

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS RIVERSIDE

Minutes of the 64th Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 2, 2018
Habenero Mexican Grill
2472 University Avenue, Riverside, CA 92507

Introductions

President Joan Donahue welcomed members and guests at 12:15 P.M. Twenty-six League members and the guest speaker were in attendance.

Call to Order and Preliminary matters

Joan Donahue appointed Chani Beeman as the Annual Meeting Parliamentarian and Judith Auth as Secretary.

The Call to the 2018 Annual Meeting provided links to our website for members to review the Rules of the Annual Meeting, the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes, and LWVR current positions. The Business Meeting Agenda, Annual Budget, the Nominating Committee's 2018-19 slate, and a statement of Action and Voter Education for September 2017-May 2018 were sent to members by e-mail and provided in hard copy for attendees.

Without objection, the Rules of the Annual meeting were accepted.

With no corrections, the Minutes of 2017 were accepted as presented.

Re-affirm Positions of LWV Riverside

Joan Donahue called for consideration of the positions of our LWV Riverside. Virginia Field moved to adopt the LWV Riverside positions for 2018-2019. The motion was seconded by Selina Bremenstuhl. Motion passed.

President's Report

The City Charter Review Committee will be convened in February 2019. The League wants to introduce an amendment addressing the City Council's authority to appoint a candidate to fill a vacancy on the Council. During the last year, the LWVR lobbied unsuccessfully for a special election to fill a City Council vacancy that would not be subject to re-election for an un-precedented two years.

LWVR also welcomes discussion on an amendment that would make City Council members full-time employees and limits on campaign donations to candidates from local lobbyists.

Budget Adoption

Joan Donahue presented the Annual Budget for 2018-19. Sheila Kay Riley moved to accept the budget. The motion was seconded by Robbie Kennedy. The motion carried.

Nominations and Election of Officers, Directors and the Nominating Committee

Virginia Field presented the Nominating Committee's report and recommended slate of Officers, Directors and nominating Committee members for the 2018-2019 league year.

Officers:

President	Joan Donahue
Vice President	Chani Beeman
Secretary	Judith Auth
Treasurer	Patricia Reynolds

Directors:

Joan Breeding-Letbetter, Membership
Selina Bremenstuhl
Virginia Field, Environmental issues
Katie Greene
Rosalie Silvergate Anderson
Jennifer Vaughn- Blakely

Nominating Committee: Joan Breeding-Letbetter, Chair, Tom Donahue and Virginia Field

There being no additional nominations, a motion was made by Sheila Kay Riley to accept the slate as presented. The motion was seconded by Betty Anderson. The motion carried and the nominees were duly elected.

Luncheon was served

Guest Speaker: Nicolette Rohr, President of the Riverside Chapter of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence

Nicolette traced the history of the Brady Campaign from the assassination attempt on President Reagan in 1981 that left Press Secretary Jim Brady paralyzed. Congress passed the Brady Bill in 1993. Now more action is needed. The committee recommends these actions to prevent further gun violence:

- Learn the facts about guns and gun violence
- Share information about guns and gun violence with your family, friends, colleagues, and social networks
- Support the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence United with the Million Mom March nationally and locally
- Tell your elected officials that you support legislation to strengthen gun laws to keep communities safe
- Vote for candidates who will strengthen gun safety laws

League members were invited to go to www.bradycampaign.org to receive e-alerts and email riversideca@bradycampaign.org to join the local mailing list.

Joan Donahue presented a check from LWVR to Nicolette for the Brady Campaign.

Adjournment

Joan Donahue thanked the members for attending. Meeting adjourned at 1:50 P.M.

Judith Auth, 2018 Annual Meeting Secretary, LWV Riverside

Action and Voter Education

September 2017 - May 2018

Ward 7 Vacancy - During September 2017, LWVR advocated for a stand-alone Special Election to fill the vacant Ward 7 City Council seat, or consolidate the Special Election with the next scheduled election. We studied Sec. 404 of our City Charter concerning vacancies, reviewed state election law, and documented past Riverside City Councils' best practices for filling a City Council vacancy. We alerted the community to our efforts, spoke twice to the City Council and forwarded all research to the City Council, City Manager and City Clerk. The Council chose to appoint a former council member for a likely two year term.

Voter Participation Act - LWVR advocated that the Voter Participation Act, which requires the City of Riverside to consolidate its municipal elections with state and national elections, be implemented at the earliest possible date. The Council chose to push full implementation of the act forward to the furthest legal date.

Treasurer/Banking/Tax Compliance - Joan Donahue and Judith Auth assumed responsibilities of the treasurer in October. We have refined our book keeping process, filed several forms with state agencies to update our tax status, and drafted a manual to assist future treasurers with the duties of LWVR treasurer.

Community Outreach/Voter Education - Joan Donahue spoke to The Group about nationwide efforts to suppress the vote, understanding our initiative and referendum process at a voter education workshop sponsored by Inland Empowered, and discussed the League's history, mission and process with the National Organization for Women of Riverside County and The Riverside Woman's Club.

Women's March January 2018 - LWVR members joined millions of marchers in protest of several policies promoted by the current Presidential administration and in support of voter participation in the 2018 mid-term elections.

Voter Education - Penny Newman, an activist for civil and environmental justice, shared her successful efforts to increase voter turnout in underserved Riverside County communities at our December 1, 2017 Holiday Party.

Voter Education - Sponsored a candidate forum for Riverside County Board of Supervisors District 2 at Jurupa Valley City Hall on May 10th. Co-sponsors were The Group, Latino Network, and the City of Jurupa Valley. We facilitated a forum for Riverside County Board of Supervisors District 5 on May 3rd at Perris City Hall. The forum was co-sponsored by the Black Chamber of Commerce and the City of Perris.

Voter Education - We distributed 500 Easy Voter Guides locally, maintained links to all League's voter education materials on our website and made our community contacts aware of our valuable voter information for the June 5th, 2018 Primary.

Legislative Interviews - LWVR members interviewed Assembly Members Medina and Cervantes - asking three questions supplied by LWVC and one local question concerning affordable housing. A summary of the interviews was posted in the May newsletter.

Schools and Communities First Act - LWVR joined Leagues across the state in distributing petitions for the California Schools and Local Community Funding Act, which aims to require commercial and industrial properties to pay their fair share of property taxes. Leagues hope to place the measure on the November 2020 ballot.

Citizen's Right to Know - LWVR is currently seeking more information, through the Public Record Act, as to why the Riverside City Manager was abruptly fired in April 2018.

Membership/Newsletter/Website - LWVR conducted a successful membership drive from October 2017 through January 2020, our *Voter* newsletter went out regularly the first of every month to 76 subscribers, and our website maintains current information about League news and activities for League members and visitors to the site.