



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

Spring 2010

League of Women Voters of San Diego County COUNTY VOTER

An Inter-League Organization (ILO) - City of San Diego • East San Diego County • North Coast • Escondido

Website: <http://sdcilo.ca.lwvnet.org>

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Co-President's Report

I attended the Board of Supervisors' meeting in early February and one of the presentations was made by Sandy McBrayer from the County Human Services Department. She reported on the County's Report Card. They printed and distributed 4,000 copies of the Card. Some of the key points of her presentation are noted below:

- The report tracks student performance
- Distribution of food stamps and has shown a steady growth (The numbers were not provided.)
- Even with current economy most indicators show improvement
- More children are covered by insurance and the county has surpassed the state
- Decline in the number of domestic violence cases and 5,000 officers have been trained in the handling of domestic violence
- More children have been immunized and the county has also surpassed the state.
- Continuing concerns were also cited relative to obesity in children; the national goal is to reduce the percentage to 5% and the county percentage is 30%. Absenteeism in elementary schools with children missing more than 9 days a year is also of ongoing concern. Youth's consumption of alcohol, other drugs and smoking has been on the increase.

Jacob and Cox took credit for the Report Card. Roberts and Price were especially concerned the results were not better relative to obesity in children with all the programs that have been developed.

Supervisor Horn introduced a motion, seconded by Jacob to support a Fair and Open Competition in Contracts ballot measure in June. The council approved the motion with the understanding County Council would develop the language for the measure. It was noted the election would cost \$100, 000 and an ordinance would do the same thing without a cost. Horn wanted the measure on the ballot because he reminded his colleagues they would all be replaced at some point and the next Board could retract the ordinance. He wanted the "people to vote"

At the Board meeting on February 23, Horn's motion was defeated, but the ordinance was approved. At the same meet-

ing the supervisors approved a countywide 10pm curfew Monday - Thursday and 11pm on Friday and Saturday. Several cities have their own curfew hours that do not coincide.

Kay Ragan

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

March 5, 2010

To: Members
 From: LWV County Board
 Subject: Program Directions and Recommendations

We have heard from the North County League and the City League regarding their program planning outcomes. They recommended the following for the board to consider. All of these recommendations are presented to the membership with the recommendations supported by the Board highlighted.

- **Retain all existing positions**
- No new study was proposed
- **Fact-finding/ mini-study on:**
 - ✓ **Privatization of County services** –there was a County study several years ago on Privatization of County services. At that time this concept was relatively new in San Diego and there was no conclusion or consensus on this study. **The North Coast League would like the County to revisit the concept and possibly arrive at a position.**
 - ✓ **Registrar of Voters – Investigate the standards for the County's Voter Security and Voter Integrity, particularly in light of using electronic machines such as electronic counting machines.**
 - ❖ Do some research on Oregon's same day registration and mail-in voting as to whether it would work in San Diego County
 - ❖ **Look at Voting Rights, Voter I.D. and whether there is any discrimination in the voting process in San Diego County.**
 - ✓ **Educate local League members and the public about County Government**

(Recommend the City League team present the County Government program to other Leagues.) **Expand the work of City League members and host countywide meeting or meetings as a part of the education process.**

- ✓ **Monitor Board of Supervisors' more closely and take appropriate action on issues**
- ✓ Supervisors' offices failure to respond or slow responses to questions and requests. **Meet with supervisors and discuss these failings and urge prompt amelioration.**
- ✓ **Do further investigative work on Regional Planning and present the information to Leagues and the public**
- ✓ Do an investigative study on sources of water for the southern California region (maybe with Orange County LWV) and the pros and cons of privatization of water and report to the public. **Host a County League Day with a panel of speakers representing different agencies addressing our shrinking supply of water and the privatization of water.**

ADVOCATE for fire protection once the position is finalized

FEBRUARY SANDAG REPORT

By Elaine Barton, Transportation Director

Public Comments: A disabled bus rider asked that signs, designating that front seats be given to disabled riders, be printed in several languages.

#15 Income from TransNet: Income will continue to be low, due to a decline in wealth. There is also a shift from buying things to saving money on goods while spending more on services. In particular, because the economy has gradually shifted to services (which are untaxed), sales tax revenue has declined. However, the AAA rating SANDAG can get is a positive factor in the cost of bonds. Over 8 million jobs have been lost in the USA and full recovery will take till 2018. This report on tax income by SANDAG's Economist, Marney Cox, is relevant to the level of services NCT and MTS can give the public.

#16 2050 Regional Growth Forecast: By 2018 the 60 thousand jobs lost in SD County will be recovered. The Board wants recognition that climate changes and fluctuating sources of water need to be considered in future plans. Staff response was that flexibility is built in their plans for the future. There was agreement that availability of water affects future land use decisions. Sup. Pam Slater-Price got a commitment from the

Board to hold a special meeting concerning water monitoring and projections of availability.

Three members of the San Diego Builders Association spoke. One said that projects will be smaller because banks are slow to grant loans. For this reason there will be less clustered housing near transit, meaning less Smart Growth. Another builder said the shortfall in housing will be 36 to 45 thousand by 2020. He wants to build 20 family units, with parking, per acre. He did not say that he had received approval for this density. Locations used would be near San Diego freeways and train stops. A third developer said that as long as gas is cheaper in Temecula people will choose Riverside County and pay no gas tax here. They will use local roads but not pay for them. Another speaker objected to current fees per square foot on density projects. Builders often object to fees they pay here and it is difficult to unearth how important they really are.

Another comment came from Lesa Hebner, Deputy Mayor of Solana Beach. She said apartments require new water sources, sewers, need for parks, roads, police, etc. Others said deals with builders should require provision of water and parking, paid by the developer. Urban sprawl was also called expensive because the new utilities, water lines and roads go out farther and cost even more. All this affects whether we will have enough roads for cars and enough public transit to cut traffic.

These are the central issues of providing for new residents expected before 2020.

SPECIAL AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 19, 2010

By Nan Valerio for Ramona Salisbury-Kiltz

Call to Order

Chair Bella Heule called the meeting to order. The Roll was called. A quorum was not present.

Presentation

SD Airport Authority Vice President Angela Shafer-Payne presented an overview of the proposed incentive-based program for vehicles providing individual transportation services to the public, and not including private cars. A description of the program and a copy of the slides had been e-mailed in advance to members. The purpose of the program is to comply with an agreement between the Airport Authority and the State Attorney General. A copy of the Agreement was distributed to the members, The agreement is to establish a program that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from commercial vehicles serving airport passengers, including taxis, vehicles-for-hire, hotel, and multiple-ride vans. Existing vehicles would be replaced by an alternative fuel vehicle over a period of seven years.

Discussion

There was considerable and lengthy discussion of the proposed program by several representatives of the transportation providers for hotel, vehicle-for-hire, shared-ride (Cloud Nine, etc), and the taxi industry. Comments included a discussion that the change to alternative fuel vehicles will not have an important impact on emissions at the airport because of the large number of private autos entering the airport property. There were references to rental cars and train service to the airport, neither of which are covered by the proposed program. Positive and negative comments on the proposed program, such as the incentives and penalties, need for grants to help fund conversions, the economic impact of vehicle replacement by small operators, request for Airport Authority sponsorship of an experimental project to convert existing gas vehicles to electric ones, the rigidity of the proposed program and other criticisms were expressed by about five of those in attendance.

Angela Shafer-Payne, Paul Manasjan, Director of Environmental Affairs, and the Authority's Attorney answered the comments, explaining that this program is not connected to the Airport's Ground Transportation Plan, that it is required by the State Attorney General, and that it will be reviewed for effectiveness each year. If the program is not working as well as planned, it can be adjusted.

Consensus

Chair Bella Heule called for a consensus on the Recommendations, proposed by staff, to be presented to the Airport Authority Board of Directors at its March meeting. The Recommendations were listed on the last slide of the PowerPoint presentation e-mailed to Committee members. It is available on the Committee's page at the Airport Authority's web site at www.san.org (Airport Authority/Board and Committees/Committees/Advisory Committee/Agenda February 19, 2010).

Recommendation 1: Establish an incentive program to convert existing vehicles to alternative fuel vehicles, with an annual re-assessment; only 1 member opposed

Recommendation 2: Replace all vehicles at 7 years of model year age; only 1 member opposed

Recommendation 3: Reduce user fees for consolidated hotel vans; All agreed

Recommendation 4: Include taxicabs in the program; only 1 opposed

Recommendation 5: Establish an incentive-based program with increasing penalties for non-compliance; 5 members opposed, requesting greater incentives and moving the target dates to be sooner, rather than later.

The Chair directed staff to present the program to the Authority Board at its next meeting, with the consensus on the Recommendations and a discussion of the comments made by the Committee members.

Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Getting Started:

You can start by reviewing the 10 tools to see which ones suit you. Of course, not all the tools are right for everyone, but you'll likely find at least a few to try.

Check out the website for more info:

www.LiveYourLifeWell.org

THE 10 TOOLS

1. Connect with others
2. Stay positive
3. Get physically active
4. Help others
5. Get enough sleep
6. Create joy and satisfaction
7. Eat well
8. Take care of your spirit
9. Deal better with hard times
10. Get professional help when you need it

June 8 Primary

Up-to-date information about candidates, state and local propositions, and links to other information related to the June 8 primary can be found by going to the County's web-site, <http://sdcilo.ca.lwvnet.org/>. Gail Tullao, who manages the website, will be posting current voter service info, and there are links to Smart Voter, Easy Voter and the Registrar of Voters' site.

Thank you, Joyce Joseph

The Next Ninety – League State Convention

Where: Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza
300 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

When: Saturday, May 15 – Sunday, May 16, 2010
Reception to be confirmed: May 14, 2010

Council registration is now open. Reserve your hotel room by April 13. Visit LWVC Leadership Council 2010 blog to find information on workshops and activities. Workshops are open to members and non-members. All members may attend the plenary sessions but only official delegates may vote. For more information contact Trudy Jarratt at vicepresident@lwvc.org.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

BIENNIAL CONVENTION

Speaker

Ms. Sandra L McBrayer

Ms. McBrayer is the Chief Executive Officer of the Children's Initiative and an internationally known advocate for children, youth and families. Her topic is 'San Diego County Report Card on Children & Families.'

Business Meeting and Election of Officers to Follow Speaker

Saturday, May 1, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

CA BOTANA ACADEMY

9365 Waples Street, SD 92121

Cost: \$10

Breakfast buffet compliments of CA BOTANA ACADEMY

Directions to CA BOTANA ACADEMY

From 5/805 exit Sorrento Valley, go east on Mira Mesa Blvd. and turn right on Huennekens, right onto Waples Street

From 15 exit Mira Mesa Blvd., go west and turn left on Huennenkens, right onto Waples Street.

LWV of San Diego County
County Convention

The following will attend _____
Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$10 per person)

Local League Affiliation
Please send registration form and check to:
Kay Ragan
200 Harbor Dr.
San Diego CA 92101