



Annual Meeting Workbook

June 17, 2021

A Virtual Event

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June 17, 2021

Dear Members and Supporters of LWVBAE,

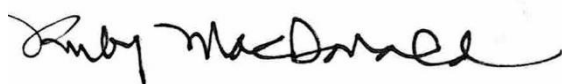
Many thanks to all who participated in strengthening our League by supporting and acting on its long cherished ideals in many different ways in the last two years! Given the toxic atmosphere projected from Washington, D. C., until January 20, 2021, before which the fortitude of all Leagues was tested to a previously unimaginable degree, I cannot overemphasize the sincerity of my gratitude for everyone's efforts in "Making Democracy Work!", a deeply meaningful credo to you who have been and continue to be motivated by it.

As customary in the last Annual Meeting letter of a LWVBAE President, I would like to acknowledge standouts of the last two years, in addition to Board members whose reports are in this Kit: Environmental Concerns presentations organized by **Carol Stone** and **Jeanette Zerneke**; customary but particularly effective Candidate Forums organized by **Cynthia Chen**, Pros and Cons meetings organized by **Regina Beatus**, overall supervision of Voter Services by **Adena Ishii** for the November 3 Election and CivilTalks organized by **Marybeth Falzareno**. Kudos also to Office Volunteers **Suzanne Chun**, **Sherry Smith** and **Christine Wenrich**, as well as "Thank you" Secretary **Elizabeth Russell**. Special mention should highlight two relatively new, but solid programs: High School and College Internships and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Team, both expertly guided by Deputy Director **Kandea Mosley**. The bright, energetic and engaged interns themselves have inspired everyone working with them with their eagerness to learn and willingness to contribute.

It has been a particular pleasure for me to re-start the speaker series now known as "**Face the Future**"! This and other types of forum have given us the privilege of hearing Berkeley Auditor Jenny Wong, BUSD Superintendent Brent Stephens, AUSD Superintendent Frank Wells, Educators Felicia Phillips and Jesse Sclafani, BUSD Board members Beatrice Leyva-Cutler, Laura Babbitt, Ana Vasudeo and Ty Alper, Albany Mayor Nick Pilch, AUSD Board member Veronica Davidson, Berkeley Rent Board Commissioner Paola Laverde, Berkeley Neighborhoods Council leader Janis Ching, UC Berkeley Urban Planning Professor Karen Chapple, Berkeley Councilmember Rigel Robinson, Berkeley Police Department Sgt. Veronica Rodriguez, South Berkeley Community Leader Willie Phillips, CalMatters journalist Judy Lin and Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley. Hearing from these civic leaders has been immeasurably enriching!

I would like to close with high hopes for a renewed spirit of togetherness and cooperation within the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville in order to heal the unacknowledged rifts which have threatened LWVBAE at times. Past episodes of contested leadership, harboring ill will for real or imagined slights and unresolved disagreements over priorities and how to achieve them erode our capacity to achieve and accomplish on behalf of the community we serve. There are bound to be differences of opinion and preference in a 170+ member organization, even when its intention is to speak with one voice. Furthermore, living in our consumer-focused society encourages divisive instincts and weakens the ability to compromise and work together. Having just survived a time when spreading of blatant falsehoods became the norm owing in part to the downsides of mass and social media, we all tend to question more quickly and trust less readily. People are skeptical of the urban legend or fake news, although false narratives are not as easily resisted. Turning the page, let us aspire to do our best to be our best for our colleagues and our community now and in the future!

With warmest regards and appreciation for enabling me to serve you,



Ruby MacDonald, LWVBAE President



Annual Meeting
Thursday, June 17, 2021
5:30 pm to 8:00 pm

AGENDA

5:30 "Doors" open – socialize

5:45 Panel discussion – **Addressing Housing Inequality During COVID-19**

- **Eric Baldassari**, journalist, KQED – staff writer covering housing
- **Carol Galante**, I. Donald Turner Professor of Affordable Housing and Urban Policy; Faculty Director, Turner Center for Housing Innovation; Professor of City & Regional Planning, UC Berkeley (former Assistant Secretary, HUD)
- **Xavier Johnson**, staff attorney, Centro Legal de Raza and member of the Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board
- **Shajuti Hossain**, staff attorney, Public Advocates

7:00 Intermission

7:15 **Annual Meeting**

Call to Order Ruby MacDonald, President

- Introduction of Parliamentarian and Secretary
- Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Order of Business
- Accept 2020 Annual meeting minutes
- Appoint committee to review 2021 minutes

Budget Report and Adoption Tom Coulter, Budget Chair

Adopt Program and Local Support Positions Jinky Gardner, Action Director

President's Summary Report of the Year Ruby MacDonald, President

Introduction of Outgoing Board Ruby MacDonald, President

Introduction of Nominated Slate Nick Pilch, Nominating Chair

Election of 2021-2022 Board

Directions to New Board from Members

8:00 Adjournment

Proposed 2021-2022 Budget

	2020-2021 Budget	2021-2022 Proposed Budget
Income - General		
Dues	9,835	9,870
Contributions	5,000	5,000
Program Meetings	1,200	
Contract Services	100	
Transfer from Other Assets	59,961	60,196
TOTAL INCOME	76,096	75,066
Expenses - General		
Per Member Payment - US	4,176	4,192
Per Member Payment - CA	3,654	3,668
Per Member Payment - BA	392	393
Action with the League	2,000	2,400
Program Meetings	2,000	2,000
Election Services	5,000	2,000
Member services & Publications	2,000	2,000
Convention Subsidies	7,500	5,250
Contribution	800	1,400
Miscellaneous and PayPal Fees	500	500
Subtotal - General Expenses	28,022	23,803
Expenses - Administration		
Rent	15,444	15,907
Professional Fees, IRS 990	5,000	2,000
Web Manager Contract	6,250	10,000
Consultants Contracts	10,000	10,000
Insurance	1,500	1,500
Office supplies	1,500	1,500
Computer Software & Supplies	1,000	1,000
Postage	500	500
Telecommunications	1,680	2,256
Government Fees & Taxes	250	250
Miscellaneous Board Expenses	500	500
Subtotal - Admin Expenses	43,624	45,413
Expenses - Development & Other		
Development & Community Outreach	1,000	1,000
Intern Honorariums & Expense	2,100	3,500
Open House Expenses	350	350
Marketing	1,000	1,000
Subtotal - Other Expenses	4,450	5,850
TOTAL EXPENSES	76,096	75,066

RECOMMENDED PROGRAM FOR 2021-2022

The Board recommends:

1. Retain all current positions (see Summary of Local Support Positions)
2. Emphasize the following for education and action:
 - Climate Change, especially electrification, and fire hazard
 - Criminal Justice, including the Social and Economic Justice Commission in Albany, and in Berkeley, following the new Police Accountability Board
 - Health Care Reform, specifically single-payer

RECOMMENDATION OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2021-2022 BOARD POSITIONS

OFFICERS

President: Kandea Mosley
Secretary: Elise Mills
Treasurer: Cynthia Chen

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 6 REQUIRED BY THE BYLAWS

Eric Arens
Linda Carothers
Jinky Gardner
Adena Ishii
Gregory Magofña
Christine Wenrich

Nominating Committee

Nick Pilch
Pam White
Sherry Smith

Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Nick Pilch, chair,
Adena Ishii, Patricia Kates, Sherry Smith

SUMMARY OF LOCAL SUPPORT POSITIONS

(See complete "Local Support Positions" for details. It is available at the League office to members upon request, or at <https://www.lwvbae.org/about-the-league-2017/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 – The City Charter should be clear, concise, useful and flexible, containing only basic guidelines. All unnecessary detail should be eliminated.
- B. Council-Manager Form of Government – The city should continue its Council-Manager / City Administrator form of government, with policy the responsibility of elected officials and administration the responsibility of the City Manager / City Administrator, whose staff should be appointed under the merit system.
- C. Open Meetings – Governmental agencies should use all possible means to publicize their deliberations and decisions. The principle of open meeting should be strictly observed.
- D. Board, Commissions, and Committees--Standing and Ad Hoc – To ensure citizen awareness and effective work by Boards, Commissions and Committees

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 – The city should have a budget process and formats which are accessible and understandable to Council and citizens, and which facilitated the Council's responsibility for making policy.
- B. Revenue and taxation – The city should seek new revenue sources to expand its tax base and should encourage inter-governmental coordination. Revenue generating methods should be: flexible, broad-based, equitable, economical, easy to administer and capable of producing adequate revenue.

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 – The city should have an up-to-date Economic Development Plan.
- B. Transportation – The city should try to reduce dependence on the private automobile; avoid more traffic congestion, noise and air pollution; and alleviate the city's parking problem.
- C. Zoning – Zoning regulations should be updated by periodic revision of permitted uses.
- D. Housing – The city should preserve and improve the condition of its existing housing stock, to meet its share of the region's growth projections, to coordinate with the

University of California to meet the housing needs of students and staff, and provide opportunities to preserve and increase housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households.

- E. Rent control (Berkeley only) – Rent control should be effective, efficient, economical, visible, and fair.
- F. Infrastructure – The city should have and implement a long-term program, adequately funded, for improving and maintaining the city's sewers, storm drains, streets, sidewalks, public buildings and structures, parks and other existing capital facilities. Such a program should be designed and financed to facilitate achievement of short-, and well as long-, term program goals.

Local Government Services:

Basic city services and amenities for all residents based on an overall evaluation of needs and available resources.

- A. Recreation – Berkeley should have a City-School District recreation program.
- B. Library – The city should have a public library service responsive to community needs.
- C. Health and Mental Health – Berkeley should continue to operate its own health department to provide emergency medical services, programs for substance abuse, and comprehensive mental health services and care for seriously disturbed children.
- D. Services and resources for children and youth – The City of Berkeley should have policies which give leadership and direction for services to children and youth, with an emphasis on basic and preventive services for all Berkeley children.

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 – The City should have policies to assure equal rights and opportunities for everyone.
- B. Senior citizens – A choice of services should be available to improve the physical, emotional and financial condition of the elderly and encourage their optimal participation in the community.
- C. Juvenile justice – The city should have policies, counseling services, and youth diversion projects to best meet the needs of youth.

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 8th grade.

2021-2022 Board of Directors Nominees

President – Kande Mosley

Kande comes to the Board with a strong background in social enterprise management in the solar and workforce development industries. Kande has over 10 years of nonprofit and program management experience and has a passion for sustainable community development. She received her MBA from the Johnson School of Management at Cornell University, her BA in African American Studies from UCLA, and has received professional and academic awards for outstanding service and achievement. Kande strongly believes in the League's mission to create a more just, equitable society by actively promoting and building democratic participation.



Secretary – Elise Mills



Elise has spent her entire life working in public higher education. Upon completing her B.S. in Business Administration at Indiana University of Pennsylvania she worked as an Accountant at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and Pan American University. She then moved back to California which she always loved. For more than 25 years at UC Berkeley, she has partnered with faculty investigators while also training and leading other administrators in pre and post research administration. After she joined LWVBAE in early fall 2016 she became active in support of candidate forums and in support of amending Prop 13. She is also very interested in inequality

issues of all kinds- from voting and representation to climate change and protection of our natural resources and health.

Treasurer – Cynthia Chen

Cynthia Chen had been a member of LWV Edina (Minnesota) for over 15 years before moving to Berkeley in 2013. She was an active member of LWVE, serving on the board in various capacities for many years. Cynthia joined LWVBAE shortly after arriving in Berkeley, and has been active on the Communications and Voter Services teams, publicizing LWVBAE events, and assisting in all candidate forums every election cycle. Cynthia became Treasurer of LWVBAE after serving 2 years as chair of LWV Alameda County Council.



Directors

Adena Ishii



Adena Ishii has been involved with the League since 2010. In 2014, she was honored with the Spirit of the League Award for her work connecting students with opportunities for civic engagement. Adena also served as the youngest and first woman of color to be President of our League from 2017-2019. During her time as President, she pushed for more paid staff to support our work; pioneered our new internship program; and worked to create a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable organization. She currently serves as a liaison to the LWV California State Equity Task Force.

Eric Arens

Eric Arens joined the LWVBAE in early 2019 to help on climate action. Electrification of buildings has been the main focus because of the activity around the City of Berkeley natural gas hook-up ban. Eric has explained and promoted the use of electricity at fairs and educational events. He is a physicist and worked at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland and at the University of California at Berkeley. When the Sierra Club was expanding into a national organization in the 1970s, he became the chairperson of the Chesapeake Bay Group, where pollution from farms and cities is the paramount problem.



Linda Carothers



Linda Carothers has worked with and for the League for over 15 years. She graduated from the School of Fine Arts at what is now Carnegie Mellon University. Worked in New York City in the Book industry designing books and jackets. Studied television and animation while living in London. Did further studies of animation and graphics at DeAnza College in Cupertino and the College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland. Studied Web Design with the Contra Costa County Regional Occupational Program.

Jinky Gardner

Jinky Gardner joined LWVBAE in 2002 and quickly became very active. She co-led a local study on civics education in our public schools, and shepherded the study through consensus meetings to a good policy statement we can act on. She also served in various capacities on the Board including a two year stint as President. After a few years of having to put the League on the back burner, she is back on the Board as Director of Action, and working to grow our membership and make it more diversified and younger.



Greg Magofña



A Hawaii and Bay Area native, Greg is a long-time Central Berkeley resident who cares about his neighbors and his community. He currently serves as Director of Development and Outreach for the California Renters Legal Advocacy and Education Fund, making sure cities build the amount of housing they are currently zoned for and that cities follow state laws to build housing in a balanced way that prevents displacement, gentrification, sprawl, and the loss of green space. Previously, he was the Digital Marketing and Communications Manager at Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency, an organization that works with and for homeless, formerly incarcerated, and/or low-income populations. In addition, he is one of the co-founders and Co-Executives of the social equity nonprofit East Bay for Everyone, once served as Senior Aide to former Berkeley Mayor Tom Bates, has served as both a Berkeley Housing Commissioner and Environmental Commissioner, and has a former life as a teacher in South Korea. Greg has a Master of Urban Planning from the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy and a BA in Political Science from UC Berkeley

Christine Wenrich

Christine Wenrich has been a member of the local LWV for many years. She has a BS & MA in Special Education and worked with the SFUSD schools. After retiring, she took on the role of LWVBAE Secretary, followed by that of Archivist. As Archivist, organizing the work of BAE from as far back as the 80's was awesome. She joined the newly formed Criminal Justice Team that grew from concerns expressed at the 2017 LWVC Convention. As Leader of the Criminal Justice Team, her plans are to continue monitoring policing in the three cities in light of the new legislation, and the newly formed Berkeley Police Review Commission.



2020 – 2021 BOARD & TEAM REPORTS

President's Summary Report

Ruby MacDonald

Four highlights not covered in this Annual Meeting Kit”

Advancing our technological expertise with ZOOM once again demonstrated that even disasters like COVID-19 can provide opportunities! The jury is still out but a “hybrid model” of mixed virtual and in-person get-togethers is likely as we move forward. Anticipating the need for office space, LWVBAE has extended its lease on Suite F, 2530 San Pablo and office volunteers have been “keeping an eye” on our office during the pandemic, checking mail and phone messages.

The LWVBAE Board endorsed and campaigned for local ballot measures: in the Primary Election Mar. 2020 Berkeley Unified School District Measures E (Educator Recruitment and Retention), G (Facilities Bond) and H (Facilities Safety and Maintenance) were passed. In the General Election Nov. 2020 Measure BB Ranked Choice Voting passed in Albany, but HH Utility Users Tax in Berkeley did not pass. Statewide Prop. 15 Schools and Communities First! was defeated by only 3.4%, unfortunately!

The small but significant growth in LWVBAE membership in 2021 was very heartening! This increase was particularly significant as our League was one of only 11 out of 60 local California Leagues which grew in 2021.

Leaguers-in-training, a second group of High School Interns advised by Deputy Director Kande Mosley successfully completed their Learning-About-the-League programs of observing local government and LWVBAE meetings, engaging in League Actions and contributing articles for posting on the lwvbae.org website. We wish them great success as they move on to college and we are already preparing for the next group of interns!

Action Team

Jinky Gardner

This 2020-2021 League year got started quickly. In August the ballot closed and besides all the candidates (see Election Services report) we had 8 Berkeley measures on the ballot and 4 Albany ones. LWVBAE does 2 things with the local measures. First, we put together a team to write up the Pros & Cons. This is useful information for voters. It briefly describes the current situation, what changes the measure would make, arguments for and against, and who the supporters and opponents are. Thanks again to Ruby MacDonald, Bea Deering, Annette McCoubrey, and Margo Schuler for doing the research and writing Pros & Cons.

The second thing we do is write “Vote with the League” statements. That required looking closely at the measures and evaluating them to see if they match our positions. Again we had a hard working team, Adena Ishii, Ruby MacDonald, Mattias Hoz (one of our interns), Christine Wenrich, Carol Stone and myself. In early September we called a member meeting and presented the measures. After much discussion we came to consensus: yes on some, no on others, and no position on a few. Our “Vote with the League” advice went out. Many voters trust the League to give them well thought out advice. Our Criminal Justice Team is now following how Berkeley’s Measure II, which passed, is being implemented.

Last Action highlight this year was putting on a Town Hall for our District 15 state Assembly Member, Buffy Wicks. It happened on May 5th and we are delighted to report there were 81 in attendance, Zoom, of course. We partnered with our fellow Leagues in District 15. That included West Contra Costa County, Piedmont and Oakland. Our Zoom guru, Cynthia Chen and LWV Piedmont President, Lorrel Plimier teamed up to livestream the Zoom meeting to YouTube so that we could have a copy to watch later. Mony Flores-Bauer from the Oakland League moderated. It was very good to see Assembly Member Buffy Wicks up close discussing Sacramento legislation.

Civil Talk Team

Marybeth Falzareno

Inability to meet quarterly to offer in-person meetups about vital topics, frustrated CivilTalk Team through much of 2020. Now we hold discussions online, to meet one goal: since January 2017, we enable folks to authentically connect with others on hard topics. Together with those with whom they might not usually agree, they fight rising levels of polarization that lead to breakdowns in our ability to collaborate. Moving to online meetups was not easy transitioning; some of our best moderators and participants are still uncomfortable with smart phones and texting. And some needed more training to moderate delicate issues and juggle tech without support.

But this pandemic made us long for connection. Authentic face to face discussions felt crucial. We wanted to explore those things dividing us from friends and family: interpretations of citizens' phone and police camera videos during unforgettable racial murders, worldwide protests, the election and things leading up to January 6th. The worst was the way things were unfolding so unevenly. We all were seeking to understand ways that surges of isolation, death and illness, food and/or housing insecurity, mass unemployment, surreal shut downs from pandemic and firestorms, and massive misinformation were affecting us and our cultures. Every issue rapidly became politicized, even vaccines. So we hung in there with CivilTalk, to find and practice ways to keep communication channels open.

Our moderators have been practicing and training in online presentations in some of the now over 100 topical subjects, created by experts at www.LivingRoomConversations.org. Since mid-February, members of CivilTalk regularly host groups of usually 6-7 people. We can set up your own gathering, to invite known or unknown applicants that will join in privately or nationally, from a group of two to as many as one team can manage in break out spaces. The structure and support is vital. It keeps the most multi-perspective Zoom from turning into a virtual Zoo.

Climate Change Team

Eric Arens

The LWVBAE Climate Team has been involved in the electrification of buildings and vehicles and in actions to reduce danger from fire starting in Tilden Park and coming over the hill. Replacing gas in buildings and gasoline in vehicles with electricity cuts the amount of carbon dioxide produced and the amount of methane leaking from the pipes between the gas well and the place where it is burned. Since 2019, when the Berkeley City Council voted to ban natural gas in new buildings, the city has put on fairs and seminars to educate the public and contractors on heat pumps, electric stoves, and the electric wiring needed in houses for the new loads. Candace Hyde-Wang and Eric Arens have participated in these events.

The hotter and drier climate in California is producing more and larger fires in forests and in the wildlife-urban-interface. The East Bay hills are in danger of fires like the Tunnel Fire in Oakland in 1991. The LWVC and the LWVUS each has a team devoted to wildfire. With Candace and Eric and Diz Swift on these teams and with the ideas generated there, we have met with Berkeley City Council member Susan Wengraf to discuss fire readiness plans.

The LWVBAE Climate Team gave a Zoom presentation to the LWVBA at its Council meeting. The presentation was germane because many of the cities around the Bay and Delta have passed gas bans and most cities have hills and forests behind the cities. Diz, Candace, and Eric gave the presentation.

Communications Team

Linda Carothers

The Communications Team produces Website content, publishes the weekly eBlast, sets up Eventbrite, press communications, and social media.

This has been the League year of the 2020 elections. We have never had a wider or more successful spread of visual and printed communications involved with elections. The greater contributors being Adena Ishii, heading the Voter Services Team, and Kande Mosley. All our interns have worked very hard providing stories and reports. Interns Mattias Hoz and Lucy Montgomery have been especially helpful contributing to productive team meetings. Ruby MacDonald has been one of many who have contributed articles for the website.

We would really appreciate feedback from League Leaders and League Membership concerning our biggest effort, the weekly eBlast. Do you open it? How much of it do you read? How useful is it to you?

Criminal Justice Team

Christine Wenrich

With the strong demand for police accountability, the Criminal Justice Team began focusing closely on the Berkeley Police Review Commission's PRC work on Use of Force Policy and their transition to the Police Accountability Board PAB. The PAB was voted in by Measure II in the last election. The work has magnified with both Berkeley and Albany forming a Reimagining Public Safety Task Force. Kande Mosley with Sophia Kerievsky, Intern; Christine Wenrich, Team Leader; Jordan Place, and Pam White, have been observing the City meetings or studying the issues to report and educate the team. Jinky Gardner, Linda Carothers, and other informed people attend this conversation. We have recently added Emeryville's Public Safety Commission, and we are starting to understand the Alameda County Sheriff's role.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Team

Kande Mosley

The DEI Team has finished its draft roadmap/toolkit for League leaders to have as a resource to ensure we are as inclusive as possible to all members of the community when we develop and execute our plans and activities. The roadmap will be introduced to leaders in July to garner their feedback, input, and any recommendations so we can ensure it is a useful guide that informs how we think about inclusivity, both as members and as an organization.

The team has also embarked on an inter-League project with Leagues from across the country to support the formation of a United States Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation. The concurrent resolution to form the commission was introduced by Congresswoman Barbara Lee and Senator Cory Booker. LWV has now endorsed the formation of the commission, and we are developing the path forward that will include educating interested members about the larger vision and purpose that led to the resolution.

Environmental Concerns

Carole Stone
Jeannette Zerneke

For over 40 years there has been an Environmental Concerns group in the LWVBAE. We meet the second Monday of most months, September through May with an outstanding array of speakers presenting to members and the general public.

This was the first time we met by zoom.

September brought a discussion about the oil and gas industry vs. healthy communities with a journalist and activist regarding setbacks to new drilling of oil wells in the southern Central Valley town of Arvin.

In October we featured local ballot measures regarding environmental issues by city council member Kate Harrison as well as showing a 17-minute film created by 4 elder women loosely from the "1000 grandmothers for future generations" about the Green New Deal including equity issues.

November had Mike Lyons policy director of the Audubon Society telling us Audubon's view: Governor Newsom's Executive Order 3030 Protecting California's Lands and Waters and the Impact of Wildfires on Birds".

In February Professor Richard Frank gave us a very comprehensive report on California Water Policy in this era of drought. It touch upon climate variability of California as well as prominent agriculture, huge population, Climate change and the Sierra Nevada snowpack. "Every year California has a worse drought than the eastern half of the U.S. has ever experienced".

March saw a presentation by Gail Schickele and the Marshstream on "Exploring Trends at the Intersection of Climate Change and the Performing Arts" that featured excerpts from "Man Cave" as well as "Science Fair: An Opera Love Song to Science" by Tai-ting China and Erika Switzer.

In April we had a presentation by Alec MacDonald, editor of the LWVBA's Monitor on "Information into Action: A discussion about news media, environmental protection and the Bay Area Monitor". The Monitor has been published by the LWVBA since 1974 focusing on environmental issues in the nine-county Bay Area.

May featured a talk about the Controversy over Richmond's Point Molate by Robert Cheasty former president and founding member of Citizens for East Shore Parks. (CESP) that yielded McLaughlin Eastshore State Park.

Please check out our You-tube videos: [Environmental Concerns Speaker Series - YouTube](#)

Health Care Team

Henry L. Abrons, MD, MPH
Becky Stephens

LWVBAE's Health Care Team was reactivated in January 2021 and health care was approved as an emphasis issue in the 2021-2022 program plan.

Our focus is on education and advocacy to realize the objectives adopted in the LWVUS *Position on Health Care*.

The Team joined with five other Leagues to organize a caucus entitled "Health Care: Inequities and Opportunities" at the LWVC convention on June 7 at noon.

Team meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday at 7 PM. All League members are welcome and eight have been participating regularly. For information, please see our webpage at www.lwvbae.org/health-care-team.

Social Media Marketing

Kandea Mosley

The LWVBAE's active social media accounts include Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. The team, which includes interns, primarily promotes LWVBAE activities, and those city-sponsored meetings that offer an opportunity for members to engage in the hard work of developing sound public policies. LWVBAE, LWVC, and LWV news and messaging are posted approximately five days each week. We regularly receive engagements from other Leagues and acquire new followers on Twitter. We will now begin investing more time in building our Instagram presence, which we primarily used as a tool to educate the public during the last election.

Voter Services Team

Adena Ishii

As with most of our teams, the COVID-19 pandemic presented some challenges to the Voter Services team in the 2020 election. Despite these challenges, we were able to adjust to an election season of virtual meetings and online events. Here is a list of what we accomplished in the 2020 election with over 30 engaged volunteers:

- Online Events and Videos: [Click here](#) to watch
 - 5 regional candidate forums
 - 10 local Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville candidate forums
 - 3 different educational videos (in collaboration with 4 Berkeley City College students and alumni):
 - Registering to vote and checking your registration
 - Voter's Edge
 - Voting during COVID-19 in Alameda County
- 12 Pro and Con Forums (1 in Spanish!)
- A Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Bike Caravan from Albany to Emeryville

- Voter information distribution at schools, libraries, food banks, and churches
- Social Media and online posts including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, NextDoor, and our weekly Eblasts
- Postcards sent to the LatinX voters in north, west and south Berkeley to GOTV
- A Halloween text bank with UC Berkeley students
- Voter's Edge Coordination
- Flyers and materials for distribution, social media, and neighborhood postings, including lawn signs, window signs, flyers, stickers, postcards, masks, posters, and more!
Some of our materials were in Spanish, and we hope to do more in the future.

A HUGE thank you to all of our wonderful community partners; our super Voter Services intern, Rohini Chokkalingam; Regina Beatus and her pro/con presenters; Kande Mosley, Cynthia Chen, Laszlo Zim, and others for providing Zoom tech support; Rachel Mercy Simpson and her wonderful Berkeley City College students and alumni; Margo Schueler, Christine Knobel, Cho, and the team that organized our GOTV Bike Caravan; Ruby MacDonald and our interns, Pat Day and partner Los Latinos Unidos de Berkeley led by Lupe Gallegos-Diaz for their outreach to the LatinX community; Dorothy Gordon, Margo Schueler (again!) and Rebecca Dahlberg, who coordinated Voter's Edge; our wonderful Voter Services Team; and ALL of you who voted and got involved in your community! I am so incredibly grateful for all of your hard work and creativity. We accomplished so much in this past year.