

League of Women Voters – Placer County
General Meeting
Max's - Auburn

February 6, 2014

- Called to order at 11:40am by First Vice President Bernadette O'Keefe.
- LWVPC Water Forum was announced for February 22, 2014. Pam asks that "Johnson Springview Park" be added to the address on the flyer. Jeffrey Michaels has dropped out as a speaker at the forum.
- LWVPC is now on the Colfax electronic bulletin board, although no one has seen our ad yet.
- Bernadette introduced Program Planning facilitator, Pat Burke.

Completing the LWV National Program Planning form was explained, the two requested concurrence issues were summarized and suggestions for review or new study were solicited. Among the suggestions were Environment, specifically water resources, climate change and privacy and national security. It was unanimous to concur with the Massachusetts League's request for review and update of Campaign Finance as LWVPC's first recommendation, weighted at 100%. The second unanimous recommendation, weighted at 50%, was to develop a National League position on Privacy and National Security, an issue raised by Karen Tajbl. Although National's instructions on submitting the Program Planning form allow two recommendations "for Leagues that cannot reach consensus", the LWVPC's recommendations are both by enthusiastic consensus. The report to National is due by March 1, 2014.

Moving on to LWVPC's Program Planning, there was a consistent theme of topics throughout the discussion that focused on the disadvantaged and services that are and are not available to them. The continuum of issues includes:

- Mental Health: Availability of (1) Services for at-risk children, (2) Services for homeless persons, (3) Services for at-risk adults, (4) Accessing mental health services for each group.
- Healthcare: Follow up on ACA/Covered California as to (1) How many and who are covered in Placer County, (2) Success of outreach programs, (3) Status of continued outreach.
- Transitional Programs: For (1) Foster children aging out of the system, (2) Prisoners upon release from jail, (3) Housing for homeless persons, (4) Persons judged to have a mental illness.
- Housing: For (1) Low-income residents, (2) Homeless persons.
- Food Instability: Children and senior citizens
- Public Officials' Accountability

The tenor of the suggestions indicated a profound desire for integration of available programs benefitting disadvantaged persons, as well as expansion of and better access to those programs. Accountability of our local elected and appointed officials was stressed.

Unanimous consensus was reached that the 2014-15 Program should focus on the above topics. New member Louis Ling volunteered to work on Mental Health (he is newly appointed to the Placer Mental Health Board). Other members with knowledge and insights are Karen Tajbl, Diana Madoshi, Pam Hart, Rosalie Wohlfromm, Norma Sexton and Linda Theodore.

Another unanimous recommendation was for LWVCA to take a position on decriminalization of the use of marijuana and other illegal substances. Jail overcrowding and minority discrimination were discussed in this context.

- Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm