

ANNUAL MEETING Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:00am-1:30pm Michaels at Shoreline

If you have not done so already, please register by June 2nd to help us confirm that we will reach our required quorum count. Register for Annual Meeting

### Guest Speaker: Judge LaDoris Hazzard Cordell

Our speaker, Judge LaDoris Cordell, has had a storied career. A graduate of Stanford Law School, she was the first to open a law practice in East Palo Alto. In 1982, she became the first African American Jurist in Northern California, as a Superior Court Judge for Santa Clara County. Upon retirement in 2001, she returned to Stanford as Vice-Provost. From 2010-2015 she served as San Jose's Independent Police Auditor.

Judge Cordell will talk to us about her 2021 book, "Her Honor: My Life on the Bench... What Works, What's Broken, and How to Change It." It is a personal story, but also one that explores our judicial system from family court challenges and a variety of biases to the complicated nature of the problematic art of the plea deal. Not willing to merely point out problems, she concludes with 10 well reasoned "fixes" for them.



| 10:00am | Check in                               |
|---------|--|
| 10:15am | Guest speaker: LaDoris Hazzard Cordell |
| 11:15am | Call to Order: Annual Business Meeting |
| 12:15pm | Lunch (\$40)                           |

PLEASE refer to this kit to prepare for the Annual Meeting. Questions: Sue Graham <u>suegraham79@outlook.com</u>

# 2023 Annual Meeting Rules

"An Annual Meeting of Local League Members shall be held between May 1 and June 30, the exact date to be determined by the Board. At the Annual Meeting, the Local League Members shall:

a. Adopt a local program

b. Elect directors, officers and local League members to serve on the Nominating Committee c. Adopt a budget, and

d. Transact such other business as may properly come before it; ..."Local Bylaws, Article IX, sec. 2

"A quorum for the Annual Meeting of Local League Members ... shall consist of 10% of the Local League members." Local Bylaws, Article IX, sec. 4

#### **Proposed Rules of the Annual Meeting**

- 1. Accepted parliamentary procedure (*Robert's Rules of Order*) shall govern the conduct of the meeting.
- 2. All speakers must be recognized by the Chair and address their remarks to the Chair.
- 3. During discussion, each speaker will be limited to one minute.
- 4. All lengthy motions must be submitted in writing to the Secretary.
- 5. Majority vote is required to adopt the Agenda and Annual Meeting rules. Once adopted, a two-thirds vote is required to change them.
- 6. Majority vote is required for Budget and Program adoption and the Election.
- 7. A Bylaw change requires a two-thirds vote.

#### Criteria to consider when considering or recommending a new study:

- 1. Is the issue one on which government action is needed?
- 2. Will political realities permit effective action?
- 3. Does the issue involve a current need or is it well-addressed without this study?
- 4. Will the issue be important and timely in two years—the time generally needed to complete a study and reach member consensus?
- 5. Does the issue fall within LWV principles?
- 6. Does it have member interest and commitment?
- 7. Would the study attract new members and community interest?

# Annual Meeting Agenda

Parliamentarian: Barbara Wardenburg

Secretary: Max Beckman-Harned

| 11:15am | Call to Order | Karin Bricker |
|---------|---------------|---------------|
|         |               |               |

(Welcome and introductions, Quorum Count, Announce Committee to review 2023 minutes, Acceptance of Meeting Rules, page 2, and Agenda)

| Bylaws Committee Report (Page 4) Vote         | Sue Graham    |
|---|---------------|
| Treasurer's Report (Page 5)                   | Joanna Shreve |
| Budget Committee Report (Page 6) Vote         | Lisa McLain   |
| Program Planning 2023-2024 (Page 9) Vote      | Sue Graham    |
| Affirm Existing Local Position (Page 10) Vote | Sue Graham    |
| 2022-2023 President's Review                  | Karin Bricker |
| LWVC Convention                               | Karin Bricker |
| Recognitions for 2022-2023                    | Karin Bricker |
| Nominating Committee Report (Page 13) Vote    | Sue Graham    |
| Direction from the Membership for 2023-2024   | Katie Zoglin  |

12:15pm Adjourn to lunch

**Portfolio Reports (Pages 14)** 

# **Bylaws Committee Report**

Sue Graham, Chair

#### **Recommended changes to our bylaws** Board recommended.

Article VII– This article is incorrect now that we have moved to ClubExpress. Additionally, the bylaws should not include this level of specificity about dues.

Italics are insertions and strikethroughs are deletions.

Section 2. Dues. Annual dues shall be determined at the annual meeting by a majority vote of the local League members present. Such dues shall be payable by each member on the first day of the fiscal year. *For members joining after December 31, 2021, dues will be based on join date, in which case they are payable annually on the anniversary date of each member.* Any member who fails to pay dues within 60 days after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership rolls provided a reminder has been sent to the member's current address. Life members shall be exempt from payment of dues.

Dues paid by new members between July 1 and January 31 will count for the current fiscal year. Dues paid by new members between February 1 and June 30 will count for the remainder of the current fiscal year and the following fiscal year. (17 months)

Article V, Board of Directors This section is not allowed under California law.

Action Without Meeting. The directors may take action between meetings by mail or an email ballot, when necessary, provided that notice of the proposed action sets forth the proposed action, provides the opportunity to specify approval or disapproval of the proposal, and a reasonable time in which to return the ballot is allowed. Notice, quorum, and other requirements for the conduct of meetings shall apply. Ballots shall be filed with a report of the action and shall be a part of the minutes of the next meeting of the board of directors.

Article IX, section 1 – Contact information is more appropriate than name and address.

The president of the League shall send the name and address *contact information* of the nominating committee chair to the members. It shall be the duty of the nominating committee chair to solicit from members suggestions for nominations for the offices to be filled.

#### Article XII, Parliamentary Authorization - Required by LWVC.

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws, *or the law*.

# Treasurer's Report

Joanna Shreve, Treasurer

I am completing my first full fiscal year as Treasurer of the Los Altos/Mountain View League, and it has been an interesting year. I continue to feel humbled by the professional, thoughtful, committed, and collaborative work of your leaders in managing the finances of our League. With both our president, Karin Bricker, and former president, Lisa McLain, we have established a Finance Committee, which Lisa is heading up. It will be meeting on a quarterly basis, in order to review the financial reports and our investments in Fidelity. We continue to look for someone who has experience in investing who would help us track our portfolio in Fidelity. I, as your current treasurer, do not have this experience or skill. Please contact me at jrshreve@aol.com if you would like to join our Finance Committee or know of someone else we might contact about this opportunity.

Our 2022-2023 budget neglected to budget for payment of PMP to LWV-US for memberships in 2021-2022. It was standard practice to pay PMP to LWV-US for the prior fiscal year starting in July – the first month of our fiscal year. When we moved to using Club Express in June 2022, it enabled LWV-US to take their membership fees on a monthly basis, during the current year. During this year of transition to Club Express, we have had to pay LWV-US for both fiscal years. Since we didn't budget for this, our "net income" is a negative figure. Fortunately, part of this negative figure is offset by the income from donations which is currently more than double what we budgeted. These donations have come largely from people renewing their memberships on line. We are also grateful for some very generous donations from non-members. It should be noted that the Los Altos Mountain View League is very well situated by having a "reserve" account with Fidelity Investments. This account was established with two very generous donations from former members. These funds enable us to offer the public a number of different resources to further our mission -- to provide unbiased, non-partisan information about election issues. Because of these funds, we have a sense of sustainability for our League, encouraging us to be creative and generous in our offerings.

Respectfully submitted, Joanna R Shreve

# **Budget Committee Report**

Lisa McLain (Chair), Karin Bricker and Joanna Shreve

The Budget Committee is tasked with developing a proposed budget for next year that anticipates expenses so that we can realistically fund our program given our income. The roughly \$12 we retain from your membership dues, covers our overhead expenses, such as insurance, technology and committee funding requests. We are fortunate to have received generous donations from two past members, Hilde J. Leopold and Erika Richards, that funds more discretionary expenses, such as a donation to Voter's Edge and to help delegates attend state or national convention. The first section of the budget covers income and expenses while the second section covers discretionary spending drawn from our reserves (Leopold Richards Fund).

Notes:

Dues will remain at \$75 for this next year. Dues have historically been set by and paid to the local League. In 2024 the national League will be reorganizing how dues will be set and collected as part of a plan to help the LWV thrive at all levels. At this time it is unclear whether dues will go up or down. To learn more about upcoming changes, read <u>League Structure</u> <u>Transformation Plan</u>.

Donations: We have been fortunate to have strong donations this year and anticipate they will continue through the general election in 2024. Over half of our donations come from non-members who live outside of our three cities.

Election Expenses: Next year has a primary election and we are not likely to host any election events, so our election expenses will be low. We expect them to rise substantially in the 2024 budget when we host many in-person election events with video-recording and venue rental expenses.

# Proposed Budget for 2023-2024

|  | 2022-2023      | 2023-2024       |  |  |
|--|----------------|-----------------|--|--|
| NCOME.   | Current Budget | Proposed Budget |  |  |
| INCOME:  | ¢40.055        | ¢40.000         |  |  |
| Dues<br>Out the time to such that  | \$13,055       | \$12,330        |  |  |
| Contributions by member  | \$2,000        | \$3,000         |  |  |
| Contributions by non-members   | \$1,000        | \$3,000         |  |  |
| Program Meetings   | \$1,200        | \$1,200         |  |  |
| TOTAL INCOME   | \$17,255       | \$19,530        |  |  |
| EXPENSES   |                |                 |  |  |
| Community/Voter Service/Action   |                |                 |  |  |
| Voter Services Activities  | \$750          | \$445           |  |  |
| Election Events and Activites  | \$400          | \$690           |  |  |
| Community Educational Events   | \$1,100        | \$700           |  |  |
| Total Community/Voter Services/Actic \$2,250                                       | , ,            | \$1,835         |  |  |
| Insurance  | \$1,000        | \$910           |  |  |
| Legal Documents  | \$50           | \$50            |  |  |
| Financial Support for Leagues (dues/PMP)   | \$11,188       | \$10,559        |  |  |
| Program Meetings   | \$1,115        | \$1,650         |  |  |
| Office Expenses (postage, po box, supplies)  | \$210          | \$230           |  |  |
| Technology   | \$926          | \$1,296         |  |  |
| Other Expenses   | \$516          |                 |  |  |
| Special Project: HS Award/Internship   |                | \$1,500         |  |  |
| Board Buffer   |                | \$1,500         |  |  |
| TOTAL EXPENSES   | \$17,255       | \$19,530        |  |  |
| The following discretionary expenses will be taken from the Leopold-Richards Fund. |                |                 |  |  |
| Leopold-Richards Fund  |                |                 |  |  |
| Voters Edge donation   | \$2,000        | \$2,000         |  |  |
| US Convention: \$3000  | \$1,900        | \$3,000         |  |  |
| KMV/T donation   | ¢100           | ¢100            |  |  |

| KMVT donation                         | \$100   | \$100   |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Student Award                         | \$3,000 |         |
| Total Leopold-Richards Fund Withdrawl | \$7,000 | \$5,100 |

# **Account Descriptions**

#### <u>Income</u>

Membership dues structure: Individual (\$75), Household (\$110), Members under 35 (\$35), Young 16-25 (\$5) and Life Members (\$0). Contributions come from members and non-members.

#### Expenses

**Community/Voter Services/Action** Voter Services activities, election activities, member and community education events.

#### **Financial Support for Leagues**

Payments to various League levels (Individual/Household): LWV Bay Area (\$3/\$1.50), LWV California (\$28/\$14), LWVUS (\$32/\$16), LWV Santa Clara County (\$100 flat). Our League subsidizes some member categories, such as Young members, as the dues we collect do not cover the PMP we are charged by other League levels.

Annual Meeting The cost of lunches which is offset by members' payments for lunch.

Office Expenses and Administration Post Office Box, Supplies, Postage.

**Insurance** Liability and Director & Officers insurance.

Filing fees (legal documents)

**Technology** Domain registration, ClubExpress, SSL certificate, Web hosting, Credit card transaction fees, TechSoup and Zoom expenses.

**Special Project** Program to work with high school students to encourage engagement with League on democracy and social issues.

Board Buffer Unexpected expenses buffer fund

#### **Discretionary Expenses**

- Convention/Workshop Attendance is made up of Convention or Council attendance expenses which may include partial reimbursement for registration and other other documented convention expenses
- Voter's Edge contribution
- KMVT donation

# Program Planning 2023-2024

Submitted by Sue Graham

#### **Results of Program Planning meeting on Saturday, February 11, 2023**

Attending members chose Voter Service, Housing and Homelessness, and Climate Change for our 2023-2024 local League priorities, the same priorities as we had last year as they seem to be the most important issues. Making Democracy Work which includes our election and Voter Service work is the core of the League's mission and always our top priority.

There were suggested issues that were not adopted, but we might be able to form small committees to work on them. They were:

- Reproductive rights suggested by Barbara Wardenburg and supported by Bruce Karney.
- Gun violence suggested by Carole Katz.
- Ballot language reform, referring to ballot titles, suggested by Pat Showalter. Pat's suggestion
  arose from the Grand Jury's investigation <u>If You Are Only Reading the Ballot, You're Being
  Duped.</u> The Grand Jury looked at the confusing ballot language on propositions. Pat thinks that
  California should form a commission to read ballot titles and make them more factual and was
  hoping that the League might work on this effort. It was decided that we would begin at the local level to see what might be done. Katie Zoglin will lead this effort.
- Civil discourse was suggested by Thida Cornes. Thida has noticed that some elected officials behave in an uncivil manner at meetings and perhaps the League could make a video that talks about civil discourse.

#### Our suggestions for LWVC's priorities were:

- Climate Change/Sustainability and Water Donna Davies liaison.
- Housing and Homelessness Sue Russell and Kevin Ma liaisons.
- Criminal Justice Reform/Reimagining Youth Justice Ellen Wheeler liaison.

These are the same priorities that LWVC had for the 2021-2023 biennial. Suggestions from other Leagues included, Juvenile Justice and Healthcare. We decided to add Juvenile Justice to Criminal Justice Reform. Healthcare did not elicit much interest. Our League's recommendations were forwarded to LWVC on February 2, 2023. They along with other California Leagues' input will be discussed and voted on by the delegates at the May 2023 convention.

There were suggested LWVC issues that were not adopted.

- Focus on the initiative process.
- Put LWVC's guidelines on civil discourse on all League's websites.
- Fold into Making Democracy Work, improving ballot language and promoting civil discourse.

# Local Los Altos-Mountain View League Positions

### **Local Government**

- Support of General Plans in Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, and Mountain View, which set forth
  goals and plans for achieving those goals. Each city's plan should reflect that city's needs and
  values. State guidelines for general plans should be guidelines and not mandates. Background
  information should be expressed in a form which allows comparison of data on a regional basis. Los Altos Hills' plan should provide for services compatible with the rural nature of the
  area and should recognize LAH responsibilities to the region.
- Support for revision of general plans on a regularly scheduled basis with enough flexibility to allow early revision of any section which needs changing sooner than scheduled. Action plans should be revised more often than policies or goals. Early citizen input and public review are essential. Planning Commission should make proposals for revision. City Council should initiate unscheduled review if they see a need for it.
- Support of long-range capital improvement programs in Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills based on effective city planning and sound financing.

### Libraries

- Support for supplemental funding of the Los Altos and Woodland Libraries by the cities of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills and by the Santa Clara County General Fund representing unin-corporated areas.
- Support library hours that meet the needs of the community.

# **Social Policy**

#### **Education**

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Dropped at the Annual Meeting, June 11, 2022 See the LWV California Education Position

# Foothill-De Anza Community College District

- Recognition that standards at state level are necessary for academic and transfer programs.
- The diversity from community to community within the state requires a measure of local control and local implementation to meet the specific needs of the broad spectrum of the student community.
- Support efforts by the Community College Board of Trustees and the local administration to achieve adequate State funding for the local districts.
- We support a locally controlled public community college district that meets the diverse needs of the districts population.
  - Objective of this position is to support the following programs:
    - 1. General Education program
    - 2. Transfer program
    - 3. Associate degrees program (A.A. & A.S.)
    - 4. Employment Training
    - 5. Counseling

- 6. Learning Center/Library
- 7. Basic Skills and Remedial program
- 8. In-service training program
- 9. Tutorial services
- 10. Life-long learning
- The Community College District should be supported by public funds controlled by the Board of Trustees. Objective of this position is to support public funds that are adequate, equitable, flexible, fair, predictable, and collectible.

(Joint position with LWV Palo Alto and Cupertino-Sunnyvale)

Updated at Annual Meeting, June 11, 2022

## Housing

- Support for ordinances against age discrimination in housing.
- Support for retention of city ability to refuse conversion of apartments to condominiums when such conversion is not in the best interest of the city.
- Support of the following ways to cope with jobs/housing imbalance and related transportation problems:
  - a. Increased densities where appropriate if a feeling of open space is retained.
  - b. Cluster zoning, which provides open space.
  - c. Retention of non-conforming use dwellings.
  - d. Rezoning commercial to residential or mixed use.
  - e. Improvement of CalTrain passenger service.
  - f. Improvement of present freeways without expansion of system.
  - g. Encouragement of car pooling, company buses, use of bicycles.

### **Rent Stabilization**

Support rent stabilization and just cause programs that are fair and reasonable to landlords, tenants and the community. The League finds that:

- 1. The community benefits when people have stable housing and can afford to live near their work, when businesses have access to workers of all skill and socioeconomic levels, and when rent stabilization is cost neutral to the city.
- 2. These programs benefit current and future tenants in units subject to rent control by minimizing displacement and providing stable and predictable housing costs, while also providing a fair rate of return to landlords because of vacancy decontrol.
- 3. These programs benefit tenants in units covered by just cause from arbitrary evictions but allow landlords to evict tenants for nonpayment of rent, breach of the lease, and other specified causes.
- 4. Banking is fair and reasonable to tenants and landlords so long as tenants receive an annual notification explaining that the landlord is banking the allowed rent increase.
- 5. Tenants should have the right to petition if their units are not kept in proper repair or their services are decreased or new costs, such as utilities, are charged.
- 6. Landlords should have the right to petition if they are not making a fair rate of return.
- 7. The fair rate of return should be based upon a non-volatile index to benefit both tenants and landlords.

8. It is appropriate that the fees to operate the program shall be cost-neutral to the city.

# Healthcare

- Support efforts to preserve the hospital as presently located and to continue to serve the health care needs of the community.
- Support efforts to attract enough primary care physicians to meet the health care needs of the community.
- In the interest of good public relations, both the El Camino Healthcare District Board and the El Camino Hospital Board should communicate with the public regularly, make frequent progress reports, and have periodic meetings open to the public.
- El Camino Healthcare District should continue to collect property tax moneys and should make detailed reports to the community on how the taxes are used.
- El Camino Healthcare District should not transfer the hospital land to any entity without a vote of the electorate. El Camino Healthcare District should not be dissolved without a vote of the electorate.
- The LWV study of El Camino Healthcare District and El Camino Hospital Board should remain active to monitor the collection and use of tax dollars and any changes in the organization of the district, in order to reach new consensus as appropriate and take action in a timely manner.

# LWV LAMV Slate of Officers and Directors for 2023-2024

Nominating Committee members: Sally Ahnger (Chair), Sue Graham, Ellen Wheeler, Jan Pepper

# **Board of Directors**

| Officers                 |               |  |
|--------------------------|---------------|--|
| President:               | Katie Zoglin  |  |
| Vice President, Action:  | Ellen Wheeler |  |
| Vice President, Program: |               |  |
| Secretary:               | Donna Davies  |  |
| Treasurer:               | Joanna Shreve |  |
|                          |               |  |
| Directors                |               |  |
| Government:              | Kevin Ma      |  |
| Natural Resources:       | Gary Hedden   |  |

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|----------------------|---------------|
| Social Policy:       | Abby Longcor  |
| Voter Service:       | Karin Bricker |
| Data Manager:        |               |
| <i>Voter</i> Editor: |               |
| Membership:          | Lisa McLain   |
|                      |               |
| Directors at large:  | Bill Lambert  |

Nathan Pier

#### 2024-2025 Nominating Committee:

Sally Ahnger (Chair), Jan Pepper, Fiona Walter

# **Portfolio Reports**

## **Communications Committee: Lisa McLain, Chair**

The Communications Committee of Lisa McLain, Max Beckman-Harned and Sue Graham meets monthly to coordinate how League information is presented on the website or pushed out in The Voter and social media.

Over this past year we have been using more features of our membership platform, ClubExpress. The software has increased and integrated the ways that we communicate about our work to our members and the community.

The website is the best place to look for up-to-date information about our League. We have a calendar with upcoming events, league news, committee pages and even some history about our League. At election time, we posted prominent links on our homepage to our election information (candidate forums, pros and cons and voter information). We posted recordings of all our election events on the Election Events page of the website.

Using ClubExpress' blog function we have articles under Climate Action Team written by Donna Davies about what you can do to reduce your carbon footprint. Kevin Ma has renamed and organized all of our advocacy letters (under News) so that they are easier to locate.

To keep our members and the community informed we also push out information.

#### The Voter (Claire Noonan)

Since 2021, *The Voter* is the Los Altos and Mountain View Area League of Women Voters' twice monthly update on League news, upcoming one-time events and ongoing events like Board and committee meetings. The newsletter provides links to registration for events and links to the event listing for more information. In addition, the newsletter provides notice of actions that members can take to implement or support the League's program, including housing, climate action, and voting. On occasion, notice about an event may be of state or country-wide importance to League members but not directly sponsored by LWVLAMV. The League's Board and committees send the information that is inserted in *The Voter* to Claire Noonan or Lisa McLain.

#### Social Media Posts

This last year we had the help of Nancy Bremeau in posting local activities to Facebook. Kevin Ma has recently volunteered to help us increase our social media presence by posting to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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#### Information Technology: Max Beckman-Harned, Chair

As mentioned above, we have continued our journey with ClubExpress. This Annual Meeting is our first paid event in ClubExpress. This past year we set up a Merchant Account (all payments are being processed by ClubExpress/Stripe and no longer with PayPal) and onboarded to the Funds Connector (Per Member Payments [dues] for LWVUS are automatically calculated when members join or re-

new). We closed our PayPal and Mailchimp accounts and moved all Board documents from Share-Point to ClubExpress, continuing to simplify our tech stack. Next year we plan to migrate our email mail-flow away from our old web provider so we can stop paying for their services.

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#### **Education: Ellen Wheeler, Chair**

Our LWV Santa Clara County Education Committee is the largest committee in the county, with over 100 members. We are made up of members from all five of our county Leagues, with some of us being current or former school board members, teachers, or researchers, and others of us "just" interested in education. As chair, I read dozens of education-related articles and studies every week and carefully send the most relevant or interesting ones to our members. We are fortunate that some of our members also read and send articles to me for wider disbursement to our committee.

After being stuck in our own homes and doing Zoom meetings for the past few years, we opened up our meetings in person with a bang this year by holding two "field trips," both focused on the socialemotional needs of students who hadn't had adequate social interactions with their friends and teachers during the Covid shut down. At Castro Elementary School we visited one of the 34 "Wellness Centers" in Santa Clara County where students can get special emotional attention by professionals. At the Santa Clara County Office of Education we heard from County Superintendent Dr. Mary Ann Dewan about how to integrate children with special needs into regular classrooms. We also had a special treat of a presentation by member Grace Mah on her recent trip to the Deep South where she described meaningful visits she had along what is known as the "Civil Rights Trail." (This meeting's presentation was so popular that we then opened another version of it up at the Mountain View Public Library and also invited all five Leagues to attend.) We hope that at our last meeting of this year we'll get an update on how the new ethnic studies curriculum is being implemented locally.

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### **Government Policy, Katie Zoglin, Chair**

The government group coordinated the LWVC legislative interviews for Senator Becker and Assemblymember Berman. Becker's legislative priorities include climate, criminal justice, homelessness, and economic development. He supports taking a metrics-based approach. Berman's priorities include: legislation to require high schools to offer computer science, legislation to crack down on loopholes in a revenge porn bill, and increasing the amount of quality of farm worker housing on the coast.

We also reviewed and commented on pending statewide legislation regarding elections and campaign finance reform.

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## Housing Committee: Sue Russell and Kevin Ma, Committee Chairs

The Committee continues to advocate on housing and homelessness items in Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, and Mountain View. Our letters are posted on the League website.

In Mountain View, we sent letters to the City Council, the Environmental Planning Commission, and the Rental Housing Committee. We have commented on housing developments such as 1265 Montecito, 1020 Terra Bella, and Google's Middlefield Park Master Plan, tenant rights such as rent concession clarification and rent registry compliance, and homelessness such as on the 72-hour parking limit's impact on RVs. We have been closely following the Housing Element update, following up with city staff in order to ensure the city is actively addressing fair housing (AFFH) and has effective, accountable programs. We also contributed to the Mountain View Voice on articles regarding belowmarket-rate distribution in 334 San Antonio and misinformation on the Village Center zoning change.

In Los Altos, we sent letters to the City Council, the Planning Commission, and the Complete Streets Commission. We supported the final approval of 330 Distel, the city's first all-affordable project. We pushed various projects to ensure their below-market-rate units were fairly dispersed. We have closely followed their Housing Element update, mainly on programs to remove constraints on development and offer significant incentives to affordable housing; we now have transitioned to follow its implementation. We also provided an editorial to the Los Altos Town Crier on the significance of the Housing Element.

In Los Altos Hills, we sent letters to the City Council regarding the Housing Element update, in particular the inclusion of infeasible sites and lack of fully addressing their development constraints and affordable housing obligations.

We continue to meet on Zoom at 7:30 p.m. on second Mondays. Our recent speakers included Micaela Hellman-Tincher (MV's Housing Manager), VTA staff on their Visionary Network, Wayne Chen (MV's Assist. Community Development Director), and Randy Tsuda (Alta Housing's CEO). We welcome new members. Please contact <u>housing@lwvlamv.org</u> for more information.

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### Membership: Sue Graham, Chair

As of March 18, 2023, our membership count was 201. We have been holding at around 200 for some time but would like to increase our membership, especially among younger people. To that end we will be posting more information about the League on Facebook and Twitter.

We are grateful to our current members for renewing their membership. We know that not everyone can commit time to do League work, but your membership helps increase the effectiveness of our League's advocacy efforts. The more members we have, the stronger our voice.

Reminder: On July 1, annual membership dues for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 are due. We will send dues reminders via email to members who have email. For non-email users, we will send postal reminders. Dues are \$75 per individual, \$110 for household (two members living in a household), \$35 for members 26 to 34 (new category), and \$5 for members 16 to 25.

If you joined in 2022 or after your annual membership is due on the one-year anniversary of your joining the League. You will be sent a reminder notice.

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## Natural Resources: Gary Hedden, Director

On behalf of the League, the Natural Resources Committee monitors and reports on the implementation of climate action plans, bay lands restoration, water conservation, plastic waste reduction, enhancing bicycle and pedestrian access and safety, and updating the housing element.

This past year, the Climate Change Team (CAT) was under the leadership of Bruce Karney, then Donna Davies. We wrote to the Los Altos City Council urging them to prioritize the "Building Electrification" CAAP Strategic Goals 2.2 through 2.5 in FY 2023-2024. We encouraged them to adopt a goal date to electrify all buildings as San Jose has done (2030), adopt an End of Flow date of Piped Fossil Gas as the City of San Mateo has done (2030), staff and fund programs to accelerate the replacement of natural gas appliances with environmentally friendly electric equivalents by residential and commercial building owners between now and 2030.

Three members of our team met with new Los Altos Councilmember, Pete Dailey, to discuss his climate goals (which are the same as ours) and his participation in the Environmental Planning Commission. We continued to write monthly articles for The Voter of practical ways league members can reduce their carbon footprint. We doubled our team this year and leverage the 24 climate organization memberships our team holds outside of the CAT. Working with Lisa McLain, Donna was able to start a climate blog on the CAT website this year.

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### **Observers: Sue Graham, Coordinator**

Through regular attendance at public meetings of local governmental agencies, the Observer Corps seeks to keep elected officials aware of the League's ongoing interest in local government and to better inform League and local community members about the issues and governmental processes affecting their communities.

This past year we have been ably represented by

- Claire Noonan, Los Altos City Council
- Stella Kam, Los Altos School District

Their monthly reports are posted on our website for members and non-members to read. Take a look and stay up to date with local government.

If you are interested in attending city council or school board meetings on behalf of the League and writing up brief reports, we would welcome you. We'll show you how it is done. Contact Sue Graham <u>suegraham79@outlook.com</u>

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#### Voter Service Committee: Pamela Baird, Chair

It was a busy 2022 for the Voter Services Committee.

**Candidate Forums** - We participated in several meetings with other Leagues in Santa Clara County to determine which League would conduct which candidate forums. Our committee covered the candidate forums for our area and also the Santa Clara County Assessor Forum in May. All Zoom forums were recorded so that members of the public could view when convenient.

**Farmer's Market** - We conducted outreach at the farmer's markets in Los Altos and Mountain View. Six market dates were covered. Literature was provided to interested people, as well as explanations and information about registering, redistricting and other concerns. This outreach is a good way to remind and inform people about the League.

**Reclaim our Vote** - A "spin off' of the Voter Services committee was a postcard writing effort through "Reclaim our Vote". Hundreds of cards were mailed to voters in southern states prior to the primaries and the November election.

**Pros & Cons** - The always popular "Pros & Cons" evaluation of the state ballot measures was conducted on Zoom. An outreach at Foothill College was planned and coordinated by Julie Cates just before the November election.

#### Voter registration-

National Voter registration day was September 27. The group decided to not conduct any outreach, as most registration is done online in California. There is less interest from the local libraries about having in person tabling in the library lobby.

#### High School Outreach-

In September 2022 Claudia Hevel and Claire Noonan, Voter Services HS Pre-registration team, were able to resume in person registration programs at both high schools. Although each school organized their programs differently, a large number of students were given information about registration and voting.

17 teachers in 55 classes were utilized in the outreach program. A total of over 1400 students were reached. A group of twelve League volunteers (two were not able to participate because of COVID) organized by Claudia and Claire were in the classrooms to answer questions.

A video, moderated by Abby Longcor, "*Participate in Democracy"* was shown to US History, US History AP, Governmental Studies, and Governmental Studies AP students. The video emphasizes the importance of voting and encourages students to pre-register to vote. This video needs to be updated for the next event in September of 2023. The updating will be completed by June.

At Los Altos High School a student group called "Voices in Politics" helped with the outreach at that school. The group prepared a flyer about registration and the importance of voting. Our League paid for the printing costs of the flyer, which was about \$500.



# Voter's Edge: Kevin Ma and Sue Graham, Liaisons

Voter's Edge provides voters impartial online information about upcoming elections, a joint project between the LWVC Education Fund and MapLight since 2016. Voter's Edge allows people to:

Access their full, personalized ballot by entering their address.

See candidate biographies and top priorities.

Read summaries of ballot measures and find out their supporters and opposition.

Keep track of their choices.

Check how to vote, including information on tracking the status of mailed ballots.

Share information about the election.

For the primary and general elections, we contacted state, county, city, and school district candidates throughout the campaign season to encourage them to use Voter's Edge to showcase their positions.



# Annual Meeting LWV Los Altos-Mountain View

Saturday, June 10, 2023

Michaels at Shoreline 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View

#### PREPAID RESERVATION REQUIRED FOR LUNCH

Pay Online: Go online to lwvlamv.org to reserve and pay <u>Register for Annual Meeting</u> Or

**Pay by Check:** Return this portion with your check for \$40.00 per person (tax & tip included) to: League of Women Voters, PO Box 3492, Los Altos, CA, 94024

Luncheon includes salad and sherbet. Please mark your salad choice:

Pasta Primavera Chopped Cobb Salad Shrimp Louis

Makes checks payable to League of Women Voters. Checks must be received by June 10th.

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