

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF STANISLAUS COUNTY
MINUTES
BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 12, 2008**

Members Present: Ellen Meyer, Lynn Kelso, Marie Bairey, Cynthia Morgan, Julie Saugstad, Patty Lundy, Joan Goldsmith, Debbie Whitmore, Ann Krabach, Sue Chaffee, Jennie Sweeney, Susan Novak

Members Absent: Cindy van Empel

Meeting called to order by President Ellen Meyer at 6:05 p.m.

Minutes approved as revised.

President's Report:

- PSA for Comcast was filmed. Will air over the next month.
- PSA's for forums sent to radio stations and Modesto Bee Election Connection
- MJC Intern still a possibility
- Suggested structure to incorporate outlying cities will be on a later agenda.

Office Manager: No report.

Treasurer: Ed Fund will be used for Pros and Cons and for PMP.

Finance Drive: To date \$2770 received. (\$670 of that is designated for Ed Fund). Expenses are more than last year because supplies were ordered that last for two years. Joan will keep track of responses from new potential donors added to the mailing list.

Lunch and Learn: Speakers set for September and October.

Membership: Four new members. About 40 members have not returned renewals. Reminder phone calls will be made. Due date for renewal is September 30. Directory information due to Patty by November 1. Begin thinking about Spring Membership Event. Laurie Carley is in charge.

Smartvoter: No response from County Clerk. Trudell will contact County Clerk Lundrigan.

Voter/PR: Notice of forum schedule was sent to Election Connection and radio stations. Will send to Comcast Bulletin Board.

Webmaster: Stella is waiting for direction from LWVC before proceeding with blog. Other Leagues have blogs that tend to be underutilized. Patty will rebuild the Local Action section of the website and keep it current with notice of meetings of interest or issues to be aware of. New officer e-mails to be listed in Voter for contact through the website.

Vice President: Plans are underway for Holiday Fling which is usually held on the first Monday after Thanksgiving. Date, place and speaker to be confirmed.

Voter Service: Forums Sept. 24 at 6:30 for MCS Board and Oct. 8 at 6:30 for Modesto City Council. Request for assistance with forum for Turlock Board of Education will be followed-up. **Motion: M** -Susan Novak/S - Patty Lundy. Revise mailing procedure for forum letters to candidates from certified to return receipt with follow-up telephone calls to those who do not respond to letters. **Passed** Voter registration October 22at Turlock and Modesto libraries. Salida, Oakdale and Patterson other possibilities.

Nominating Committee: No report.

Local Action: Regular meetings are scheduled for the last Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the League office. First meeting September 26.

State and National: LWVC advocated against AB 8, a health care measure.

Municipal Elections Study: Marie reported that the League was a custodian of Charter Review Committee Documents to be available for public review. She also reported on the Study Consensus meeting held September 5. **Motion: M**- Julie Saugstad/S-Patty Lundy. Adopt the proposed position statement from the Consensus meeting for Local Program. **Passed**

To assure that municipal government is open, accountable, and responsive to residents and to promote full participation by citizens, we support:

- A system that balances neighborhood needs with citywide perspective
- Encourages and offers opportunity for increased voter and candidate participation

(Should districts be part of a proposal, criteria for establishing districts are addressed by LWVC.)

Also, LWVC has a position favoring majority decisions for elections officials.)

Adoption allows the League to take action immediately. The position will be presented at Annual Meeting for inclusion in the Local Program.

Motion: M- Sue Chaffee/S – Susan Novak. Adopt the 3rd recommendation from the Consensus Meeting: League should not take action on the advisory Measures I and J on the November 2007 ballot, but rather let the City’s outreach and education program inform the voters about the alternatives being proposed. If a binding measure is proposed for the February 2008 ballot, League may study it for possible action. **Passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m. Next meeting October 10, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Bairey, Secretary