

League of Women Voters of San Joaquin County – Annual Meeting

June 8, 2024, Papapavlos Restaurant, Stockton

Minutes

Members present: Mary Bava, Lilia Becerra Quintos, Donna Brown, Judith Buethe, Kathy Casenave, Mary Ann Cox-Martin, Alane Dashner, Suzy Daveluy, Christeen Ferree, Colleen Foster, Kathy Hart, Anicia Hibdon, Gladys Ikeda, Mary Kenefick, Barbara Lea, Terri Mercer, Gretchen Newby, Margo Praus, Yvette Remlinger, Van Ha To-Cowell, Patricia Voss, Cate White, Walt White, Patti Williams

Guests: Iris Carroll, Pam Van Wagoner

SPEAKER

President Mary Kenefick welcomed people to the Annual Meeting and introduced speaker Dr. Teresa Bergman, Chair and Professor of Communication at the University of the Pacific. Her work focuses on how public memorials reflect civic and national values in America. She highlighted three memorials:

Eleanor Roosevelt Statue at the FDR Memorial: the only First Lady to be honored in a presidential memorial. It includes a bronze statue of Eleanor Roosevelt standing before a symbol of the United Nations, for which she served as America's first Delegate after the president's death.

Women's Suffrage Memorial: Sculptor Adelaide Johnson created the Portrait Monument of suffragists Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott that stands in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capital. Commissioned by the National Women's Party after the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920, the grouping of the busts of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Lucretia Mott with lower half of their bodies left uncarved struck many as incomplete and strange. For many years it was relegated to the "Crypt" of the capital, and only in 1997 was it moved to the prominent location it now holds.

Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, CA: tells the diverse stories of the home front., including the struggle for women's and minority rights; the labor movement; the growth of pre-paid medical care; advances in early childhood education and day care; recycling and rationing; and major shifts in population.

These monuments featuring women and their accomplishments are among approximately only 6% of public monuments in the U.S.

BUSINESS MEETING

The membership meeting was called to order by President Mary Kenefick at 12:54 p.m. She confirmed that there was a quorum. Colleen Foster was announced as parliamentarian.

Without objection, the Rules of the Day and Order of Business were adopted as printed in the Annual Meeting Kit.

Donna Brown, Terri Mercer, and Cate White were appointed as the Committee to approve the Annual Meeting Minutes.

President's Report

At President Mary Kenefick's request, Jane Wagner-Tyack read the president's report, which highlighted activities throughout the League year. The president's remarks thanked:

- Terri Mercer and Suzy Daveluy for their work with the successful Primary Election candidate forums
- Colleen Foster for work on the *Voter* and organizing Lunch and Learns
- Bill and Susan Loyko for their efforts as Treasurer and Membership Chair
- Bea Lingenfelter for sustaining Vote 411 and doing Pros and Cons
- Lauren Ah Tye for being the League's representative to SJCOG's advisory board for many years. She is stepping down this year and we are seeking someone interesting in taking up this work.

The coming year will see the initial implementation of the LWVUS Transformation, designed to expand membership by reducing dues and reorganizing the League's financial structure. These changes will not affect our League dues this year.

Our League participated in several community events this year, including the Susan B. Anthony dinner, Stockton Women's Collaborative Black History Month lunch, and the Delta College Political Science Graduation and Awards event.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bill Loyko was absent due to illness. Finance Committee member Colleen Foster gave the Treasurer's Report. As of June 6, 2024, we had \$7,895.99 in the General Fund and \$13,535.81 in the Ed Fund.

In order to better track member dues income, checks for dues will be deposited on July 1st or whenever dues are paid subsequent to that time.

The impact of the LWVUS transformation plan on our League finances cannot be completely anticipated. Colleen Foster gave some information on what we know so far:

- Transition to new dues structure will be initiated in January, 2025.
- League members who pay their dues in July will be members through June 2025. No additional payment will be required in January.
- LWVUS will track membership for all League members at the national, state, and local level. Membership will be renewed during the anniversary month of when members pay their dues, rather than at the start of the fiscal year.
- Members will join and renew via a national platform, with a link available at any League web site.

- There will be only two membership categories: members and life members (those who've been League members for 50 years). There will be no student memberships or household memberships, but there will be a pay what you can option.
- Recommended dues will be \$75 annually. LWVSJC current dues are \$90.
 - Local Leagues will receive 30% of whatever dues are paid, e.g., \$15 if dues are \$75. Currently, LWVSJC receives \$30 of the dues we collect locally.
 - Regardless of the amount of dues, local Leagues will receive 30% of dues paid.
 - There will be a pay what you can option, with \$20 as minimum dues.
- LWVSJC is asking its members to pay dues at \$75 but make a donation to our local League of an additional \$15 in order to keep our operating budget stable while not raising dues for San Joaquin County League members.

Presentation of Recommended Program

Daphne Shaw and Mary Kenefick reported on Recommended Program for the 2024-2025 year.

- Daphne outlined the proposal to track the effects of Proposition one on mental health services in San Joaquin County.
- Mary Kenefick reported on the importance of being aware of the impact of the growth in warehousing in the county on air quality in our communities.

The motion to adopt these issues as our recommended programs for the year was put forth by the Board and did not require a second.

Moved Carried: that the following local program be adopted:

- Impact of Proposition 1 on mental health services in San Joaquin County
- Climate change: specifically, the impact on air quality of the growth of warehousing in San Joaquin County.

Updates of the documents on the proposed budget and the Nominating Committee report were distributed to the membership.

Presentation of the Proposed Budget

Treasurer Bill Loyko was absent due to illness. Finance Committee member Jane Wagner-Tyack presented the proposed budget. She reviewed the income and expensed proposed in the recommended budget and how each compared to the actual income and expenses during the current fiscal year. Donations fell significantly short of projections. Some expenses have increased. Educational forums were added to the budget and may be covered completely by the Ed Fund. A line item for Advocacy was added to this year's budget.

In sum: as we have increased our activities, we have increased our dependence on the Ed Fund, which is likely to go below \$10,000 for the first time in well over 20 years. Since the Ed Fund has restrictions on its use, we need to supplement our income for both the Ed Fund and the General Fund. League members will be called on to help with fundraising in the coming year.

The budget is recommended by the Board; the motion to adopt the budget did not require a second.

Moved Carried: to adopt the proposed budget for 2024-2025 as printed in the Annual Meeting Kit.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Suzy Daveluy, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported on the slate of officers, directors, and Nominating Committee members to be voted on.

Officers and Directors

- President (2024-2025): Mary Kenefick
- 1st Vice President (2024-2026): open to nominations from the floor
- Secretary (2024-2026): Colleen Foster
- Treasurer (2024-2025 – to complete the term of treasurer Bill Loyko): Yvette Remlinger
- Directors: 2024-2025
 - open to nominations from the floor
- Directors: 2024-2026
 - open to nominations from the floor
 - Ruby Hennessey
 - Sarah Tygert

Nominating Committee

- Margo Praus, Chair
 - Terri Mercer (nominated from the floor, with permission)
 - Cate White (nominated from the floor, with permission)
- Two members will be appointed from the Board

Helen Pearson Award Committee

- Donna Brown
- Terri Mercer
- Cate White

There were no further nominations from the floor. As a recommendation from the Nominating Committee, the proposed slate of nominees did not need a second.

Moved Carried: to adopt the slate of nominees for office.

Helen Pearson Award

Christeen Ferree announced the recipient of the Helen Pearson Award, noting that the award was established to recognize a member who has made an outstanding contribution to our League, demonstrating both diligence and a good cheer. Citing her many contributions in the

areas of voter service, programming, and the Nominating Committee, she announced this year's recipient: Suzy Daveluy.

Direction to the Board

To guide the planning for the coming year, members at the Annual Meeting were invited to submit written recommendations which will be shared with incoming boardmembers.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Foster

Colleen Foster
Secretary, 2022-24

Minutes were approved by the Annual Meeting Minutes Review Committee: Donna Brown (6/21/24), Terri Mercer (6/20/24), and Cate White (6/19/24).