

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ALAMEDA**  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY, September 15, 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, Barbara Price, Sally Faulhaber, Kate Quick.

**Call to order:** Susan called the meeting to order at 4:17pm.

**Clarification on “neutral” position:** the League “takes no position” if we do not have any policy statements relevant to the topic. We take a “neutral” position if we have relevant policy but choose to take neither “support” or “oppose” positions.

**Pros/Cons statements:** Karen presented documents generated by the Action Committee, and members approved those without debate.

**Measure AA League Position:** Action Committee proposes a “neutral” position. We are in clear favor of administrative cleanup of the City Charter. We are concerned about the more consequential change to the charter giving the City Attorney the authority to prosecute misdemeanors directly, rather than at the County DA’s discretion. The City Council approved budget for a small staff under the City Attorney to support this new function in late 2019, without public input.

Anna moved and Doris seconded that we change to “support” rather than “neutral” position on Measure AA, and it was approved by the board. The board also decided to keep the language that we believe decisions like this should do more to seek public input.

**Measure Z League Position:** Action Committee proposes a “support” position. Board members are strongly in favor of removing these types of specifics from the City Charter -- it gives us too little flexibility (and we believe Article 26 may be illegal, which costs the city to deal with). It’s pointed out that a significant concern about approving Measure Z is that it may add more pressure on our existing lack of affordable housing. This doesn’t outweigh all the positives.

Anne moved and Ashley seconded approving our “support” of Measure Z. We are still smoothing out the language in this and the FAQ document Bill co-created. An updated version of FAQ will be sent out for final feedback.

**Next steps:** We have had requests for speakers from the League to represent our positions on measures. We have several people who have experience with this, but because these are sensitive matters, we will send speakers who will only read our written pros/cons statements.

Our next action is to post our language on our website and Voter's Edge, and spread the word in the community (social media, local bloggers, Letter to Editor?) to link back to those resources. We will do that in the next few days.

Virtual meeting adjourned at 5:22 PM.