

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MODESTO
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
August 26, 2006

Members present: Patty Lundy, Susan Novak, Linda Walden, Laurie Carley, Lynn Kelso, Myrtle Osner, Julie Saugstad, Ellen Meyer, Jenny Sweeney, Joan Goldsmith, Joan Patterson

Meeting called to order by Patty Lundy, President, at 6:31 p.m.

President Patty Lundy read the League's nonpartisan policy. The Board voted to approve the League's non-partisan policy as written. (Motion: Julie Saugstad 2nd Susan Novak)
Approved

Office Manager

Myrtle Osner reported on requests for Pros and Cons presentations. She will present Pros and Cons of ballot issues at Delta Kappa Gamma, Casa de Modesto and Church of the Brethren. She will find volunteers to help with additional presentations. We may have to decline some invitations if we don't have a League member available. She will forward information about scheduled presentations to Linda Walden.

Treasurer's Report

Julie Saugstad reviewed the current budget report and the end of the year report that will go into the Voter newsletter. She suggested that we move a \$224.42 Voter Service expense from the publications budget line to the PR budget line. (Motion, second)
Approved

Finance Drive

Joan Goldsmith reported that letters would be ready for Patty's signature shortly.

2nd Vice President's Report

Laurie Carley reported for Marie Bairey that a member of the City Charter Review Committee would be making a presentation at an upcoming Lunch and Learn.

Doug Chadwick would like ideas for speakers for future Lunch and Learn meetings.

Membership

Jenny Sweeney gave us a draft of the membership book. It includes street addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses.

Since dues will soon be 3 months overdue, she will need to drop those members who haven't replied to the renewal notice. It was suggested that she phone those members before they are dropped.

Voter Service

3000 Pros and Cons will be ordered and delivered to Myrtle's home

MJC Honors students have requested that we register voters on Saturday, October 21 prior to their "Less Talk, More Action" program. Laurie Carley volunteered.

Mildred Kinser is being asked to organize League Volunteers to monitor CSUS student elections on November 15.

Linda Walden will respond to the Beyer High Student (Siona Eivazian) requesting voter information for their newsletter.

Linda and Susan Cassidy are suggesting the following forums:

- 1) County Superintendent of Schools and County Board of Supervisors
Tentatively booking the Council Chambers for October 12th (preferred date) and October 9th and 18th backup dates if candidates aren't available. Linda will choose moderators once she has a confirmed date.
- 2) Riverbank has requested help with offering a forum for their City Council Election. The City Clerk's office will send out the letters, arrange for the place and we will provide a moderator, timekeepers and question sorters. Myrtle will coordinate.
- 3) Modesto Bee requested that we co-sponsor a forum for the Turlock mayor and city council elections. Since we can't co-sponsor with an organization that endorses candidates, we declined. However, the Board agreed to pursue having a League forum in Turlock. We will probably hold one forum for Mayor and a separate one for City Council because of the large number of candidates. Linda Walden and Susan Cassidy will coordinate this.
- 4) Linda Walden and Susan Cassidy will organize the "last day to register to vote" table at the libraries. Diane Bartlett will be asked to coordinate the Turlock league members for a table at the Turlock library.

1st Vice President's Report

A moderator training was offered in July by Julie Saugstad and Susan Novak. The following members are now trained to be moderators: Gloria Skol, Cynthia Van Empel, Stella Beratlis, Patty Lundy and Linda Walden. Four additional members expressed interest in being trained at a future date.

MJC instructor Brian Justin Marks replied with a date of October 18 for someone from League to speak to his CARE class. Joan Goldsmith and Laurie Carley expressed interest in speaking to the group depending on the time of day. Susan Novak will forward Brian Joan's e-mail so that he can contact her directly with the details.

President's Report

As a follow-up to her May meeting with Lee Lundrigan, Patty Lundy has contacted Lee Lundrigan of Stanislaus County Elections numerous times about SmartVoter. Lee has not yet replied about whether her department can fund SmartVoter. If we participate, we will need a coordinator and \$400 for a full SmartVoter presence. Motion: J. Saugstad Second: S. Novak: The Board will budget \$400 for SmartVoter if we can find a League member to be the coordinator by August 30th.

Voter Editor and Public Relations

Ellen Meyer thanked Board members for turning in articles promptly after the July board meeting.

She contacted Comcast about using League PSAs and is waiting for a reply

She is going to start sending news releases to the smaller newspapers around the county.

Results of the survey about how members wanted to receive the Voter newsletter were overwhelmingly in favor of receiving a paper copy. The Board agreed that we will try to find a way to accommodate those who only want to receive it by e-mail. Ellen will confer with Stella Beratlis about this. (88 members completed the survey)

Local Action

Ellen reported that she completed her assignment from the previous Board meeting of reading League positions and the SOS initiative and seeing if we had a position we could use to take a position on the initiative. She concluded that it could fall under several different positions. This information will be presented to the Local Action Committee who have now have until 2007 to review the issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Novak, 1st Vice President for Joan Patterson, Secretary