



**League of Women Voters Solano County
Annual Membership Meeting**

June 2, 2022
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4537073149>
Meeting ID: 453 707 3149

Table of Contents

1. Call to Order – Welcome and Introductions – Carole Paterson
Parliamentarian – Lois Requist, founding member of the league and past president
2. Rules of the Day – Carole Paterson
3. Agenda – Carole Paterson
4. Adoption of Revised Bylaws – Rami Muth
 - a. Brief Review of Revised Bylaws
 - b. Discussion and Adoption of Bylaws
5. Report of the Nominating Committee – Maryanne Perlmutter
 - a. Election of Officers, Directors, and Nominating Committee
 - b. Introduction of the New Board for 2022-2023
6. Treasurer’s Presentation of Proposed Budget – Judy Potter
 - a. Review of Proposed Budget 2022-2023
 - b. Discussion and Adoption of 2022-2023 Budget
7. Program Recommendations for 2022-2023 – Craig Paterson
 - a. Proposed Program Priorities... Continued from 2021-2022
 - i. Priority #1- Racial Inclusiveness/Justice/Equity
 - ii. Priority #2 - Voter Rights/Education
 - iii. Priority #3 - Climate Change
 - b. Discussion and Approval of 2021-2022 Program Priorities
8. Status of the League – Carole Paterson and Rami Muth
 - a. Voter Services – Maryanne Perlmutter and Carole Paterson
 - b. Communication – Sandy Coury
 - c. Membership – Rami Muth and Sharon Tucker
 - d. Youth Outreach... Solano Youth Coalition – Alice Fried
 - e. Program Planning and Events – Craig Paterson
 - f. Bay Area League – Margo McGlone
 - g. Great Decisions – Judy Potter
9. Closing Announcements – Carole Paterson and Rami Muth
10. Adjourn General Meeting... followed by a brief intermission to transition to the Guest Speaker
11. Introduction of Guest Speaker – Rami Muth

Guest Speaker

Stephanie Doute

Executive Director

League of Women Voters California

Annual General Membership Meeting Agenda

June 2, 2022 6:30 – 8:30 pm

1. Call to Order – Welcome and Introductions – Carole Paterson

Our Parliamentarian is Lois Requist, founding member of the League and a past president.

2. Rules of the Day – Carole Paterson

- Voting: Voting is limited to members in good standing of the League of Women Voters Solano County.
 - A 'Yes/No' poll format will be used frequently on items only requiring the approval of majority of voting members.
 - Some polls may include multiple choices... specific instructions will be shared, as needed.
 - All reported Zoom polls are anonymous.
- Quorum: 30% of members in good standing shall constitute a quorum.
- Participation: League members and community members may ask questions and add comments.
 - 'Raise Your Hand' if you wish to get the Moderator's attention.
 - You may ask questions or make comments in the Chat window. A Chat Moderator will synthesize and relay chats to the moderator during the meeting, as needed. Chats can be addressed to 'Everyone' or to specific individuals.

3. Agenda – Carole Paterson

4. Adoption of Revised Bylaws – Rami Muth

- Review of Revised Bylaws
 - Bylaws include a change from IRS status from 501(c)(4) to 501(c)(3)
 - Bylaws include a change to reduce the quorum for future Annual Meetings from 30% to 15% of members in good standing
- Vote to Adopt Revised Bylaws
- Contingency action: If the revision of the bylaws related to the 501(c)(3) is not adopted, members will be asked to vote on an amendment to the current bylaws – “amend Article VII, Sec. 4, to reduce the quorum to 15%

5. Report of Nominating Committee – Maryanne Perlmutter

The Board of Directors consists of four officers and six directors who are elected by the annual meeting to staggered two-year terms. Additionally, not more than 4 directors may be appointed by the elected members of the Board. The appointed directors hold office until June 30 following the next annual meeting. Elected directors (and officers) take office July 1 following the annual meeting. (For current Board, Appendix page 5)

- **Additional Nominations Before the Annual Meeting:**
Nominations from the floor may be made by any member. To facilitate a remote Zoom meeting, nominations must be submitted to LWVSolano@gmail.com with “Nominations” in the subject line by midnight on May 30th.

League of Women Voters
Proposed Slate of Candidates for 2022

Highlighted Names are Proposed Candidates for 2022
Nominations from the floor received by May 30, 2022

Position		Candidate Term
President	Carole Paterson	2021-2023
Vice President	Rami Muth	2022-2024
Secretary	Kathleen Savage	2021-2023
Treasurer	Judy Potter	2022-2024
Director	Craig Paterson	2021-2023
Director	Sarah Chapman	2022-2024
Director	Maryanne Perlmutter	2021-2023
Director	Barbara King (completion of vacated term)	2021-2023
Director	Sandy Coury	2022-2024
Director	Alice Fried	2022-2024

Proposed Nominating Committee 2022-2023

- **Maryanne Perlmutter**
- **Ali Desiderio**
- **Jennifer Lally Pettit**

- Election of Slate of Officers, Directors, and Nominating Committee
- Contingency action: If there are nominations from the floor, those positions will be separated from the slate for a vote to specifically choose one candidate among those who are nominated
- Introduction of New Board and Nominating Committee for 2022-23

6. Proposed Budget – Judy Potter

(Appendix pages 6-7)

- a. Review Proposed 2022-2023 Budget
- b. Discussion and Adoption of 2022-2023 Budget

7. Program Recommendations for 2022-2023 - Craig Paterson

- a. Proposed Program Priorities... Continued from 2021-2022
 - i. Priority #1- Racial Inclusiveness/Justice/Equity
 - ii. Priority #2 - Voter Rights/Education
 - iii. Priority #3 - Climate Change
- b. Discussion and Approval of 2022-2023 Program Priorities

8. Status of the League – Carole Paterson and Rami Muth

Our League is a collection of small committees and individuals who work together to accomplish great things. Written summaries of their work are attached in the appendix.

Committees:

- a. Voter Services – Maryanne Perlmutter and Carole Paterson (Appendix page 8)
- b. Communication – Sandy Coury (Appendix page 9)
- c. Membership – Rami Muth and Sharon Tucker (Appendix page 10)
- d. Youth Outreach... Solano Youth Coalition – Alice Fried (Appendix page 11)
- e. Program Planning and Events – Craig Paterson (Appendix page 12)
- f. Bay Area League – Margo McGlone (Appendix page 13)
- g. Great Decisions – Judy Potter (Appendix page 13)

9. Closing Announcements – Carole Paterson and Rami Muth

If you are interested in joining the League or would like to pay your dues by mail, please send your checks to LWVS, PO Box 83, Benicia, CA 94510

10. Adjourn General Meeting... brief intermission before our Guest Speaker – Carole Paterson

11. Introduction of Guest Speaker – Rami Muth

Our Guest Speaker will be **Stephanie Doute**, Executive Director of the LWV California.

7:00 – 8:00 pm including time for Questions and Answers

Rami Muth will be the moderator for this event. Please submit your questions via chat. Janice Adams will be facilitating the Q and A portion of this event.

The LWV Solano is proud to announce that Stephanie Doute, Executive Director of LWV California will be the guest speaker at this year’s annual meeting. Stephanie is passionate about breaking down inequitable systems and advancing solid policy solutions to build new equitable systems that create a more just society for all people. She believes we all have a critical role in creating a more equitable future. When she’s not out fighting the good fight, Stephanie enjoys spending time with her family – her 6-year-old twins, her 14-year-old, and her wife – and is always scheming to find fun outdoor adventures, big and small, to do with the kids. She will be discussing the current status of the League’s initiatives and issues we are currently facing.



Appendix

2021-2022 Board of Directors

Consisting of 4 officers and 4 Directors who are elected, and up to 4 appointed Directors

	Term Expiration
Carole Paterson, President	2023
Rami Muth, Vice President	2022
Judy Potter, Treasurer	2022
Kathleen Savage, Secretary	2023
Sandy Coury	2022
Alice Fried	2022
Craig Paterson	2023
Maryanne Perlmutter	2023
Sarah Chapman (appointed)	2022
Janice Adams (appointed)	2022
Sharon Tucker (appointed)	2022
Niles Medders (appointed)	2022

Standing Committees

Executive Committee: (Meets as needed, LWVS Officers, open to board members and committee chairs, others by invitation)

Chair: Carole Paterson

Budget Committee: (meets as needed)

Chair: Judy Potter

Membership: (meets first Wednesday of the month 5:00 pm)

Chairs: Rami Muth and Sharon Tucker

Voter Service: (meets 2nd Thursday of the month at 3:00 pm)

Chairs: Maryanne Perlmutter and Carole Paterson

Program Planning and Events: (meets TBD)

Chairs: Craig Paterson and Rami Muth

Fundraising: (meets as needed)

Chair: Janice Adams

Youth Outreach (meets as needed)

Chair: Alice Fried

Communication: (meets monthly, 2nd Tuesday at 2:00 pm)

Chair: Sandy Coury

Proposed Budget 2022-23 – Judy Potter Treasurer

This year's budget proposal was developed with the input from the LWV Solano County committee chairs. We anticipate income similar to last year's income. We have been contacted by the Crockett Community Foundation with a request that we help them with their upcoming election of board members. For this work of helping with the administration of their election we receive a grant which can vary in amount depending on the amount of work we are required to perform. This frequently brings us approximately \$1000. We also anticipate that we may secure donations from members and friends who participate in our adopt-a-poll program. We believe our donations, fundraising and grant income will be higher than last year, but we have proposed a slightly reduced income from dues.

We have budgeted expenses for most areas at rates very similar or identical to last year's budget proposals. Programs, Voter Services, Membership and Fundraising have all received budget allocations that are the same or very close to the same as last years. We have added a new budget area, Youth Outreach, and have allocated \$300 for expenses for this year. We are very excited about this program.

We have increased several items in the administrative budget, most are small, but we have added to our miscellaneous category to cover our zoom and google charges and to provide some extra resources for communications. We have added the extra budgeted item of \$1150 for rent on our storage locker. We have also included an item "fees to convert to 501 (c)(3) which is a one-time expense of \$600. **This budget leaves us with reserves of \$1530.**

Our Education Fund received donations of \$1070 this year. We had a carryover of \$138, paid half of our LWVUS PMPs \$896 and are left with a current balance of \$312. If our 501(c)(3) conversion is successful, our LWV local league Education Fund administered by the LWV CA will be closed and the balance will be forwarded to us

League of Women Voters Solano County

Operating Fund Budget

Prepared for April 2022 board meeting

	2019-2020		2020-2021		2021-2022		2022-23	
	Approved	Actual	Approved	Actual	Approved	actual to 4/5/22	Proposed	
INCOME								
Balance forward	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 9,656.22	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 10,499.41	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,499.41	\$ 9,500.00	
Dues	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 4,461.66	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,540.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,980.00	\$ 3,000.00	
Fundraising	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 705.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Donations/grants	\$ 250.00	\$ 2,512.50	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,573.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,145.00	\$ 1,500.00	
Great Decisions books	\$ 900.00	\$ 990.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 931.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 868.16	\$ 1,000.00	
Ed Fund transfer	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 896.00	\$ 250.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 200.00	\$ 333.96	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 350.00	\$ 253.38	\$ 350.00	
TOTAL:	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 18,354.34	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 17,343.41	\$ 17,350.00	\$ 16,346.95	\$ 16,600.00	
EXPENSES								
<i>Administrative</i>								
Insurance	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 33.51	\$ 50.00	\$ 27.27	\$ 50.00	
Post Office box rental	\$ 90.00	\$ 92.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 106.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 134.00	\$ 150.00	
Taxes, licenses, permits	\$ 20.00		\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00	
Fees to convert to 501c3							\$ 600.00	
Web site	\$ 550.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	
Storage locker					<i>rented on 12.15.21</i>		\$ 1,150.00	
Misc. & supplies (PayPal, Zoom, Google fees, stamps, etc.)	\$ 100.00	\$ 92.21	\$ 100.00	\$ 113.36	\$ 100.00	\$ 541.45	\$ 500.00	
Publications	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	
<i>Per Member Payments*</i>								
National	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,168.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,248.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 896.00	\$ 1,550.00	
Nat from Ed. Fund	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 896.00	\$ 250.00	
Nat. Sponsored			\$ 160.00	\$ -	\$ 160.00	\$ -	\$ 160.00	
California	\$ 1,525.00	\$ 1,372.00	\$ 1,961.00	\$ 1,344.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,568.00	\$ 1,500.00	
Cal from Ed Fund	\$ -		\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Cal Sponsored			\$ 140.00	\$ -	\$ 140.00	\$ -	\$ 140.00	
Bay Area	\$ 110.00	\$ 147.00	\$ 189.00	\$ 192.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 168.00	\$ 225.00	
BA Sponsored			\$ 15.00	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 20.00	
<i>Programs</i>								
Room rental	\$ 500.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	
Study materials/supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 363.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	
Great Decisions	\$ 850.00	\$ 986.17	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,084.01	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 866.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Meet Your Officials	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 252.52	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	
Other (snacks, PR, etc.)	\$ 200.00	\$ 552.54	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ 700.00	
<i>LWV Ed Fund</i>				\$ 30.00			\$ -	
<i>State/national convention</i>	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	
<i>Voter Services</i>								
Election forums	\$ 500.00	\$ 244.32	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	
Voter reg/promotion	\$ 750.00	\$ 521.77	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,184.64	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	
High school voter reg			\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 102.70	\$ 750.00	
Printed materials	\$ 500.00	\$ 295.74	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	
<i>Youth Outreach</i>							\$ 300.00	
<i>Membership</i>		\$ 342.21	\$ 600.00	\$ 608.32	\$ 600.00	\$ 97.41	\$ 600.00	
<i>Fundraising</i>	\$ 700.00		\$ 700.00		\$ 700.00		\$ 700.00	
Total all expenses:	\$ 10,045.00	\$ 7,364.48	\$ 13,135.00	\$ 7,243.84	\$ 11,865.00	\$ 5,646.83	\$ 15,070.00	
Reserve (remaining funds)	\$ 4,455.00	\$ 10,989.86	\$ 4,115.00	\$ 10,099.57	\$ 5,485.00	\$ 10,700.12	\$ 1,530.00	
Total of expenses + reserve	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 18,354.34	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 17,343.41	\$ 17,350.00	\$ 16,346.95	\$ 16,600.00	

Status of the League 2022

Voter Services Committee

Responsibilities of the committee:

The Voter Services Committee's main responsibilities are to register citizens to vote, to help people understand their rights as a citizen, to encourage eligible students in high school and college to register and to be present in the community at events and activities where people gather to promote the work of the League in Solano County. The committee is also focused on developing partnerships with other organizations who share a common passion for registering and informing citizens of their opportunities and rights as citizens.

Committee Members: Maryanne Perlmutter Co- Administrator, Carole Paterson Co-Administrator, Marlene Cartter, George Cartter, Barbara King

Contact Information: Carole Paterson vjocarole@yahoo.com or Maryanne Perlmutter mperlmutter39@gmail.com

Highlights from the year:

Serving as a Redistricting Resource—in the Fall and Winter Maryanne Perlmutter was the champion of this effort. She helped our League members understand the processes of redistricting and invited Helen Hutchinson to provide a training to educate interested members in the process. A special program was offered to members in December to view the progress of Solano County's redistricting activities by reviewing maps and comments from various "communities of interest" throughout the county. Maryanne also wrote a final report of our efforts which was forwarded to the California League Redistricting committee.

High School Voter Registration Promotion—Barbara King and Carole Paterson created letters of invitation to principals and Civics Ed. Department Chairs encouraging their use of our video *Be a Decider*. This video, produced by Craig Paterson and based on the Power Point materials used by the committee when in-classroom visits were possible, has been very well received by teachers using it. All school districts have been invited to participate, with a thumb drive being delivered to the school sites who request the video.

Voter Services National Grant—Thanks to the writing skills of Rami Muth, we were awarded a \$1000.00 grant from the League of Women Voters US. This grant is allowing us the opportunity to provide thumb drives to teachers, purchase VOTE lawn signs and bumper stickers. We anticipate using the funds to purchase Map the Vote postcards and stamps for use prior to the General Election.

Text Message Campaign to Youth Voters—Prior to the Primary Election in June as well as the General Election this Fall, students who have requested a reminder to vote will receive a text message from the committee.

Fairfield Adult School Citizenship Class—The Voter Services committee recognized the hard work of adults seeking their citizenship. Seventeen students received a framed certificate congratulating them on their achievement and wished them well as they prepare to take the citizenship test this year.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Contact Information: Sandy Coury sandycoury@gmail.com

Responsibilities:

The Communications Committee --

- Supports and works with the Solano League Board and committees to get the word out about activities, initiatives, news, events, and programs.
- To fulfill these responsibilities, the Communications Committee relies on the Board and committee leaders to provide us with timely, clear, and accurate information the committee can then provide to members, friends, local organizations, and the media.
- We encourage feedback from all our members.

We make use of a full range of marketing tools and technologies including our website MyLO platform, and applications such as Eventbrite, MailChimp, and Zoom to make sure the flow of information is smooth, standardized, easy-to-access, and follows League guidelines. We review applications data to understand audience engagement and improve application use.

Organization

The Committee meets as groups monthly to assess needs, measure effectiveness of communications, set editorial goals, and build plans to continuously improve across all areas. Focused subcommittees, such as the Website and Technologies team meet as needed to research and discuss improved use of current and new tools. We are always looking for new members to help with the increasing communications needs of our growing league.

Members:

Website and Technologies, Newsletters

- Sandy Coury, Chair

Publicity

- Marilee Scholl

Articles, Blog, and Editing

- Alice Fried

Social Media and local calendar posts, Images

- Linda Stewart

Voter Newsletter Graphics

- Leslie Lessenger

Event Placement in Local Media and Organization Calendars is done by the whole team by locality.

Standard Monthly Schedule

- Voter Newsletter every other month
- 2-3 MailChimp Monthly E-blast Updates
- 1 Main Press Release and 1-2 additional releases as needed
- Event placement as needed
- Weekly Website updates, more frequent if needed
- Frequent social media and local calendar posts (Weekly or more)

Membership Committee

Rami Muth – Chairperson, Sharon Tucker Co-Chairperson

Contact Information: Rami Muth ramilmuth@gmail.com or Sharon Tucker wandstucker@comcast.net

Members include: Rami Muth, Sharon Tucker, Alice Fried, Frances McCullough, Margo McGlone, Andrea Slater, Belinda Smith, Leslie Lessenger, Sarah Chapman, Nancy Gray, and Christina Palmer.

Responsibilities/Goals:

- Actively recruit new members that represent the demographics of Solano County. The goal is to diversify our membership in terms of age, race and ethnicity.
- Continue to implement and expand our youth outreach efforts with the Solano Youth Coalition and cultivate other partnerships.
- Actively engage our members by encouraging committee participation and volunteer work to support the efforts of the league.
- Actively seek out partnerships with aligned groups that want to support the efforts of the LWV

A survey of the membership conducted in the summer of 2020 was utilized to reach out to new members and to recruit others to join the league. We have formed partnerships with other groups in Solano County as a mechanism to extend our reach and forge meaningful alliances that support our common goals.

Our members are passionate activists who support the work of providing unbiased information to the residents of Solano County thereby allowing them to become better informed and empowered to participate in the voting process.

We hold periodic events to support and engage our members. In February of 2022 we held a virtual event to celebrate the 102nd birthday of the League of Women Voters.

Meetings: We meet from 5:00 – 6:00 on the first Wednesday of the month to make our meetings more accessible for working people and young adults.

Youth Outreach Report: Alice Fried Chairperson

Contact Information: alicefried89@gmail.com

League's Call to Action: **increase youth membership.**

LWVSC's Action Response: **entered a partnership with Solano Youth Coalition (SYC) to provide SYC participating students civic learning opportunities by engaging them in hands-on, project-based learning activities to address that lack of civics education that exists in public education.**

Note: SYC is an entity of Solano County Office of Education created to encourage a new generation of civic-minded citizens to collaborate and advocate for safe and healthy choices that impact them and their communities. Participants awarded LWVSC membership per partnership agreement.

Training of three hallmark league activities and programs were offered to SYC students:

- 1) Observer Corps Training
- 2) How to Plan and Conduct a Forum
- 3) How to register voters. (*Scheduled for May 4 with John Gardner*)

These activities are designed to provide students a better understanding of how government systems work; to get students involved in community issues; and to provide tools and resources on how to participate in the process of debating, electing, governing and consensus building.

Hands-on Project-based Learning Activities:

- 1) To complete Observer Corps training activity, the students are preparing to Observe a Board of Supervisors meeting during summer break in that regular meetings of that Board are held during school hours at 9 a.m. on Mondays.
- 2) The students are preparing to conduct a ***State of Education in Solano County Forum***, currently scheduled for April 24. They've invited school superintends and school board personnel from every city in Solano County to participate. They've received acceptances from Vacaville School Board, Fairfield-Suisun School Board, Dixon School Board, and the Solano Community College Governing Board.

LWVSC Youth Outreach Upcoming Projects:

- Invited by Solano County School Board Superintendent to provide civics learning, hands on activities for the county's alternative schools, Golden Hills and Evergreen. Have had initial meeting with the schools' Director and working on proposal for summer activity implementation.
- Working on partnering with NAACP to create and Civics Summer Camp to engage its youth members.

In addition to responding the League's direct call to action, the LWVSC's Youth Outreach goals are to: 1) use League programs, activities, and resources to prepare students to enter adulthood and society as responsible citizens respectful of humanity and individual dignity with a community mindset; and 2) to encourage ongoing engagement/membership with league and its resources used to forever protect our fragile democracy.

Program Planning and Events Committee:

Responsibilities: The Program Planning and Events Committee (PP&E) plans and implements a wide range of activities at monthly meetings that reflect the program priorities established by the league locally and on a state and national level.

Members Included: Craig Paterson, Rami Muth, Sarah Chapman, Alice Fried, Janice Adams, Maryanne Perlmutter, Carole Paterson

Contact Information: Craig Paterson craig_paterson@yahoo.com or Rami Muth ramilmuth@gmail.com

Highlights from the year:

- August 2021: Zoom event focusing on our 'climate change' program priority, featuring Dr. Bonnie Hamilton. A YouTube video was created and published to extend the reach of this event.
- December 2021: Zoom event focusing on our 'voter education' program priority. Coordinating with the efforts of Voter Services Committee, Maryanne Perlmutter shared an update on the redistricting efforts that affect Solano County. A video was shared that explained the work and deadlines of the state redistricting commission. A variety of maps were available to understand existing and proposed district boundaries.
- January 2022: Zoom event focusing on our 'diversity, equity, and inclusion' program priority. Dr. Maliika Chambers shared her work as Equity & Inclusion Manager for the City of Benicia. Adena Ishii shared her work as a DEI leader for LWV California. A YouTube video was created and published to extend the reach of this event.
- January 2022: The '*Be a Decider*' video was published on our YouTube channel as a resource to encourage voter registration and active voter participation as a project of PP&E. The video is being used by the Voter Services Committee in their work with local civics educators.
- February 2022: Zoom event with two focal issues that are important to our local league... the Great Decisions study group and the pending decision on our local league tax status. Judy Potter and Jerry Hayes shared an overview of the annual Great Decisions study group. Tom Carson shared detailed information about the pending decision to change to a 501(c)(3) IRS status from our current 501(c)(4) status. Separate YouTube videos were created and published for each focal issue in this event.
- February-March 2022: '*The Sum of Us*' by Heather McGhee was the focus of a 5-week book conversation with afternoon and evening sessions each week. This program focused on our 'diversity, equity, and inclusion' program priority. A total of 22 participants joined the conversations including league and community members.
- April 2022: Zoom event focusing on our 'voter education' program priority, featuring John Gardner, Assistant Registrar of Voters in Solano County. Mr. Gardner shared details of our specific election policies and procedures in Solano County with special attention to election integrity in mind. A YouTube video was created to extend the reach of this event.

The League of Women Voters Bay Area Committee Report

Contact Information: Margo McGlone margowmc@comcast.net

The League of Women Voters Bay Area is a regional board that works to understand and respond to region-level issues, including transportation, housing production, and sustainability. Additionally, they work to facilitate coordination and collaboration between the 20 local chapters in the Bay Area. They sponsor the non-partisan publication *The Bay Area Monitor* and have recently been engaged in regional planning work for Plan Bay Area 2050. They also put on educational events for the benefit of all league members in the bay area.

Margo McGlone is currently a Board Member for the LWV Bay Area.

Great Decisions

Judy Potter, Co-chair Great Decisions

Contact Information: judy.potter@gmail.com

Great Decisions, the Foreign Policy Association's world affairs program co-sponsored locally by the League of Women Voters Solano County and the Benicia Public Library has had another successful year. We have again this year held our meetings via Zoom due to the Coronavirus and the unavailability of meeting rooms at the Benicia Public Library. Our program met weekly for 9 weeks and covered very timely international issues including *Putin's Russia, China and the Quad Alliance, Climate Change, and Biden Foreign Policy*. Participants read the *Great Decisions* briefing book, we presented the weekly master class lecture via Zoom, divided into breakout groups for discussion and joined together to share highlights from our discussion.

The library made Great Decisions briefing books available in their reference collection. We averaged 25 screens per week and several screens had two people participating. Thanks to all those who helped make this online project a success, Jerry Hayes, Barbara Houseman, Jane Keene, Dick Awenius, and Susan Neuhaus who served as moderators for our breakout groups, Sandy Coury, Niles Medders, and Annie Potter for all their great support work!

Our Great Decisions Extension program ran monthly in 2021 through October. Each month participants chose a different topic to discuss. In our first meeting we read and discussed Isabel Wilkerson's *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent*. We are excited to be returning to the library for this year's Extension program which will begin Monday evening May 24 at 7:00 pm and continue to meet 4th Mondays at 7:00 pm through October.