

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ALAMEDA
January 26, 2017 PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

ATENDEES: SEE ATTACHED LIST

Call to Order – Ruth Dixon-Mueller– 7:02 p.m.
Introductions were made.

Discussion: The California LWV has assigned us the task to formulate our suggestions for what we feel as a group that the league should be focusing on. The suggestions will be collected at the end of the session. The LWVA will then determine the top issues for the state, local and special studies.

What can we do that makes a difference?

Where do we place our energies and resources?

One suggestion was to focus on the Open Primary creating a top two open primary voting system. (attached)

The LWVC Positions Summary and Recent Use handout was provided to all in attendance and readout loud. (attached)

It was suggested to go on-line to see the current issues/studies being worked on by the LWV at the state, local and national levels.

Open Primary Presentation by Anne Spanier:

Anne provided a handout and a discussion was held on the Open Primary issue. It was presented to be a study topic for the state.

Main Topics:

Redistricting

Money and Politics

Get Out the Vote

Further Discussion:

We should focus on the issues that impact our lives the most.

Kate Quick:

Kate provided a background on how the LWV functions concerning studies.

The state never takes a position without a study. There has to be an agreement on the study to take a position. The LWV does not speak on an issue without a study.

Use caution in adding on additional studies as we may not be able to meet the needs of the studies.

At the state convention is where all the issues are put together and adopted.

The state emphasis is the same as the national. There will be studies held over that are not competed.

Key Issues:

Climate Protection/Water

Minimum wage

Ongoing-Higher Education

We do not vote on the study, we have a consensus.

We suggest what to add to the state for further discussion:

More action on reproductive rights

Focus on how we can prevent manipulation of our democracy

Healthcare – Single Payer-Not for Profit

Immigrating

Education

Focus:

Focus on action and advocacy

Work with sister leagues in other states

How do we work together?

Possible workshops?

“Make It Fair”, modification of Proposition 13

Karen Butter:

Local issues, education study and the City of Alameda Sunshine Committee.

Critical issues locally?

Funding of recent M1 vs L1 rental control on the ballot.

Candidate and measure at all levels.

Suggestions:

Propose a forum /sponsor a forum

Neighborhood Meet-Ups

Democratic Party Forum

Encourage and inform business district to be aware that their employees need to vote.

Educate Young Visitors –Youth Outreach

Fight for a National Day for voting.

Adjourned 8:56pm

Cynthia Silva, Secretary