase of \$1/0.50 for 2018/19, and \$1/0.50 for 2019/2020			
<b>E. PRINTING &amp; SUPPLIES</b>			
1. Voter Printing	79	79	10
2. Voter Postage	5	5	10
3. Other Printing (Annual Kit, Directory)	500	500	500
4. Other Postage	60	60	60
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>580</b>
<b>F. EDUCATION</b>			
1. Publications/Position support	50	50	50
2. League State/National Program Study	50	50	50



3. Voter Services Rental	300	300	1,125
4. Voter Service Publicity	318	318	795
5. Voter Service Printing	200	200	400
6. Program (5) Forums-Rental	1,440	1,440	1,125
7. Program Forums-Misc/food/handouts	350	350	400
8. Program Publicity	1,074	1,074	1,236
9. Smart Voter/Voter's Edge Contribution	500	1,000	1,000
10. Know Your Rep Printing and Smart Voter	88	88	88
11. Easy Voter Guide	0	0	640
12. Hot topics rental	0	0	0
13. Videography	0	500	600
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>4,370</b>	<b>5,370</b>	<b>7,509</b>
<b>G. SPECIAL FUNCTIONS</b>			
1. MYPO expenses	1,000	1,000	1,500
2. Chamber Dues	125	125	125
3. One Time Expenses	0	142	80
4. Youth Outreach/Debate Scholarship			1,500
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>1,267</b>	<b>3,205</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>18,915</b>	<b>21,901</b>	<b>21,479</b>
<b>OPERATING INCOME/(LOSS)</b>	<b>-3,605</b>	<b>-4,622</b>	<b>-5,158</b>
1. Interest Income	0	0	0
<b>NET INCOME/(LOSS)</b>	<b>-3,605</b>	<b>-4,622</b>	<b>-5,158</b>

Adina Singer, Budget Chair

**LWVA COMMITTEE REPORTS 2017-2018**

**Action Committee**

**Schools and Communities First**

The Action Committee has been working for the past several months on gathering signatures for the Schools and Communities First initiative. We have distributed over 500 petitions to organizations and individuals. We continue to do so as the deadline to obtain the signatures has been extended to June 30th. We are hoping to get the Initiative on the ballot for the November 2020 General Election.



## State Legislation

The LWVC supports dozens of bills having to do with Air Quality, Campaign Financing, Climate Change, Education, Housing, Immigration, Juvenile Justice, State and Local Finances, and Water, to name a few. Local chapters follow these measures as their interest dictates. We can agree with the State League by writing a letter or making a phone call, or say nothing at all. We cannot disagree.

The Leagues Key Issues in California are:

- Making Democracy Work in California (election reform, redistricting, money in politics, voting rights, and expanding the electorate).
- Natural Resources (climate change, water and land use)
- Response to Changing Federal Policies and Budget Actions (tax reform, healthcare, protecting the environment and immigration)

To follow these issues go to: [www.lwvc.org](http://www.lwvc.org) and [www.lwvalameda.org](http://www.lwvalameda.org). You can also find the status of a bill at: [www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov).

## Money in Local Politics

The Action Committee has had a long- standing interest in campaign finance reform. This past year we analyzed campaign finance data for local offices including Independent Expenditures using data from the Alameda City Clerk's office (mayor and city council) and the Alameda County Registrar of Voters (for school board). To give a fair representation the data covered three election cycles for each office. The data highlighted the wide variation in the cost of a campaign and amount of independent expenditure funds for and against selected candidates. The data and an article appeared in the Voter and were distributed in a well-attended public forum in February (see Programs). The League met with the City Clerk to urge a better election data reporting system and strongly supported her request to the City Council for a new system.

## Transparency in Local Government

In fall 2017 there appeared to be a potential violation of the City Charter when it looked as if council members may have attempted to influence the City Manager in her selection of a new fire chief. LWVA sent letters and spoke before the Council urging an independent investigation that the Council authorized. As a follow up we urged the public release of the investigator's report. The report was released and the Action Committee will discuss next steps. Clarifying language in the City Charter was one of the recommendations.

Karen Butter and Felice Zensius, Co-Chairs, Action Committee

## Communications Committee

The Communications Committee continued to expand its efforts to effectively convey the work of the League. Our team generates and manages publicity through multiple media channels: website, newsletter, eBlasts, news releases to print and on-line news sources, and social media. Highlights of this program year include:

- Spearheaded funding and filming of LWVA's two primary election voter forums, and engaged with Alameda High School's Multimedia Club to video future events.
- Developed tactical plan for College of Alameda students to intern with our team this fall.
- Kept website updated to coordinate with twice monthly eBlasts, and made many improvements that included the following: streamlined online membership renewal payment steps; added form that lets members easily update their own contact info; created and publicized the Civics 101 page to help voters be their own best advocate.
- Issued twice monthly eBlasts to an average of 445 members and friends of the League. Over 31% of recipients (including non-members) read our eBlasts, well above the industry standard of 22% for nonprofits.



- Published six issues of the VOTER newsletter: July-August, September-October, November-December, January-February, March-April, and May-June.
- Expanded use of Facebook to publicize events and matters of interest to the League. Our Facebook admin group made 350+ posts this past year, and grew our audience from nearly 460 to over 550 followers. Our three ad campaigns reached 1,851 people and achieved 218 engagements (i.e., readers liked, clicked or shared the post they saw).

**The Communication Committee's goals for 2019-2019 are to:**

- Strategically, tactically, and consistently use social media to
  - Promote community participation in LWVA sponsored events, and
  - Inform local voters, and engage them in meaningful, respectful dialogue about laws and policies that affect them.
- Keep the new LWVA website easy to navigate (for members and first-time site visitors alike) and updated with our organization's latest activities and legislative efforts.
- Include the top three civic/political matters Alamedans are 'Googling' every month on our website (in a nonpartisan way) to ensure our site is useful and relevant to local voters.
- Create and maintain collaborative relationships with other local organizations by sharing their events (which align with LWV positions) to our social media and email subscribers, and website visitors.

Your Communications Team during the past year includes Keasha Martindill (eBlasts), Lisa Yap (Website), Mari Clark (Voter/Voter contributor), Rachel Wellman (Voter), Gayle Thomas (Facebook), Kate Quick (Facebook), with valuable input from Doris Gee, Doug Neu, Anne McKereghan, and Ruth Dixon-Mueller.

**If you are not receiving twice-monthly eBlasts from LWVA, please let us know!** Spread the word about what we're doing on social media! Volunteer to write letters to the editor, take photos at League events and/or submit items for us to distribute. Thank you!

Keasha Martindill, Chair, Communication Committee

### **Fundraising Committee**

MYPO 2018 was held on April 5th at the Alameda Elks Lodge. The new venue allowed for more space to socialize and speed date without feeling closed in all night. Despite a last minute date change due to an unexpected conflict with the Alameda City Council, there was a good turnout for the event. Thank you to Diane Rizzo, who arranged for donated and purchased food to feed the participants. The consensus was that the event was a huge success.

A special thank you to our speed daters who took time out of their busy schedule to join us: Trish Herrera Spencer, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Jeff Cambra, Amber Childress, James Jackson, Tracy Jensen, Gary Lym, Anne McKereghan, Elsa Ortiz, Gail Payne, Christian Peeples, Debbie Potter, Edmund Rodriguez, Paul Rolleri, and Malia Vella.

MYPO 2018 grossed \$7,056 from ticket sales, donations of auction and raffle items, and wine for the bar, and netted approximately \$4,531. A huge thank you to Kate Quick who donated a trip to Disney World Resort (including airfare) that she won at another event that brought \$1,500 into the coffer. Ticket sales accounted for about half of the gross with the balance from other sources.

I would like to express my gratitude to the MYPO 2018 committee that helped make this event a success. Marian Breitbart, Doris Gee, Karen Guthrie, Mark Hamilton, Miska Kazda, Keasha Martindill, Jennifer Mosier, Marilyn Ng, Ert O'Hara, and Chuck Scanlon! An even deeper gratitude to Ruth Dixon-Mueller for her guidance



and assistance when some curveballs were thrown at the committee and to Georgia Gates-Derr for her support. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets for the event; who contributed food and wine; who donated raffle and auction items and worked so hard the night of the event.

The committee met to de-brief on lessons learned and suggestions to make next year's event even more successful and I look forward to serving as Chair again.

Douglas Neu, Fundraising Chair

## Membership Committee

LWVA's Membership Committee distributes event flyers and membership brochures around town; invites each new member for coffee to discuss our activities and volunteer opportunities and encourages the active participation of all of our members in the education and advocacy work of the League. We currently have 161 men and women members, just six shy of last year's all-time high of 167. We are trying to grow our membership via social media and a newly designed website where you can easily join or renew online at [www.LWVAAlameda.org](http://www.LWVAAlameda.org).

This is an election year and the League is busy. If you have a couple of hours a week or month to volunteer or even on an occasional basis, please let us know. We try to match volunteers' interests with our various committees. Visit [www.LWVAAlameda.org/volunteer.html](http://www.LWVAAlameda.org/volunteer.html) to learn about the opportunities we offer: every committee is listed here. In spite of all the wonderful social media and technology, nothing beats the good old-fashioned connections that our new members need when joining a group such as ours.

Here are some things you can do to stay informed about events and issues:

- Check your email for upcoming events on eBlasts that are sent out twice a month.
- Sign up for a FREE *Bay Area Monitor* for news about the League of Women Voters of the Bay Area at [www.bayareamonitor.org](http://www.bayareamonitor.org) or at [Facebook.com/bayareamonitor](https://www.facebook.com/bayareamonitor)
- The California State League of Women Voters has a great page to sign up and get action alerts at [lwvc.org/stay-informed](http://lwvc.org/stay-informed).
- Join us on *Facebook: League of Women Voters of Alameda*. Please "like" us, and check back often for the latest information. We have monthly coffee hours on Saturday mornings and an occasional table at the Webster Street Farmer's Market. We have also been holding informal get-togethers at members' homes for prospective members (bring your friends!). Many of them have joined us.

A big thank you to the membership committee: Ruth Dixon-Mueller, Marian Brietbart, Ken Werner, Audrey Lord-Hausman, Linda Garvin, Anne Spanier, and Marilyn Ng. We work hard to grow our membership and increase visibility in the Alameda community. And thank you for technical support to Doug Neu, Mari Clark and Dorothy Kerwin. The membership committee meets the last Wednesday of each month except during the summer at 9 AM. Would you like to come visit us? E-mail me at [dorisgee48@gmail.com](mailto:dorisgee48@gmail.com).

Doris L. Gee, Chair, Membership Committee

## Program Committee

The Program Committee organizes policy-oriented community forums and other events during the months when other activities such as December's holiday party, January's general membership meeting, the MYPO mixer and fundraiser, June's Annual Meeting, and pre-primary or general election forums are not being held. The year began in August 2017 with Patricia Young as chair, followed by Ruth Dixon-Mueller as acting chair and the election of Michele Ellson in February as the new chair. It was a collaborative effort!

**Highlights of the 2017-18 season:**



- August: Film showing of ***Girl Rising***, a documentary on the empowerment of girls through global education, at the Alameda Free Library cosponsored with Girls Inc. and AAUW.
- August: Community forum on ***The Pulse of Health Care in Alameda*** at Alameda Hospital cosponsored by Alameda Hospital and the City of Alameda Health Care District.
- September: Community forum on ***Immigration Nation? Challenges for All Americans*** at the Alameda Free Library cosponsored with AAUW and Friends of the Alameda Free Library.
- November: Community forum on ***What's Happening to Our Voting Rights? Voter Suppression and the Politics of Exclusion*** at the Elks Lodge cosponsored with LWV Oakland. Speakers were Kim Geron, Professor of Political Science at CSU East Bay; Michael Chase, Board Member of Northern California ACLU; and Helen Hutchison, president of LWVC.
- February: Community forum on ***The Cost of Campaigning in Alameda (and How to Follow the Money)*** at Phoenix workspace. Panelists included a former City Council candidate, a campaign manager, a journalist who covers politics and a representative of MapLight (Voter's Edge).
- June: Community forum, ***How Will New State Housing Laws Affect Alameda?*** at the Ruth Rambeau Community Room in Alameda's Independence Plaza cosponsored with the Alameda Housing Authority. Panelists: David Garcia, Policy Director, Turner Center for Housing Innovation, UC Berkeley; Paul Campos, Senior VP for Governmental Affairs, Building Industry Association of the Bay Area; Abby Goldware, Associate Director of Housing Development, MidPen Housing Corp; Debbie Potter, Community Development Director (invited but not confirmed at this writing).

The Program Committee is eager to hear your ideas for forums for the 2018-2019 "season" and is looking for volunteers to help organize. Please contact Michele at [islandblog@gmail.com](mailto:islandblog@gmail.com).

Michele Ellson, Chair, Program Committee

## Voter Service Committee

### Voter Education

The June 5 Primary season has engendered a flurry of activity, with three community forums planned and two presented. In the first, LWVA volunteers explained the pros and cons of seven State ballot measures as well as one Regional measure and one County measure. In the second, six candidates presented their views and responded to questions (four candidates for County Assessor, two for Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder). Video recordings of both forums are posted on our website at <https://www.lwvalameda.org/lwva-election-forum-videos.html>. The committee co-chairs have been documenting best practices for the November 2018 General Election Season. In addition, 500 free copies of the *EasyVoter Guides* have been distributed by volunteers to public places around the community.

### Voter Registration

- **Youth Outreach** - LWVA is working to add Alameda high school and college students to our demographics and extend to them the League's historic mission to ensure that they are informed, engaged and valued participants in the governmental process. In partnership with local high schools, LWVA made several classroom presentations on pre-registration and voting procedures. We also met with AUSD leadership (McPhetridge, Fong) to explore the most effective ways to work with youth voters and participated in Alameda Community Learning Center's youth voter training with the Registrar of Voters (ROV).
- **Affidavit distribution** - The committee has completed an inventory of registration forms distributed to approximately 15 sites around Alameda. The forms data are tracked in the electronic system provided by the County Registrar of Voters. The detailed level of information required significantly increased effort to correctly execute this task. The Co-Chairs attended a training session at the ROV office. LWV Alameda



will be applying for a specific voter registration URL through the County ROV to ensure that LWVA gets “credit” for on-line registrations.

- **National Voter Registration Day and other special events** – Over 20 members registered voters at Webster Farmer’s Market in August; National Voter Registration Day at four venues in September; the Oakland Women’s March in January; a student-run “Political and Proud” event at Encinal High in February; and the East Bay Men’s Chorus concert and Alameda’s Earth Day Festival in April. We also register voters at all LWVA forums. Voter registration is a continuous effort and will not cease even when this election cycle ends.

## **Voters Edge**

VotersEdge.org/ca is LWVC and Maplight’s partnered website offering candidate and ballot measure information to California voters. Federal and State Constitutional Offices are maintained by State League staff while County, Regional and Local offices are maintained by local organizations.

During the June Primary Election Season, the Alameda League team (JuelleAnn Boyer, Kimberlee MacVicar and Ashley Lorden) was assigned County Measure A, Candidates for Assembly District 18 and County Supervisor District 3. We were successful in posting the County Measure A information. However the candidates did not participate despite our best efforts.

JuelleAnn Boyer and Ken Werner, Co-Chairs, Voter Service Committee

## **Youth Outreach Committee.**

In partnership with the College of Alameda (CoA), DEMOCRACY MATTERS: LWVA/CoA High School Civics Scholarship Program was created. Democracy Matters was designed to encourage creative thinking, enhance knowledge of civics, raise awareness of the political process for potential youth voters and their families, and to encourage membership in the LWVA.

### **How the LWVA/CoA Partnership works:**

- The LWVA chooses the debate topic from positions the League has taken on public policy issues.
- The CoA determines the contest format. Student participants in this year’s speech tournament expressed their views on the topic: *Based On Our History, What Should Be Included in Immigration Reform?*
- The LWVA is responsible for the scholarship funding.
- CoA Communications Department provides coaching and public speaking skills, which include practice and research facilities as well as the venue for culminating event.
- CoA provides each high-school participant with one college credit in Communications.

The LWVA Board voted to contribute \$1500 to Democracy Matters: LWVA/CoA Civics Scholarship Program to award a \$1000 scholarship to the winner and a \$500 scholarship to the runner up. The six finalists in the April 2018 High School Speech Tournament were participants from Girls Inc. of the Island City, Alameda High School, Encinal High School and Alameda Science and Technology Institute (ASTI).

Judges for this year’s speech tournament were Nancy O’Malley, Alameda County District Attorney; Samanta Cubias, representing Susie Medak, General Manager of Berkeley Rep Theater; Tim Karas, President of College of Alameda; Dr. Evette Castillo-Clark, Dean of Students at St. Mary’s College of CA; and Melissa Breach, Executive Director, League of Women Voters California.

Are you interested in working with Youth Outreach this coming year? Please let me know!

Alice Fried, Chair, Youth Outreach Committee



## **LEAGUE PROGRAM: POSITIONS AND ACTION (DEFINITION)**

A League position is the stand of the League on a public issue. It serves as the basis for advocacy or action. Action includes lobbying, legislative testimony, public statements, media campaigns, and joining coalitions. A League position is established after members have studied an issue and achieved consensus on policies and practices that best serve the public interest. Local League positions are used in conjunction with positions adopted by the national and state levels of League and may not be in conflict with them, if they are on the same subject.

### **Recommended LWVA Program 2018-2019**

#### **Local:**

- Retain all existing Local positions (see Proposed Program Positions in Brief, below)
- Revise Housing and Transportation Position (see below)
- No new study or update study for 2018-2019
- Adopt as Issues for Emphasis for 2018-2019:
  - Campaign Finance
  - Local government: transparency and good governance
  - High school voter registration/education
  - Schools & Communities First Campaign (Reform Prop 13)

**State:** Making Democracy Work in California, Environment/Natural Resources, Health Care, and Tax Reform

**National:** Campaign for Making Democracy Work with four priority areas: Voting Rights, Improving Elections, Campaign Finance/Money in Politics, and Redistricting

### **Local Positions of the League of Women Voters of Alameda**

The Board recommends the re-adoption of the Local Positions as approved at the June 23, 2017 annual meeting with one revision to line 3 of the Housing and Transportation position as noted below.

#### **CITY CHARTER (1978, 2016)**

The League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) supports measures providing simplicity and transparency in the City Charter through clarification of meaning and elimination of obsolete or inapplicable provisions.

#### **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS (1997, 2016)**

The League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) supports measures that protect the resilience of Alameda’s residents and businesses through disaster mitigation, training, response and recovery.

The City’s disaster preparedness plan should clearly define the roles and responsibilities of public officials, employees, public and private agencies, organizations, utilities, and other entities related to public health and safety and social services.

#### **ELECTIONS (1985, 1998, 2016)**

The League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) supports the adoption of a Fair Campaign Practices Code by the City Council for the local election of Public Officials with the goal of ensuring greater transparency of donations and spending.



Local special elections should be held by mail ballot with return postage provided. Adequate time should be allowed for voters to become informed about the election and to return the mail ballot. Procedures should be instituted to ensure widespread publicity and effective distribution of the ballots.

### **LAND USE (1974, 2016)**

The League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) supports land use policies and revisions of the General Plan that are designed to:

- I. Advance the general welfare of the residents of Alameda in such areas as housing, public and social services, noise and odor control, beautification, and commercial and industrial development.
- II. Improve existing traffic patterns, including public transportation and access to BART. Alternatives to increased auto usage, such as bike paths and walkways, should be actively pursued.
- III. Promote light industrial and commercial development using all available means engendered in state law. Existing commercial areas should be upgraded and rehabilitated.
- IV. Implement existing conservation and open space elements of the General Plan. The City has the responsibility to ensure that the existing shoreline is developed and maintained for public use.
- V. Ensure that periodic reviews of the General Plan and its related elements incorporate comprehensive community input, including public hearings and posting of proposed changes in public media at the pre-draft, draft, and adoption stages.
- VI. Express land use policies clearly, with concrete goals and objectives that adequately reflect cost considerations, environmental factors, and citizen input.

### **HOUSING and TRANSPORTATION (1989, 2005, 2016)**

The League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) supports City housing and transportation policies that:

- I. Fulfill Alameda's needs for housing at all economic land mobility levels. New developments should have a variety of densities and amenities [**insert: including universal design standards**] that will support continuation of the quality of life now enjoyed in Alameda.
- II. Provide maximum feasible open space, defined as sufficient communal green space, walking paths, playgrounds, tot-lots, and other naturally landscaped areas to encourage and enhance livability and strong community identity.
- III. Meet or exceed current standards for energy efficiency. All designs should show consideration for minimum negative impact on air, water, and surrounding natural environment.
- IV. Provide an appropriate number of off-street parking spaces for each type of housing in the mix.
- V. Maximize the use of public, accessible, and alternative modes of transportation in order to maintain livability and decrease traffic on residential streets.
- VI. Ensure the safety of entrances and exits to housing developments, schools, business and shopping areas.

### **LIBRARY (1991, 2016)**

The League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) supports a public library system that meets the diverse needs of all Alamedans. Funding for the Alameda Free Library should be increased. If the Library receives additional funds through taxes, bond measures or grants/gifts, General funds should not be reduced. Hours of service for the Main and neighborhood libraries should be increased, including weekend and evening hours, as well as space for library functions. Library resources should reflect changing uses and technologies, with an emphasis on popular materials, reference, and children's sections. LWVA urges the City Council to approve the Library Strategic Plan, including its mission and goals, and to support a viable library system in Alameda.



## Positions of the Alameda County Council Of Leagues (ACC)

Changing or dropping one of these positions must be approved by 5 of the 6 Leagues of Alameda County. Action on any of these positions must be approved by a majority of the Leagues.

The LWVA Board recommends re-adoption of the following positions

### ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, ALAMEDA COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, ALAMEDA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION (2007)

I. **Position in Brief:** Support an efficient, effective and equitable balance of responsibility and authority among the levels of governance with accountability to the public and that results in providing services that best meet needs of students and the local school districts.

A. **Efficiency:** Provide those services (education, training, fiscal, oversight) to county school programs and district school programs that do not duplicate those provided by districts or other agencies.

B. **Effectiveness:** Provide those services that best meet the needs and interests of local districts. Constantly monitor services to determine their effectiveness and remove or improve those that are not meeting district goals.

C. **Equitable Balance of Responsibility and Authority for Governance**

1. Establish policies that delineate the powers and functions of each entity where not covered explicitly in the Education Code to ensure an equitable balance of responsibility and authority for governance and to enhance accountability.

2. Provide for consolidation of functions between and among county offices of education to deal with area-wide problems. Consider consolidation of functions to achieve cost savings and improve the quality of service and equity.

D. **Accountability to the Public**

1. Ensure that both the Board and the Superintendent abide by the tenets of the Brown Act, and the Freedom of Information Act and the California Public Records Act.

2. Maintain public visibility by utilizing technology to keep constituents informed about actions taken by the Board and the County Superintendent.

3. Advertise upcoming elections for Board members' and the County Superintendent's seat to encourage contested elections. This will allow the public to learn about the candidates' credentials and the issues so they can make informed choices.

4. Develop a collaborative Annual Work Plan to set up measurable goals to be used in the annual evaluation of both Board Members' and Superintendent's performance. These evaluations will then be helpful in the Superintendent salary-setting process and for measuring progress toward established goals.

## II. Monitoring

The League's role should be to:

- Continue observing County Board of Education meetings to ensure compliance with the Brown Act and Education Code.
- Monitor the County Office website to ensure that constituents have access to current and complete information concerning actions taken by the County Office/Superintendent and the Board.
- Review Grand Jury comments and recommendations pertaining to the County Board and County Superintendent and support those that support the improvement of efficient, effective, and appropriate governance and fiscal management of those entities.
- Monitor the governance model to determine if there is any interest by the public in changing the method of selecting a County Superintendent.



## JUVENILE JUSTICE

Support policies that promote services to meet the needs of Alameda County youth and minimize delinquency.

A. The County Council supports effective and responsible decision-making for youth at the county level.

Specifically, the Council supports:

1. Continuing evaluation of the Alameda County Probation Department Juvenile Division to ensure its goals and functions are clear and effective.
  2. Continued citizen input into all countywide juvenile justice programs.
  3. Coordination of all community programs for Alameda County youth to ensure that the needs of the communities are met and that duplication of services is avoided.
  4. Citizen involvement in setting priorities for diversion and prevention services.
  5. Continued evaluation and accountability to the public of programs funded by public moneys.
  6. County decision-making bodies:
    - a. Appointment to commissions that reflect the diversified population of the County
    - b. Guidelines for commission members which are clear statements of their responsibilities and authority
    - c. Assessment of limited number of terms
    - d. Reimbursement to commissioners for personal expenses, i.e., transportation and babysitting.
- B. The County Council supports a coordinated multidimensional concept of service which could include:
1. Vocational training
  2. Programs that provide jobs and job training for youth
  3. Recreational opportunities
  4. Counseling for youth and their families, both long-term and for crises
  5. Mental health services which meet the needs of youth, supported by adequate funding, i.e., residential treatment centers for juveniles
  6. Youth diversion programs
    - a. Staff volunteers having close ties to the community of the juveniles being served
    - b. Involvement of youth in program planning, implementation and evaluation
    - c. Integration into projects available with other than just delinquent youth
    - d. Adequate program facilities
- C. The County Council encourages school districts to deal effectively with pupil welfare and pupil attendance, i.e., truancy, child neglect, child abuse, and severe behavior problems.
- D. The County Council supports greater community awareness of the problems and needs of youth and programs that are currently available.

## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- A. Increase the priority given Children's Mental Health Services in the County Mental Health program and budget
- B. Retain present services and ensure equal access to Day Treatment Service throughout the County.
- C. Focus on prevention and early intervention by:
  1. Increased education of parents and public
  2. Utilization of school resources where feasible.
- D. Finance these services by:
  1. Active pursuit of all available sources of funds.
  2. Coordination of County, State, and Federal budget deadlines
  3. Sufficient funds for a service from the level of government that mandates that service
- E. Make most efficient use of funds by:
  1. Retention and expansion of contracts with private providers
  2. Support for Case Management system of services
  3. Increased coordination and communication among all public and private service providers and continuation of the Interagency Council.



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2017-2018

The 2018 LWVA Nominating Committee submits the following slate of candidates for elected positions on the Board of Directors for the 2018-19 fiscal year. In accordance with LWVA Bylaws, we submit the names of six officers and eight additional members who have agreed to become or continue as directors. We note that our Bylaws allow for up to 20 directors. Also, a number of additional committee positions do not require Board membership.

We are pleased to offer you a mix of people who have significant experience in various LWVA leadership positions as well as some newcomers to LWVA leadership who bring diverse perspectives, experience, and energy. The Committee has also worked with a number of incumbents to review and sometimes revise the job descriptions for many of LWVA’s leadership positions. These can be accessed at [www.LWVAAlameda.org](http://www.LWVAAlameda.org).

### Proposed Slate for LWVA 2018-19 Board of Directors

#### Officers nominated to be elected at the Annual Meeting

President	Georgia GatesDerr
VP Administration	Susan Hauser
VP Programs	Michele Ellson
VP Membership	Doris Gee
Secretary	Mari Clark
Treasurer	Adina Singer

#### Additional directors nominated to be elected at the Annual Meeting

Action co-chair	Karen Butter
Action co-chair	Felice Zensius
Bay Area League liaison	Sally Faulhaber
Bay Area League liaison	Kate Quick
Communication chair	Keasha Martindill
Fundraising chair	Douglas Neu
Voter service co-chair	JuelleAnn Boyer
Voter service co-chair	Ken Werner

#### Nominating Committee

##### Non-Board members (three to be elected at the Annual Meeting)

Marilyn Ng  
Anne McKereghan  
OPEN

**Board members** of the committee (two) will be selected by the incoming Board of Directors

Respectfully submitted by the 2018 Nominating Committee,  
Kathryn Sáenz Duke, Chair  
Ruth Dixon-Mueller  
Kate Quick  
Anne Spanier  
Gayle Thomas



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ALAMEDA STATEMENTS AND POLICIES

## League of Women Voters of the United States Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. *LWVUS website*

### LWVA Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy, through education and advocacy.

LWV does not support or oppose any political party or any candidate. It does, however, take action on selected government issues in the public interest.

### LWVA Diversity Policy (2017)

League of Women Voters of Alameda Diversity Policy The League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA), in both its values and practices, is committed to diversity and inclusion, which means there shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the LWVA on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, military status, national origin or disability. The LWVA affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of the City of Alameda in its members, board, and programs. The LWVA recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. This inclusiveness enhances the organization’s ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs.

Revised and approved September 21, 2017 by the Board of Directors.  
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### LWVA Nonpartisan Policy (2017)

Definition: The League of Women Voters as an organization neither supports nor opposes political candidates.

Policy Statement: Responsibility for the maintenance of the League’s reputation as a nonpartisan group rests with the League Board. The League Board must be consulted if questions arise. In making decisions, the Board will rely to a large extent upon the whole situation.

- League Board members may serve on appointed Boards, Commissions, or Committees.
- League Board members who are actively running by publicly announcing they are forming a committee, or hold an elected or party office may not retain their position on the Board.
- The President, Action Chair, and Voter Service Chair may not take a public or active role in elections or recalls of candidates.

Revised and approved September 21, 2017 by the Board of Directors.



# LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF ALAMEDA

## 2018 Annual Meeting Reservation Form **PLEASE RESERVE BY WED. JUNE 20TH**

Saturday, June 23, 2017 – 11:30 AM-2:30 PM

OTAEZ MEXICAN RESTAURANT (UPSTAIRS), 1619 WEBSTER STREET, ALAMEDA

**\$30.00 for buffet lunch. Price includes tax and tip. No host bar (downstairs).**

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve online: Pay with credit card at <http://www.lwvalameda.org/annual-meeting-luncheon-2018.html> (click on Shop at the bottom of the page)

Reserve by mail: Mail this page with a check payable to LWV Alameda for \$30.00 per lunch to LWVA, PO Box 1645, Alameda CA 94501.

Questions about payment? Contact Marian at 769-1604, mbreitbart@mac.com

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## **SATURDAY, June 23, 2018 ANNUAL MEETING KIT** *Please Bring This Kit with You to the Annual Meeting*

2017 Annual Meeting: Alice Fried passes the gavel to Georgia Gates Derr; a table of cheerful attendees

