



**League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County  
Board Meeting Minutes  
February 11, 2026**

**Call to order:** Barbara Lewis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Board members present:** Barbara Lewis, Jane Cohen, Laura Grossman, Denise Gurer, Pam Newbury, Pamela Peterson

**Board members absent with notification:** Marilyn Radisch

**Board members absent:** Mindy Ryan

**Others absent with notification:** Ann Havlik (LWV Coach from San Luis Obispo)

**Minutes** of the January 14, 2026 Board Meeting were approved as distributed. In the future, copies of the minutes will not be sent to those members who have not renewed their membership.

**Treasurer's Report: as submitted by Pamela Peterson**

- Total funds available as of 1/31/26 was \$10,572.87.
- One donation earmarked for the LWVSCC was made to the LWVC Impact Fund (Education Fund). The Impact Funds can be accessed by the LWVSCC for allowable expenditures.
- Membership income received during January was from one renewing member and three new members through the online LWVUS portal.
- The 3rd quarter per member payment (PMP) was made to LWVUS and LWVC. 75% of the PMP due by 6/30/26 has now been paid.
- Annual fee was paid to PorkBun to allow the treasurer@lwvsc.org email address to send and receive emails.

We have sufficient funds for the future payments for our 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter PMP and second \$24 charge for adding send and receive capabilities to treasurer's email account.

**President's Report: Barbara Lewis**

- Barbara and local League member Lara Triona attended a LWV interview with California State Senator for District 17, John Laird. He previously served as Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency and was quite knowledgeable about two of the topics raised, the Blue Wall and Sea Level Rise. The report will be available soon. The participants were very enthusiastic, and Barbara enjoyed working with members from other chapters.
- In March, Barbara and others from our League will participate in another LWV interview with Robert Rivas, Speaker of the 29<sup>th</sup> Assembly District of California.
- Barbara submitted the report of our League's interview with Assemblymember Gail Pellerin to both the State LWVC and to our webmaster for publication on our website.

- For our National Planning Meeting next week, LWVUS recommends the theme “Women Defending Democracy, Democracy Under Siege”. Concurrence occurs when a state or local League has done a study on a topic and proposes that other Leagues recommend the position be adopted by LWVUS to update an existing national position or as a new one. Proposed topics for concurrence are:
  - Update of position on immigration to include immigrant rights
  - Update on Privatization
  - Religious Freedom
 This year National is recommending that each league only concur with one topic. Barbara will explore why we are limited to one topic.
- Barbara suggested that Board members order and read the LWV publication, “Impact on Issues”.
- Barbara was contacted by volunteers wishing to register voters. She forwarded the contact information to Dorothy Fry.
- It was decided that we would not register voters at the March 6<sup>th</sup> event at the Museum of Art and History since in previous years there weren't any new members recruited at this event.

#### **Membership Report: Laura Grossman**

65 Total League members

1 Life member

4 New members:

Judith Elder [foscoelder@gmail.com](mailto:foscoelder@gmail.com)

Leann Bjelle [bjelle46@gmail.com](mailto:bjelle46@gmail.com)

Catherine Larrick [c.larrick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c.larrick@sbcglobal.net)

Diane Pacholski [d.pacholski@yahoo.com](mailto:d.pacholski@yahoo.com)

- Laura Grossman pointed out that the nominating committee needs another member. Laura also reminded us that the LWVSCC bylaws require significant advance notice of the nominations before the date of the annual meeting.

#### **Program Report: Pam Newbury**

- Our January 24<sup>th</sup> tour of the Pure Water Soquel Creek Water District Facility was very successful.
- Pam will send a reminder to members of next week's National Planning Meeting and request an RSVP.
- AAUW wants to begin planning our joint public meeting on the Pros and Cons of State Ballot Measures. Details can't be developed until we know when the LWV materials will be available. Presenters at this meeting need training, but new members are welcome to participate. Presenters describe the measures but do not express the LWV positions on these measures. Instead, attendees can be directed to the LWVUS website for that information. This is usually a well-attended meeting.
- Annual meeting is in the process of being planned. It is not required to be in June and could be held on a Sunday. The choice of date will depend on the availability of the room, members who will be presenters, and the featured guest speaker. A luncheon was suggested. A price of \$35 was agreed to be acceptable by comparison with other organizations' events. Participants may attend the speaker portion only without purchasing lunch. A list of locations was discussed, and Pam will follow up on these.

## **Publicity Report: Mindy Ryan**

None

## **VOTER Report: Marilyn Radisch**

None

## **Webmaster Report: Denise Gurer**

### Minutes and Newsletter

- Uploaded December minutes to website and LWVSCC google drive'
- Uploaded January VOTER to website and LWVSCC google drive

### Front Page

- Deleted old articles
- Added articles on:
  - LWV CEO Celina Stewart and Civil Rights Groups Call for ICE
  - Accountability
  - Federal Court Dismisses DOJ Lawsuit Seeking California Voter Data
  - League of Women Voters, ACLU, Broad Coalition Urge Supreme Court to Reject Novel Reading of "Election Day" Statutes that Would Disenfranchise Mail Voters

### Events

- None added this month

### Other

- Created a new email hosted at PorkBun for treasurer@lwvsc.org now the treasurer can log directly into the PorkBun webmail site and respond to these emails. This will allow the treasurer to respond with the "sender" being treasurer@lwvsc.org and not her personal email.
- Copies of the treasurer emails are still being forwarded to the treasurer's personal email.
- Started process to use Zeffy for our website to replace PayPal. The problem is we need a human person to take ownership. If we can't find someone to do this, we'll have to stick with donors sending in checks or cash for donations.

We decided to limit attendance at next week's National Planning Meeting to members only since it is being held at a member's home. Announcement of the meeting will be added to the website.

Denise mentioned that some nearby California Soroptimist groups are providing health care products to survivors of human trafficking. Since this is a topic our LWV chapter has emphasized recently, we could help them with this project as an opportunity to build a coalition with this organization.

### **Unfinished Business:**

We discussed Barbara's security concerns and the problem that Zeffy requires an individual to take ownership of the account as a point person. Pam Newbury graciously offered to be the point person for this account. Denise will remove the PayPal link and temporarily replace it with instructions for sending a check which will eventually be replaced with the Zeffy link. Once the PayPal link is removed, Pamela will notify the current owner of the PayPal account that it can be canceled.

Pamela Peterson clarified that donations made from the LWVUS Chapter Spot site can be split by the donor among National, Local and CA level League of Women Voter organizations If

only a local chapter is designated, a second Stripe transaction fee is not applied, but the STRIPE percentage processing fee is applied. The processing fee reduces the amount the local League receives.

**New Business:**

Barbara Lewis attended a State Workshop on membership and suggested we do a survey of our members to help us get better acquainted and gather information on their skills, interests and availability to participate in future activities. Pam Newbury noted that we currently can gather such information through the LWV portal when members join or renew their membership. Laura Grossman will investigate this. Denise Gurer offered to create a survey on our website if we come up with the questions.

**Announcements:**

The next LWVSCC Board meeting will be on March 11, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.

Jane Cohen, LWVSCC Secretary