

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ALAMEDA
BOARD MEETING MINUTES, November 21, 2024
Online via Zoom

Board members present: Anna Crane, presiding; Keasha Martindill, Ashley Lorden, Susan Hauser, Linda Lyons-Justus, Paul Beusterien. **Other members present:** Irene Dieter, Paula Rainey.

Call to Order: Anna Crane called the meeting to order at 7:04pm. Susan moved, Keasha seconded, and we approved to accept the agenda. Keasha moved, Paul seconded, and we approved the last meeting's minutes and the budget.

We sent a request to the National League about free speech on college campuses, but haven't heard any response yet.

Nonpartisanship Policy: Susan moved, Keasha seconded, and we approved our updated policy.

Voter Services: Susan volunteered at many events to register voters and share information, but we don't think it made a big impact on registration, which will be difficult since our rate is already high. We did have success with our high school registration drives, [pre-]registering 600+ students. Another success was conducting a forum in partnership with the Alameda Post, who helped advertise and plan the event. Our forum recordings ranged from 200-700 online views. Kudos to Anne McKereghan for her service as a great moderator! We also saw good usage of our campaign finance data, though there could be an opportunity to promote it more.

Membership dues: We are still learning details about ChapterSpot, but know that there will be an option for people joining to make a donation directly to their local league. In the past, people often simply contributed a higher amount with their dues, but in the new system that will be split between national, state, and local leagues rather than all going to us. We'll need to alert members that they'll be asked to set up an account in ChapterSpot, and that we still appreciate donations to our local league, via an email and announcement at our January meeting. Anna will draft a communication to send to our members starting in December, since people often renew membership around the holiday party time.

January Membership Meeting: Keasha will check on reserving the Alameda Hospital meeting room for 10am January 25th. Keasha moved, Susan seconded, and we approved to update the language to put in our bylaws for clarity: "Those eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting must be dues-paying members as of the notice date for the Annual Meeting."

League Study on the Federal Judiciary: The first meeting for the national study on Federal Courts took place with 600 members attending. The purpose of the one year study is to create a position we can use for advocacy, for example to support an Ethics Code. Also

note that a position must be broadly applicable, intended to be used for decades. We will have a meeting between February and April to get our members' input on study questions, and this might be an opportunity to recruit new members interested in the topic. It's suggested that we advertise this, perhaps through a Letter to the Editor, once we have information.

Open Floor: Li Volin is likely willing to host the holiday party, we will try to arrange for 4pm December 15th; Susan to coordinate and confirm before we share with our members. Irene is in discussion about a forum on how to understand Board of Supervisors agendas in order to facilitate civic participation. Irene also reports that the Bay Area League's efforts to secure early release of Cast Vote Records was successful.

Meeting adjourned by Anna Crane at 8:02pm.