

Bay Area League Board of Directors  
Minutes  
September 21, 2020  
Via ZOOM  
Sixth Month of COVID-19 Stay-in-Place

1. **Roll Call** -- President, Sherry Smith; VP Administration, Madeline Kronenberg; Secretary, Mary Ann Benson; Treasurer, Leslie Stewart; Board Members: Housing/Social, Roma Dawson; Regional Government, Kathleen Cha; Transportation, Alex Starr; Natural Resources, Eric Arens; At large, Margo McGlone; Voter Service Chair, Veda Florez; Communications, vacant; Guests, *Monitor* editor Alec MacDonald; Nominating Committee chair, Ann Draper; Former BAL President, Linda Craig.
2. **Approval of the minutes** (Minutes will be sent one week after meeting; corrections should be sent in second week.)
3. **Treasurer's Report** – Leslie reported that PMP money is coming in. Beginning work on taxes. (Full report sent by email to Board members).
4. **Monitor Report** – Alec reported an increase in online subscribers to weekly posts from 350 to 1600. Alec would like to increase Cecily's payment for each issue of Monitor Notes from \$75 to \$100. Leslie said there was money available. Sherry pointed out that there is no Monitor oversight group and that the decisions regarding the Monitor lie with the board. Alec pointed out that the future for the Monitor will be on line rather than in print. Roma asked if it was possible for Local Leagues to put information in the Monitor. Alec replied that he and the Monitor Notes staff want more from Local Leagues. Sherry suggested that an extended discussion on the Monitor be included in the November agenda. Alex moved and Margo seconded the motion to increase Cecily's pay from \$75 to \$100 per edition. Passed unanimously.
5. **Measure RR-Caltrain Sales Tax**- Linda Craig believes the BAL should be involved in endorsing and doing Pros and Cons. Since the measure only involves three counties, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara, it requires a combined 2/3 vote of all three counties. Sherry sent information to Local Leagues. Normally we would have been involved due to our long-time support of transportation measures. Alex moved that LWVBA support Measure RR. Passed unanimously. Ann suggested ways of communicating our support such as letters to the editors. Eric asked about the meaning of 1/8 cent sales tax, and "an eighth of a cent, per dollar spent sums it up." Roma reported on an equity plan for low income residents. Alex remarked that our job is to recommend what is best for the region. Roma moved that we approve the action by the Executive Committee action on approving pros and cons to be distributed to Local Leagues. Margo seconded. Passed unanimously. Roma moved that we accept the revised wording for Santa Clara County, allowing the language for other counties to remain the same. Alex seconded. Passed unanimously.

6. **Update on Directory.** Almost done, Madeline still needs Local League Coaches (Management Training Advisors (MTA)) lists. She will check with State League. Directory will be sent to Presidents of Local Leagues.
7. **Communication Work Group.** No new meeting due to Sherry's absence. Will schedule this week. Committee: Veda, Leslie, Kathleen and Sherry. Ann prepared spread sheet of communication activities to assist the Nominating Committee.
8. **League Day, Saturday, March 6.** Roma will convene a Zoom meeting of participants. Council will be in May. Sherry will consult with Presidents regarding date and topic suggestions. This request can be attached to Directory mailing.
9. **Voter Service.** Communications to Local Leagues. Commended Veda for the PSA's she presented (how to register, vote, etc.). To consider for future: Shorter messages, other languages, find Local Leagues' language needs. Alex pointed out that translations are difficult. There is information available from State. Timing is late. Too late to revise. Should plan for future. Kathleen suggests that Veda makes it available in Marin and elsewhere if requested.
10. **Regional Observers.** Reports received in writing. Leslie reported that Contra Costa Bd. of Supervisors have a resolution on Climate Change. More attention is being paid to Climate Change. Eric reported on California Energy Commission promoting a natural gas hookup ban. That will mean that everything eventually will be electrified. Seminar on electrifying buildings in San Jose is planned.
11. Sherry reported we have not received a response to the letter to MTC concerning support of Plan Bay Area.
12. **Proposed Town Hall Meeting.** See proposal dated 9/8/20. Roma: First question: is it wise to schedule in October? League has a lot of involvement with Plan Bay Area. Adoption of Blueprint by MTC and ABAG in December, then Implementation, and draft EIR when it gets to final phase is hard to change. (*Veda and Ken Bukowski joined the meeting, Ann left the meeting*). Kathleen: Rather than a Working Group meeting, a Town Hall Briefing is a way to get input and give Local Leagues a better sense of community. Could use Zoom format. Perhaps November. Sherry: Is it possible for Roma and Kathleen and Alex to arrange it? Housing reestablishes our position as a regional planning agency. We will need Madeline for Zoom skills. Asking for approval to move forward with a report at October 12th Board meeting. Schedule mid to late November Alex: could be a tool for Leagues with a recording available. Linda has references from past years. Kathleen moved that Board approve Town Hall briefing proposal scheduled in mid to late November. Margo seconded. Passed unanimously.
13. **Veda – Tomorrow, September 22, is National Voter Registration Day.**

**14. The meeting was adjourned in memory of Ruth Bader Ginsberg.** Sherry will send an e-mail recalling a meeting with RBG. Closing quote from RBG: *Fight for the things you care about but do it in such a way that it will lead others to join you.*

**15. Next meeting** October 12, at 10:00 am via Zoom.