

Minutes LWVBA
July 21, 2025
Via Zoom

Members in Attendance: Roma Dawson, Kathleen Cha, Madeliene Kronenberg, Jean Perry, Louise Rothman-Riemer, Marieanne Shovelin, Sheri Thomas, and Linda from Alameda League.

Members Absent: Raeena Lari, Yolanda Schoenbrun

Meeting called to order by Co-President, Marieann Shovelin

Minutes: Minutes for May and June were approved. Sheri abstained from the vote on the June minutes. Sheri will now post the approved minutes on our website.

Co-Presidents Report: Roma asked to address the issue of Raeena's absence from the Board meetings. She is suffering from long covid and has been quite concerned that she has not been able to attend because of being ill. Roma met with her and assured her that the Board can be patient with her, but we really appreciate her contributions to the Board. The response from the Board members present was to heartily agree, and we wish her well as she recovers. Marieann said she had also spoken to her as they have worked together closely on the health care webinars. Louise said she would send flowers from the Board and Roma said she would give Louise Raeena's address.

Marieann and Roma have spoken with fourteen of the twenty member Leagues. They have six leagues to go and have asked Jean Perry and Madeliene to help arrange the meeting, hopefully in the next few weeks.

Monitor Notes: Publication will be the last weekend of the month and the deadline for article submission is Monday of the third week of the month. Sheri said she needed additional articles for the Monitor Notes, Louise volunteered to write something on 2050+ and R SAP, Roma will add something on SB 63 and Kathleen will write about the Study kit that they will shortly receive.

Jean said her league is still looking for a chairperson to coordinate for "Suffs." Although the deadline has passed, Roma said she should send her the information, and she would ask for an exception. Roma said each league needed to select a point person to work with SF Broadway Productions. She also noted that ticket sales have started, and many seats are already taken. The League production evening is October 25th.

Treasurer's Report: Louise discussed a first draft of our budget projections for the coming year, See attached updated information. This will be the first year in which we will be asking each league to voluntarily provide us with a PMP as it is no longer mandated by the LWV fee structure, due to the change in National's position about the sharing formula. As a result, many leagues are feeling financially stretched to meet their desired program. After a discussion, it was agreed that we would reduce our PMP request from \$3 a member to \$2 a member which will

significantly reduce our budget. We have estimated that at that rate our income from PMP would be around \$5,568 if all members paid at the \$2 rate.

LWVBAE is still interested in our purchase of a scanner and kept in their office. Kathleen again stated that other leagues will also be interested in sharing scanning expenses if we were to purchase a scanner and house it at the BAE office in Berkeley.

Board Member Reports: Housing and Transportation

Roma gave an update on **SB 63** that is proposed for Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco City and County, as well as Alameda-Contra Costa counties, which she said is sailing through the legislature. **Santa Clara and San Mateo are anticipated to opt in which may change things. As timing is an issue, and no one exists today who knows exactly what is in the bill, a League Pro/Con discussion on the measure as an educational forum would be appropriate. The Board agreed and voted to have an educational forum and agreed that October would be the best time to hold such a forum.**

As for speakers, Roma suggested we ask one of the authors, such as Senator Weiner and perhaps someone from Howard Jarvis or CA Association of Realtors who oppose the bill. It was also suggested that we then have an open Q & A. League member, such as Jennifer Wagner, as a possible moderator. SPUR has also been a long time League partner and might be good on a panel. This legislation would be on the ballot in November 2026. When all counties involved have agreed to participate LWVBA will then determine what position they will take.

Website update: Shari and Marieann will be working on our new website and anticipate a “show and tell” at our next meeting. The Board approved expenditure of up to \$1500 over two years for website development. That would include \$700 for each year and domain fees.

We are requesting our local leagues tell us what they would like to see on our website that would be of help to them. Sheri will produce a pilot, and she will share a preliminary view with the Board in September. The matter of the domain issue has been resolved.

SMART Measure: This is a voter-initiated campaign to place the Sonoma-Marin-Area Rapid Transit sales tax renewal on the ballot in June of 2026. **The LWVBA Board was asked by the Marin and Sonoma leagues to support this Measure, and we agreed to endorse the measure and will allow our name to be shown as supporting the measure.**

Study Group on Regional Issues: Kathleen said document now ready to be sent out. It was noted that this was a Study Update. The Board reviewed the document at made suggestions for additional “links” documenting such issues as the Regional History in the Appendix. Kathleen confirmed she was including Linda Craig’s Comment Letter on the merger of MTC and ABAG. It was agreed that the Kit would be sent to League Presidents through our Gmail Account. Responses would then be sent to Kathleen again via our Gmail Account. We expect a response from each League.

LWVBA Convention: Roma noted that it was not too early to consider a timeline for our Convention Kit. We need to have a nominating committee of which the chair must be a

non-board member. Our Bylaws allow for our Presidents to sit in ex-officio. It was suggested that Phyllis W-A might be a good person to chair as she has experience in chairing nominating committees.

Jean Perry asked that information on her chairing of a Commission be correct to Chair of the Behavioral Health Commission.

The next meeting via zoom will be August 18th at 4 pm...

Respectfully Submitted,
Louise Rothman-Riemer, Secretary