

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ALAMEDA
BOARD RETREAT MINUTES, August 1, 2020
Virtual Meeting Online via RingCentral

Board members present: Susan Hauser, presiding; Anne McKereghan, Ashley Lorden, William Smith, Karen Butter, Anna Crane, Laura Kinley, Ken Werner, Keasha Martindill, Doris Gee, Sheila Durkin, Sally Faulhaber, Kate Quick, Barbara Price. **Other members present:** Ruth Dixon-Mueller, Marilyn Ng.

Call to order: Susan Hauser called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM.

President's report:

1. Reminder: what does it mean for LWVA to be nonpartisan?
 - a. LWVA can advocate for issues and take a position on measures.
 - b. Members can personally express opinions on candidates or parties, as long as LWV isn't mentioned (President, Fundraising, Voter Service, and Action Chair cannot).
 - c. We should ask a variety of questions at candidate forums rather than focus on one area.
2. New committee created to review bylaws (Li, Anna)
 - a. Give recommendation on updated dues (early 2021)
 - b. Reconsider printing/ mailing hard copies of Annual Meeting Kits
3. Archiving/organizing/digitizing boxes of old LWVA documents
 - a. We do have many documents digitized but they may not be organized in the same place (Dropbox, other)
 - b. Some of our old files may belong in the Library, and/or a library archivist could help process these
 - c. Susan has pictures and files going a long time back, perhaps these could be part of promotion/communication?
4. Would like to get new members involved in committees
 - a. We have a list of roles on the website: <https://www.lwvalameda.org/volunteer.html>. Nominating committee to update these (they are a few years old)
 - b. It would be helpful to publish expectations for all our volunteer opportunities to recruit new members
5. The Executive Committee's purpose is to make a decision quickly on behalf of LWVA without needing to wait for a board meeting, if necessary. Doris, Barbara, and Bill volunteer to join the appointed members for this committee.
6. Alameda County Complete Count Committee (Census) is working to promote. They need volunteers, especially bilingual.
 - a. Share census promotion posts on social media (rather than just "liking").
 - b. LWVA maintains Twitter and Facebook -- perhaps we should add Instagram? We could also promote messages through NextDoor or large Alameda Facebook groups
 - c. Could we include census info into bags distributed at Alameda Food bank?
7. GOTV + registration is also a big push for the next months. Should include "Are you registered to vote at your current address?" with link to confirm your registration on all our communications. [Vote Safe California](#)

8. Schools and Communities First: Proposition 15 on November ballot.
 - a. Looking for LWVA members to volunteer to share materials and write Letters to the Editor as individuals (goal is 1/week). Susan will do one on behalf of LWVA.
 - b. Looking for endorsements from city council and school board members, business organizations, realtors, etc
9. Plan to continue virtual meetings through next June. Need to think about Holiday Party

Committee reports:

Membership: We have 130 current members. Students have free membership, promote to those you know! Doris will be holding virtual coffees with potential members starting in September, refer them to her.

Youth Outreach Service Project (Verify game): Have integrated current news and are updating graphics. If you know any teachers or leaders of youth groups, introduce them to us to distribute the game to. Will release a beta test in about 2 weeks. After that, we can share on social.

Election Forums: Organizing some in collaboration with other Leagues, and others by ourselves. Right now defining formats, dates, etc. Will need ~4 volunteers per forum. Need to determine if we need paper copies of Easy Voters, and verify if distributing paper materials is consistent with Shelter in Place.

Action: Campaign Finance Reports for Q2 had limited candidate participation, will publish for Q3 -- Anna and Anne volunteer to review. Karen and Bill have been considering what the League can contribute to policing discussion. They met with Chief Rolleri and plan to host public forums with the Police Department (ex-Chief still willing to participate, or others).

Treasurer: Confusion between dues and donations has caused membership and bookkeeping back-and-forth. Proposal to consider contributions in excess of membership dues from members in good standing an automatic membership renewal.

Programs: Considering criminal justice, pandemic handling programming in the Spring

Communications: Have new volunteer Courtney on social, and Wendy helping with graphics. Forums on Zoom/RingCentral expected to hit 200-person limit. Communication team will need to help manage technology (add livestream option?).

Book Club: Reading on Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity -- Baldwin and Coates will be discussed in August. City of Alameda will be reading Stamped Out, and Ken recommends On Tyranny

Inclusion + Diversity: Looking to assess our current strengths and weaknesses wrt I+D soon, then set goals and actions. Will consult/advise other committees including programming, nominating, and membership.

Nomination: Looking to be proactive in increasing diversity on the board, would like newer members to join in at-large positions. At September meeting, President will appoint additional committee members - 1 non-board member and 2 board members.

Voter Service: Working on new ways to register voters during SiP. Proposal to urge the Board to attend a training on voter registration with relevant new information. Ken will schedule one daytime and one evening training, and they'll also be open to members.

Fundraising: Need 2 new Development Committee members to help long-term planning. Will review lifetime membership (50-year members). Ideas: monthly donations rather than one-time, ask/facilitate legacy giving.

It was decided to reconvene for an additional Board Meeting on 8/20. Virtual meeting adjourned at 11:22 AM.