League of Women Voters Bay Area

Board Minutes for August 19, 2024

Via Zoom

The meeting was brought to order by Marieann Shovlin, a Co-President.

Board members present: Kathleen Cha, Roma Dawson, Madeleine Kronenberg, Reena Lari, Jean Perry, Louise Rothman-Riemer, Yolanda Schonbrun, Marieann Shovlin, Alex Starr, Sheri Thomas.

Administrative Matters:

Minutes of the June Board Meeting were approved.

LWVABA Mission-Vision was reviewed. The office and office records are currently located in the Berkeley Albany Emeryville League Office which is at 2530 Suite F San Pablo Ave. in Berkeley, CA 94702 near Dwight Way. Kathleen Cha and Leslie Stewart have reviewed the files and will send files as requested to the Bancroft Library.

LWVBA Board Meetings will be the 3rd Monday of the month from 4-6pm via zoom and will be posted on the LWVBA website calendar. Other LWVBA events will be posted on the website calendar including: LWVBA Convention, Council, meetings with individual leagues and LWVBA Educational events.

Regional Study Committee meets the second Friday of the month at noon via zoom.

LWVBA Board Member assignment for September Board Meeting:
Co-President Shovlin requested all board members come prepared to indicate their preferred area of area of interest for their work on the board as part of their board portfolio. Please provide this information prior to the board meeting on September 23rd.

Treasurer's Report: Louise RR reported that she and Leslie Stewart were in the process of transferring the work of the Treasurer from Leslie to Louise. Louise reported that our finances are sound. She then recommended that the Co-Presidents and the Treasurer be appointed as the signatories on League's bank accounts at Citi Bank and that other former signatories be removed. The motion was made by Louise, seconded by Alex Starr and unanimously passed.

A second motion recommended that the accounts at Citi Bank be consolidated as "The Monitor" was no longer a source of expense or income. Currently at Citi Bank there are a checking and a savings for both the League and "The Monitor". A concern was raised that there might be monies that had been given specifically to support "The Monitor" and that if they still existed that might be a reason not to combine accounts. It was agreed that Leslie Stewart would be consulted as she would know if such accounts had a restriction. It was them moved, seconded and passed that the two Citi Bank checking accounts be combined as well as the two savings accounts pending a determination of any monetary restrictions remaining on "The Monitor" account.

Louise raised the concern that after this year and beginning in 2025 the Bay Area League would no longer be the automatic recipient of PMP because of the change approved at the June National League Convention which mandated that National would receive all membership dues and then redistribute them to the individual leagues. Unfortunately, it was determined not to directly fund ILOs. Therefore, it falls to each ILO, such as the Bay Area League, to find its own funding sources from its member Leagues. It was recommended that the Co-Presidents, the Treasurer act as a Finance Committee. I was suggested that Madeleine and Leslie join the committee to strategize about how best to secure future funding from member leagues. There are currently 20 leagues in the 9 Bay Area Counties comprising our ILO.

LWVBA is a 501(c) 3 organization and its EIN is 23-7084695. It's State Charitable Number is CT2-7655 and the Corporation or Organization number is C0722823.

Louise asked for League Letterhead and Shari said she would send the letterhead to her. Currently the League has no official stationery.

General Board Discussion:

A discussion then ensued in which Board members were asked to speak to their individual passions for their work with the Bay Area League. Responses for the League areas of interest follow:

Regional Government & Planning – Kathleen

Environment – Air, Land Use, Water, Solid Waste

Natural Resources and Climate

Housing/Homelesness – Roma

Transportation- Alex

Public Health – Raeena and Marieann

Other Working Partnerships

Plan Bay Area – Louise and Marieann

Action Plans and Motions:

- Add link for subscribing to LWVBA Mailing List on Home Page this week- Sheri
- Update mailing list – Review and update for LWVBA Local Leagues – Co-Presidents
- Contact Local Leagues re updates & mailing list – Co-Presidents to schedule presentations during Local's Board meetings
- Meeting Minutes – Distribute unapproved meeting minutes to Board within two weeks for approval at September meeting
- Motion made, seconded & approved: Signatories for Bank transactions – Treasurer, Co-presidents (Alex & Sheri)
- Motion made, seconded & approved: Consolidate checking & saving accounts & clarify re Monitor (Louise & Alex)
- Action: Form Finance Committee: Louise, Roma, Marieann, Madeline, Kathleen
- Action: LWVC Position on Proposition 5: Set up Committee
- **Next Meeting – September 23, 2024, 3pm via ZOOM** *Note: this is not the usual meeting time but Marieann was not available on the 3rd Monday.*