

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ALAMEDA
BOARD MEETING MINUTES, November 16, 2023
Virtual Meeting Online via Zoom

Board members present: Anna Crane, presiding; Ashley Lorden, Susan Hauser, Anne McKereghan, Keasha Martindill, Jeff Cambra. **Other members present:** Irene Dieter, Neil Rubenstein, Ella Heckman, Kaija Stasko, Lianne Campodonico, Linda Bytof, Paula Rainey, Susan Gonzales.

Call to Order: Anna Crane called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Susan H moved, Anne seconded, and we approved to accept the consent agenda and previous meeting minutes.

President's Report: Anna met with the mayor about how to cover candidate statement costs to remove a barrier for diverse candidates. The mayor was open to this idea, with some checks (possibly meeting a support threshold) so that candidates do not run frivolously. She is reviewing information we've provided about how other jurisdictions handle this and wants us to meet with staff. The mayor also shared that she is interested in gathering information on district elections. We were awarded \$1000 by the Rotary Club to continue our work on Youth Outreach. We'll host our holiday party on Sunday 12/3. We'll restart in person First Friday Socials on 1/5.

Youth Outreach Report: We awarded a certificate and check to Ella Heckman, who made great contributions leading our Student Advisory Committee as an intern. Our committee intends to work with AUSD to put a robust civics education plan in place. School districts are legally required to be active in encouraging voter registration and pre-registration, and we want to support our schools to do more.

ACA-4: This amendment, currently inactive in the assembly, seeks a constitutional amendment to restore the right to vote to people currently incarcerated. The state league is encouraging local leagues to seek local resolutions in support. We will not bring this issue to our City Council given our relative influence on this and other current issues, but will look for opportunities to support it, such as writing a Letter to the Editor and posting about it in our newsletter.

School Parcel Tax: The Alameda School Board has a measure which will be voted on in the March primary, to combine and extend our 2 existing parcel taxes. This has the benefits of slightly reducing administrative costs and allowing the School Board to plan longer term. Ashley moved, Susan H seconded, and we agreed to voice our support for this measure, via endorsement, a letter to the editor, and potentially other communications. We may be asked to be a signer on the ballot measure and we're open to it, but would require another vote after reviewing the final text.

Vote411: Maplight, the creator of our existing tool for nonpartisan voter resources VotersEdge, has lost its funding thus we must change to another tool. We'll be using

Vote411 going forward, a tool supported by the national league. Our Voter Registration committee will start using Vote411 for the next election. We also need to confirm if any other tools are affected and the date we should switch links, such as those in VerifyIt.

Open Floor: LWVFNU is hosting a Civic Engagement event on 1/6 which we might help host if it is virtual; we are pending more information from them about the program and logistics. Our Nominating Committee has 2 board members (Anne and Jeff) and 1 non-board member (Mary), and we are seeking 2 more non-board volunteers. A suggestion is made to reduce the size of our required Nominating Committee and relax the schedule to appoint it, since we're not currently in compliance with our bylaws. Susan is updating our membership appeal letter and is looking for input from Action and Youth Services on our current activities.

Anna adjourned the meeting at 8:31pm.