

## Minutes of San Diego ILO May 21, 2016 Convention

Roni Seay gave the opening remarks and introduced Kay Ragan as the Parliamentarian. She also introduced each of the ILO Board members and thanked them for their service.

Credentials Report: The credentials report showed 13 delegates from the League of Women Voters of San Diego, 12 delegates from the League of Women Voters San Diego North County, and 9 ILO Board members.

Order of Business: A motion was made by Anne Omsted, seconded by Nan Valerio, and unanimously carried to adopt the Order of Business.

Convention Rules: A motion was made by Don Omsted, seconded by Kathy Anderson, and unanimously carried to adopt the Convention Rules.

Minutes Committee: A committee was created to approve the Convention 2016 minutes consisting of Jeanne Brown, Martha Cox, and Donna Bartlett-May.

President's Message: Roni Seay gave the President's message. She stated this year has seen the option study for the future of the ILO completed. She described each position on the ILO Board. She stated no matter what decision is made today, the strength of the League is the ability to act thoughtfully. We must grow our membership. All of us are in this together and we must support all League activities and challenges.

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Lorenzen presented the Treasurer's Report. There were no questions.

Proposed Budget: Nancy Hand presented the proposed Budget. She reported that the FYE 2017 Budget has been done in two sections; one if the ILO remains as status quo, and the other if it goes dormant. She pointed out that under the status quo there are PMPs and normal activities. Under the dormant budget there has been money added under legal in case legal help is needed dissolving the ILO. The directors' insurance will also continue during dormancy. The deficit shown in the budget is because there is no planned fund raising. The ILO can continue to accept grant requests from the two local leagues.

Martha Cox asked that the donation of \$1000 to the LWVC for the 2017 State Convention remain even if the ILO goes dormant, speaking directly to the footnote "dd" in the "dormant" budget that states the donation *may not be made* if the ILO goes dormant.

Beryl Flom inquired if the ILO goes dormant, would it be able to send someone to the LWVC Convention. It was agreed that the ILO would probably not send someone.

A motion was made by Nancy Hand, seconded by Liz Kruidenier, and unanimously carried, to adopt the FYE 2017 Budget.

Proposed Program: Peggy Dornish stated that the committee worked for over a year on the Agriculture in San Diego Study and recommends its adoption. Russ Russell inquired if desalination plants were considered in the study. Anne Omsted stated the committee did not consider them because they are

expensive alternatives. Jeanne Brown inquired if someone would be posting this study on the national clearinghouse website. Suzanne Carneiro stated she would do that. Paper copies of the study will be made by the ILO to provide to agencies and libraries. A motion was made by Nan Valerio, seconded by Peggy Dornish, and unanimously carried, to adopt the Agriculture in San Diego Study.

A motion was made by Beryl Flom, seconded by Liz Kruidenier, and unanimously carried, to adopt the current ILO program.

Jeanne Brown made a motion for a study on how the County Board of Supervisors conducts redistricting. She described the process and stated she had spoken to Greg Cox who said the State Constitution would require changing and he would work on making the change. San Diego and Los Angeles were part of a pilot program. The Board of Supervisors needs to pass it and then put it to the people. This would have to be enacted before 2020. Jeanne thinks we need to start working on getting this on the 2018 ballot. It was pointed out that there is a position that could be used and this should be an action committee. Jeanne withdrew her motion and stated she would make this a direction to the ILO Board.

The LWVSD also recommended updating the ILO positions on Transportation, Parks, and Regional Planning as they have not been updated for many years. Nan Valerio stated she agreed that the Transportation and Regional Planning positions should be updated and she would help with the update but would not be in charge. Peggy Dornish volunteered to put a committee together and start the update process.

Nominating Committee Report: Joyce Joseph introduced the following slate of Officers for the 2016-2018 terms. There were no nominations from the floor.

Executive Board: Donna Bartlett-May, President; Anne Omsted, Secretary; Nancy Hand, Treasurer. Directors: Sylvia Hampton, Director for Health; Liz Kruidenier, Director for Behavioral Health; Josan Feathers, Director of Natural Resources (1 year); Dolores Nelson, Voter Editor; Peggy Dornish, Joyce Joseph and Roni Seay. Marjie Larson will be off-board for Social Policy; and Gail Tulleo will be the off-board webmaster.

A motion was made by Joyce Joseph to accept the nominating committee's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Future of ILO: Anne Omsted thanked the committee members who worked on a very good report after studying Leagues across the state. She stated that the committee's conclusion was that it would give four alternatives to the members but not make a recommendation. She reviewed the four alternatives: 1) Status Quo or Status Quo with reduced or no PMPs; 2) merging the two local leagues; 3) disbanding the ILO but establishing a County Council; and 4) disbanding the ILO but retaining the two local leagues to work cooperatively on regional issues on an informal basis.

Jeanne Brown read the following motion: The Boards of Directors of the League of Women Voters of San Diego and the League of Women Voters North County San Diego move that the San Diego County League of Women Voters' Inter-League Organization enter dormancy. The two local Leagues will work cooperatively together on regional issues on an informal basis. A work plan with the specifics of the transition period from dormancy to dissolution has been drafted and signed by the current LWVSD president and the current LWWNCSD Steering Committee.

Jackie Stone stated she wanted to make sure it was understood that no one is disrespecting the excellent contributions that the ILO has made and continues to make in San Diego County but we can alter the structure which should bring the two local Leagues together.

Margie Monroy stated she is a 30 year member and thinks the main thing people of a certain age need to realize is that we have to know when things have changed. There are only two local leagues now and this is not personal or a vendetta but an effort to move with changing circumstances.

Anne Omsted asked what the ILO will do if this motion passes and how do we gauge the improvements to make sure the leagues are still covering regional issues effectively. She is bothered that the ILO 501(c)3 status will be lost.

Jeanne Brown stated the ILO would be inactive and would be responsible for setting up the April meeting when the work plan would be finished. She believes there should be committees formed from both leagues to work on the ILO portfolios.

Don Omsted stated he was concerned that the ILO positions would be lost.

Cathy Greene stated the members who have portfolios with the ILO would work with both local leagues and could use the ILO positions.

Lottie Fox rose to a point of information and gave a history of the ILOs. There are only four ILOs in the State of California and it was a legal concept for organizations that had a lot of local leagues. It is unique to California. The outcome of the meeting today could help the LWVUS.

Beryl Flom stated there is an ILO in Michigan. Her question is are we voting on a work plan as well as the motion? Should we be more specific on how action will be taken?

Diane Mochizuki asked if there is a legal issue on how long we can leave the ILO dormant. She thinks the ILO positions could be handed over to the two local leagues.

Martha Cox stated she supports the motion and Jackie and Margie's remarks. She stated she feels we are faced with a viability issue. She is alarmed that Nan Valerio is retiring and all her knowledge will be lost. We need to have a system in place so we have others to take the place of retiring members.

Roni Seay stated she loves the ILO but if the issues can be covered by some other structure, she is for it.

Nan Valerio stated as a member of the ILO she hates to see it go and she looks at the committees being formed as duplicative of the ILO. The Ag study was done by the two local leagues and she is concerned that the local leagues are taking on a lot of work. She feels the efficiency of the ILO is lost with different committees and this will require a lot of people to get together more than they do now. She suggested that the ILO continue to meet at least four times a year and get progress reports from the transition committee. She thinks the issue is controversial enough and that the ILO with the cooperation of the two local leagues can work on this.

Margaret Liles stated she lives in the county and she is interested in county issues. She is willing to get together with a committee on land use issues but she doesn't want to attend ILO meetings.

Cathy Greene explained that the motion was made concise because it was suggested by a LWVC Board member to do it that way. The transition team will evolve as it goes along. There are administrative things that must be done. The ILO is the two local leagues and we don't need that structure.

Anne Omsted stated she is willing to go along with all of this except letting the ILO go dormant because things will continue happening that must be tracked.

The meeting was recessed while the committee looked at rewording the motion.

Jeanne Brown stated the committee would like to amend the motion to add the following sentence: *The ILO Board will continue until the transition team develops a process to meet County issues.* The work plan is not part of the motion.

Roni Seay stated it is her understanding that both local leagues will be voting on this at their annual meetings.

Connie Ulrich said that is correct and the local Leagues will let their members know what happened at today's meeting. The two local League boards will decide if the transition team has a process that is adequate.

Kay Ragan stated as a past president of both a local League and the ILO, she thinks we do need to be ready for change but she believes this issue arose from the fact that we could not find leadership for the ILO. More people power is needed than we have in place. Another alternative would be to challenge the existing ILO Board to serve for another year and get replacements for each position and then they serve as resources to the next Board members. For years Josan Feathers has wanted a committee but we have been unable to get anyone to serve. She agrees we may be asking for more work than we already have.

Josan Feathers stated when an environmental issue comes up, the Board of Supervisors or whatever group is in charge, doesn't give us much time to act. If this motion goes forward, she will need concurrence from both leagues which will be an issue.

Cathy Greene stated a simple email to both local Leagues would be done just as it is now with the ILO Board. She had hoped the ILO Board members would work on their local league boards to improve communications.

Jeanne Brown reread the motion with the additional sentence and a vote was taken. It passed by a majority vote.

#### Directions to the Board:

Nan Valerio's direction to the Board: That the ILO form a committee to work to implement the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Education and Public Relations Committee. See page 4 of the May ILO VOTER (attached).

Beryl Flom's direction to the Board: That the ILO Board ask Lynn Riggs to be on the transition team because she is a new member of LWVSD who has a career in non-profit organization.

Jeanne Brown's direction to the Board: Recommend that the ILO create a committee composed of members from LWVSD and LWVNCSD to support a redistricting process of the San Diego Board of Supervisors.

Suzanne Carneiro's direction to the Board: Support Voter's Edge and keep recruiting new members for the November 2016 election.

Roni Seay asked that anyone who would like to work on the transition team, let their local League president know.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Bartlett-May, ILO Secretary and Incoming President (2016-17)

Reviewed by:

Jeanne Brown, President, LWVSD

Martha Cox, Incoming President LWVNCSD