

# GET OUT THE VOTE KICKOFF and 2016 CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

League of Women Voters - Berkeley Albany and Emeryville

All members of the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany & Emeryville are called to the Annual Meeting to enjoy a buffet supper,\* some satirical political songs by Ira Marlowe of the San Francisco Mime Troupe and a talk by Mindy S. Romero, Founder and Director of the California Civic Engagement Project at the UC Davis Center for Regional Change. Charles Austin will be honored with a Spirit of the League award for organizing the successful community campaign to rename the Tarea Hall Pittman South Branch Library. After a break, members will approve a budget, adopt a program of education and action, make bylaws changes and elect three officers and six directors.

**Thursday, May 19, 2016**

**5:15 to 8:45 pm**

**Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley**

**5:15 pm** Doors Open - Register and greet old and new friends

**5:30 pm** Buffet Dinner – Option at \$17 for members and \$20 for others\* (see below)

## Get Out the Vote Campaign Kickoff

**6:30 pm** Ira Marlowe with Susie Davis, Accompanist, will perform satirical political songs

**Speaker: Mindy S. Romero**, “Improve Get Out the Vote with Demographic Data and Recent Research”

**7:45 pm** Citizen Activist Charles Austin, with his Convening Committee, will be honored with the *Spirit of the League Award*

*(Break to Give Non-Members a Chance to Leave)*

## 2016 Annual Meeting

**8:00 pm** Call to Order - Nancy Bickel, President

- Introduce Parliamentarian Bill Chapman & Secretary Christine Wenrich
- Determine Quorum & Adopt Order of Business
- Accept 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes [posted on web & available at door]
- Appoint Committee to Review 2016 Minutes

### **Discuss and Adopt:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • Program & Local Policy Positions              | Diz Swift, Action Coordinator              |
| • Proposed Membership Fee Structure             | Bill Chapman, for Budget Committee         |
| • Adopt 2016-2017 Budget Report                 | Bill Chapman, for Budget Committee         |
| • Bylaws Changes                                | Phyllis Gale, Voter Services Coordinator   |
| <b>Brief Board Report</b>                       | Deborah Malbec, Communications Coordinator |
| <b>Thanks to Outgoing Board</b>                 | Nancy Bickel, President                    |
| <b>Election &amp; Introduce 2016-2017 Board</b> | New Board on Stage                         |

**Members Give Advice to New Board**

**8:45 pm** Adjournment

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\* The charge for dinner is \$17 for members; \$20 for non-members. The last day to make a reservation is Mon, May 16, 5 pm. Please pay by credit card thru PayPal using form on our website home page. It's at bottom of the story about the annual meeting. You may also send an email to luncheon@lwwbae.org or leave a message on the office phone, 510-843-8824, and pay at the door. You may bring your own food. Please let us know if you would like a ride; we will be happy to arrange one for you.

## Experimental Change in Membership Fee Structure—Optional-- First Year Free

Following Article VII, Section 2 of the Bylaws “Annual Dues shall be set by the Board and approved at the Annual Meeting,” we present for your approval the following proposal, adopted by the Board at the March 24, 2016 Board Meeting.

**Motion: The membership approves for the 2016-17 League fiscal year, the following experimental fee structure, including the new affiliate category of membership for those under the age of 18:**

<u>Type of Member</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Change</u>
Regular Member	\$75	no change
Additional Household Member	\$40	no change
Student Member	\$20	reduction from \$40
First Year Membership Free Option {Includes students & others}	0	new category
Affiliate, non-voting, members under 18	0	new category

The Board’s highest priority for this year – decided at last summer’s planning meeting—is to increase the diversity and size of the membership. For that reason, we sought a consultant to help us expand and diversify our membership. Adena Ishii, our Membership Growth Consultant, began her work in January 2016 and will continue through 2016. The Board approved the new membership fee structure at the suggestion of Ms. Ishii—and the Membership Board Committee. Ms. Ishii and the Committee pointed out that with the current membership rates we have seen no increases in the size of our membership. Yet we have continued to keep our rather high membership fees. Ms. Ishii observes that even a small membership fee is a barrier to students, young people and people of modest income.

## Adoption of the Proposed 2016 - 2017 LWVBAE Budget

The Proposed Budget for 2016-17 has been revised to accommodate additional costs for the 2016 Presidential Election of November 8th. After considerable discussion and consideration, the Board decided not to increase the Budget at this time to accommodate the change in the Membership Fee for several reasons:

1. We do not know what the impact will be. If we do not add free members the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year, then budget need not change.
2. If we do add free members, we will not have to pay Per Member Payments [PMPs] for them to Bay Area, State and National Leagues until after February 1, 2017, since LWVUS only adjusts the official membership of each League once a year at the end of January.
3. If, in February 2017, we find we do need to adjust the budget for the remainder of 2016-17, the Budget Committee and Board will do so. The Budget Committee and the Board will also be able to decide—and recommend to the membership at the 2017 Annual Meeting—whether to continue with the free first year fee, make other fee changes, and propose a budget for 2017-18 that reflects all necessary changes.

**Motion: The membership approves the Proposed 2016-17 LWVBAE Budget.**

## Proposed 2016-17 LWVBAE Budget

### Income – General

Miscellaneous	\$100.00
Dues	\$16,100.00
Contributions	\$10,000.00
Program meetings	\$1,200.00
Contract Services	\$750.00
Transfer from other assets	\$52,660.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$80,810.00</b>

### Expenses – General

Miscellaneous & PayPal fees	\$150.00
Per Member Payments to LWVUS	\$6,896.00
Per Member Payments to LWVCA	\$6,034.00
Per Member Payments LWV Bay Area	\$216.00
Action with the League	\$6,000.00
Program - Meetings	\$1,100.00
Election Services	\$6,500.00
Member services & Publications	\$4,000.00
Convention Subsidies & Workshops	\$4,000.00
Voter Edge Contribution	\$600.00
<b>Total Expenses – General</b>	<b>\$35,496.00</b>

### Administration

Rent	\$13,714.00
Professional Fees & Consultants	\$5,000.00
Insurance	\$750.00
Supplies, Copies, etc.	\$2,000.00
Computer Software & Computer Supplies	\$2,000.00
Postage	\$1,000.00
Telecommunications	\$800.00
Government Fees & Taxes	\$250.00
Equipment Purchases & Maintenance	\$750.00
Miscellaneous Board Expenses	\$200.00
<b>Total Expenses -Administration</b>	<b>\$26,464.00</b>

### Miscellaneous Expenses—Membership & Development

Development & Community Outreach	\$300.00
Public Relations	\$750.00
Open House Expenses	\$300.00
Membership Recruitment including consultant	\$17,500.00
<b>Total Expenses – Membership &amp; Development</b>	<b>\$18,850.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$80,810.00</b>

## 2016-2017 PROGRAM

### The Board recommends:

- (1) **Retain all current positions** including those adopted with the ACCLWV, the Alameda County Council of Leagues of Women Voters (listed at end of local positions).
- (2) **Begin no new local study.**
- (3) **Emphasize the following for education and action:**
  - Climate Change
  - “Making Democracy Work” [Note: aligns with the proposed LWVUS program and includes, for example, voter rights and voter protection, money in politics, fair elections, and civic education]

**Motion: The membership approves the 2016-2017 Program recommended by the Board.**

## SUMMARY OF LOCAL SUPPORT POSITIONS

(See full "Local Support Positions" for details. They are available on line at <http://www.lwvbae.org/about-the-league/local-policy-positions/> )

**Local Government Structure:** Policies that promote effective, efficient, economical and visible local government, representative of and responsive to all citizens.

- A. City Charter and Elections
- B. Council-Manager Form of Government
- C. Open Meetings
- D. Board, Commissions, and Committees--Standing and Ad Hoc

**City Finances:** Policies that support a tax structure that is flexible, broad-based, equitable, economical, easy to administer, and capable of producing adequate revenue.

- A. City budget
- B. Revenue and taxation

**Planning:** Planning policies aimed at achieving and maintaining a healthy, safe and livable physical environment for a diverse population. There should be a balance of residential, commercial, industrial and institutional uses, a variety of densities and housing types, and programs to enlarge the economic base.

- A. Economic development
- B. Transportation
- C. Zoning
- D. Housing
- E. Rent control (Berkeley only)
- F. Infrastructure

**Local Government Services:** Basic city services and amenities for all residents based on an overall evaluation of needs and available resources.

- A. Recreation
- B. Library
- C. Health and Mental Health
- D. Services and resources for children and youth

**Education:** A system of public education which meets the needs of all children, efficiently organized and administered, and supported by adequate funds for operation and facilities.

- A. Elementary through High School
- B. Community College

**Social Policy:** Promotion of social justice by securing equal rights for all and providing services to meet special needs.

- A. Equal rights
- B. Senior citizens
- C. Juvenile justice

**Civics Education:** LWVBAE supports civics instruction as a priority in the K-12 public schools and school efforts to prepare all students to be informed, active citizens. Basic civic knowledge and skills should be taught at least by the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

## SUPPORT POSITIONS OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

These positions have been voted on at the Annual Meeting of each of the Leagues of Alameda County. Changing or dropping one of these positions must be approved by each of the Alameda County Leagues.

- Juvenile justice
- Children's mental health services
- Alameda Co. Board of Education & Alameda Co. Office of Education

## **BYLAWS CHANGES**

### **1. The Board recommends that the members vote to adopt a new Bylaws provision "Adopting Positions of Other Leagues by Concurrence."**

At the Board Meeting on February 25, 2016, Action Co-Chair Jill Martinucci proposed that we add a new Bylaws provision permitting us to adopt program policy positions by "concurrence," that is, by adopting a policy position already studied and adopted by another League. State and national League already permit adopting positions by concurrence at their Conventions.

The following amendment was approved by the Board at its Feb 25, 2016 meeting for proposal at the May 19, 2016 Annual meeting. It was amended at its March meeting by omitting the phrase "or recommendations."

#### **Proposed Bylaws Amendment**

Article X Program. Section 7. Adopting Positions of other Leagues by Concurrence.

The LWVBAE membership, by majority vote, may adopt positions from other Leagues by concurrence, if the membership has been provided access to the background materials, including pros and cons and related study and consensus materials, no later than ten days before a noticed meeting of the membership. Any proposal for concurrence will be by recommendation from the Board and will include a brief analysis and rationale.

**Motion: The membership approves the Bylaw change for "Adopting Positions of Other Leagues by Concurrence."**

2. The Board recommends that the members vote to adopt a new Bylaws provision that implements the California and federal laws and regulations regarding the Conflict of Interest of Board Directors. The Board approved the proposed language below for adoption by the membership.

**(LWVBAE Bylaws section TBD) Conflict of Interest.** The purpose of the conflict of interest policy is to protect the LWVBAE's interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of one of its officers or directors, or that might otherwise result in a possible excess benefit transaction. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace any applicable California and federal laws governing conflict of interest applicable to nonprofit and charitable corporations and is not intended as an exclusive statement of responsibilities.

**Motion: The membership approves the adoption of the new Bylaws provision for "Conflict of Interest".**

## **RECOMMENDATION OF THE 2015-16 NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2016-2017 BOARD POSITIONS**

President:	<b>Deborah Malbec</b>	Directors: <b>Regina Beatus, Phyllis Gale,</b>
Secretary:	<b>Christine Wenrich</b>	<b>Jinky Gardner, Preston Jordan,</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Emily Beckhusen</b>	<b>Margo Schueler, Linda Swift</b>

See Candidate Statements on our web - [lwvbae.org/board-candidate-statements-2016-17/](http://lwvbae.org/board-candidate-statements-2016-17/)  
Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Regina Beatus, chair, Phyllis Gale, Deborah Malbec

## **FOR 2016-17 Nominating Committee**

Chair: Nancy Bickel Members: Cynthia Chen

League of Women Voters of Berkeley  
2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite F  
Berkeley, CA 94702-2000

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**GET OUT THE VOTE KICKOFF**  
**2016 CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING**  
**---INFORMATION---**

<b>CRUCIAL 2016 Primary Election Dates</b>	
<b>Early voting</b>	<b>May 9, 2016</b>
<b>Voter Information Guide in mail</b>	<b>April, 28, 2016</b>
<b>Last day to register or update registration</b>	<b>May 23, 2016</b>
<b>Last day to request Vote by Mail Ballot</b>	<b>May 31, 2016</b>
<b>PRIMARY ELECTION DAY</b>	<b>JUNE 7, 2016</b>

**Please Bring these Pages with You to the Meeting**