

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ALAMEDA**  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES, August 17, 2024  
Home of Li Volin

**Board members present:** Keasha Martindill, presiding; Ashley Lorden, Susan Hauser, Jeff Cambra, Linda Lyons-Justus. **Other members present:** Linda Bytof, Sally Faulhaber, Li Volin, Lianne Campodonico, Kaija Stasko, Paul Beusterien, Sesina Haile, Ken Werner, Irene Dieter, Paula Rainey.

**Call to Order:** Keasha Martindill called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM. Susan moved, Ken seconded, and we approved to accept the agenda.

Our president Anna Crane is ill and unable to attend today. For now, Keasha will help fill in and Keasha and Anna should be copied on any comms.

**Recognition of interns and National Convention report:** Our Youth Services Committee recognized 2 interns completing their time with LWVA. Sesina Haile organized voter registration at Encinal High School, planned and facilitated a local forum on housing, and attended and presented at the League National Convention. Silvie Carl-Strand brought LWVA to TikTok, featuring Fake News Friday, and facilitated voter registration at SJND High School. Sesina and Kaija shared how they were inspired by the diversity of efforts they saw at the National Convention.

**Election planning:**

95% of our membership survey respondents said that forums are important. Keasha will run these on Zoom and Anne McKereghan will moderate. Kaija volunteers to collect candidate questions, and will get help from Kate Quick to consolidate them. We need someone to liaise with candidates; Vote411 volunteers will cover that. We'll host AUSD, City Council, and possibly AD 18, Bart District 7, EBMUD 5, Parks 4 depending on candidate engagement. Irene mentioned that the Alameda Post is also planning forums; we could potentially co-sponsor with them. Jeff is on the board of the Alameda Post and will review our co-sponsorship policy and LWV forum guidelines to see if we can work together. Our youth committee would also be interested in getting involved in the School Board forum.

There's no need for pros/cons or positions this year because we don't have any local ballot measures this election, though our survey results also report that these are valuable.

Mis/dis-information was another area our membership regards as important. Our work on VerifyIt (and TikTok promotion) addresses this nationally, and locally Allan Mann will report on Campaign Finance. We could do more to address local mis/disinformation, such as posting on local rumors on social media, if we could get a local intern – Paula may have a lead for this and if we can find someone, we'll add this effort.

Letters to the Editor, bookmarks and voter guides, and monitoring drop boxes and affidavit boxes were less important to our survey respondents. Paula volunteered to maintain affidavits and distribute voter guides. Susan will inquire at the food bank and APC about reaching out to register voters there, and set up at events such as Blues, Brews, and BBQ.

Keasha and Paula will respond to voter questions. Linda and Youth Services will register voters in high schools and will be calling for volunteers to help. Ashley, Wendy, and Paula will divide responsibility for Vote411.

**League Coach:** Easy Voter Guide is important because it's highly legible and makes completing the full ballot faster than using the provided materials. A template for bylaw changes will be published in September or October to help us comply with requirements.

**Meeting cadence:** Proposal for Board Meetings in Sept, Nov, Jan, March, May, with Annual Meeting in June and Board Retreat in August. We'll consider an additional meeting in October for election planning.

**Nominating Committee:** We have an open spot on the Nominating Committee for a Board Member, but we don't have any volunteers today so we'll keep seeking another member.

**Bylaws proposal:** A member proposes reinstating in our bylaws a requirement "those eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting must be dues-paying members as of the notice date for the meeting". Ashley moved, Jeff seconded, and we approved recommending this change to our membership.

**Open floor:** We decided to have a membership meeting in September immediately before our Board Meeting, where we can vote on the Bylaws change and offer opportunities to volunteer with the election.

A question arose about our membership pricing, which will be changing in January to a pay-what-you-can system. We will need to explain this transition by the end of the year.