

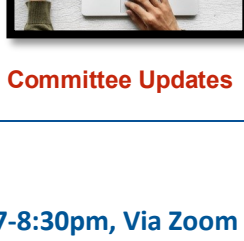
Top stories in this newsletter



August Events



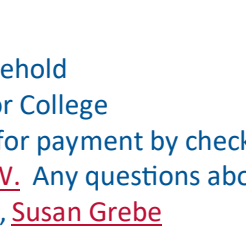
Letter from LWVBC



Committee Updates

August Events

- Member Mixer: 8/20, 7-8:30pm, Via Zoom**
 Join us! We will be talking about our focus for this new LWV year, the upcoming election and other Hot Topics. It's so easy to do over ZOOM — no parking worries and you won't have to wear a mask because we will all be safe socially distanced!
 - Zoom information will be sent prior to the meeting.
- LWV Board Retreat - 8/22, 11-1:30 PM, Via Zoom.**
 - Zoom information will be sent prior to the meeting.
- August Book Club - 8/27, 7-8:30pm, Via Zoom**
 Join the LWV book club as they read *How Democracies Die* and *On Tyranny*. Please join us! We'll look at the break down of democracies in Europe and Latin America and compare them to the United States. Even if you don't have time to read the books, drop in for the discussion via Zoom.
 - Zoom information will be sent prior to the meeting.
- Reminder: Annual Dues are Due**
 You should have received your dues statement in mid July. Dues are the following:
 - \$60 for a regular renewing membership
 - \$30 for a first year membership
 - \$30 for a second member in the same household
 - FREE for students enrolled in High School or College
 Your mailed dues notice has a return envelope, for payment by check or on our website at LWVBEACHCITIES.ORG/RENEW. Any questions about dues payments can be directed to our Treasurer, [Susan Grebe](mailto:Susan.Grebe@scgrebe@gmail.com) at SCGREBE@GMAIL.COM or 310-546-7487.
- Summer Fun:** Every self-help book ever, boiled down to 11 simple rules. The basic advice in hundreds of bestsellers is older than you think.
[Read in Mashable.](#)
- We Need Your Suggestions!**
 Do you have an idea for a local program that would be of interest to our League members? All members of the LWV Beach Cities are encouraged to suggest topics for local programs in areas of interest. One member suggested we include something topical, like the article above on best tips from Self-Help Books. We all benefit when everyone participates! Does anyone have any questions about the upcoming election?? Recommendations may be sent to [Joan LeSage](mailto:sage.joan@gmail.com) at sage.joan@gmail.com 310-854-2254.
- Questions? [Contact us anytime!](#)



“If they don’t give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.”

- Shirley Chisholm, the first African-American woman elected to Congress

Letter from the LWV Beach Cities

July brought together **our exciting new Board** for the first time- but via ZOOM of course. New Board members include Yvette Reiner, Mary Dillon, Dale Petrusis and Skip Halloran- thanks so much to each of you for agreeing to help focus and manage our League!! Our returning Board includes Barbara Arlow, Susan Grebe, Arnette Travis, Grace Peng, Teri Neustaedter, Ashley Kruchdele, Harriet Chase, Jeanne Hamilton, Debra Estroff, Ruth Hart and Joan LeSage. “An enormous thank you goes out to Ann Kuhns who is leaving the Board this year. She has been tireless as our Membership Chair and has been responsible for getting many of our new activities from concept to implementation. We are happy she has promised to stay an active member. Henrietta Mosley is also leaving the Board as she has moved to Wisconsin. Henrietta was a past president of our league and held many other offices over the years - most recently our Voter Editor. Our thanks is hardly enough for all she has contributed- her dedication, hard work, good counsel, and the innumerable times she agreed to do something that no one else wanted to do. We will miss her greatly.

We have a Board Retreat planned for August 22. If anyone has suggestions for planning our upcoming year please let me, or one of our other Board members know, before the 22nd. Your input and energy to work on issues is critical to our success. August will have a **Mixer and Book Club** meeting, and committee meetings are scheduled for both **Health & Wellness and Elections**. Everything will be on zoom so it is easy to join in!

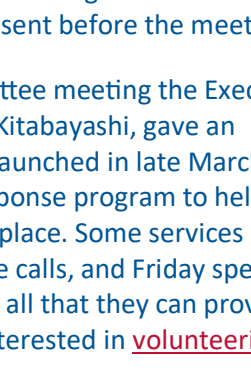
The **L.A. County League Summer Meeting** was July 25 on ZOOM. There were 2 keynote addresses. One was from Helen Hutchinson speaking on the importance of staying nonpartisan as to political parties and candidates. Our credibility to run candidate forums depends on us being nonpartisan as to all candidates. Carol Moon Goldberg, CA League President, spoke about the abundance of resources available on the League website. If you want to find out what the League is doing on any issue, spend some time researching what is on LWVC.org.

DUES ARE DUE! Your annual dues paid to Beach Cities includes your membership in the National, State and L.A. County Leagues (actually we pay more than \$60 for these dues and make up the difference with donations!). 2020-2021 dues are being happily accepted and can be paid on-line at lwvbeachcities.org or mailed to 629 19th St Manhattan Beach 90266!

WELCOME to our new members! Kate Orroth and Jennifer Aglio from Manhattan Beach, O.M. Travis III, Ken Petrusis, Ann Richardson, Sally Hayati, Dona Howland and Cynthia Cropper from Redondo Beach and Alicia Jacobs and Michelle Devlin!

Stay safe! Stay well! Stay connected with us on Zoom!

Joan LeSage
President- LWVBC



Committee Updates

Elections Committee

The LWV Beach Cities has established an Elections Committee to identify and implement means to support voters in the upcoming election season. The committee will distribute information on mailed ballots, voting centers, drop boxes, polling places and voter registration. If you are interested in participating in this effort, contact [Jeanne Hamilton](mailto:Jeanne.Hamilton@lwbcc.org)

Health and Wellness —

The next Health & Wellness Zoom Committee meeting is on Tuesday, August 18, 1:00 -2:30 pm. Meeting ID will be sent before the meeting.

At the July 28, 2020 Health & Wellness committee meeting the Executive Director of the Westside Pacific Village, Carol Kitabayashi, gave an update on the WPV CARES Program that was launched in late March in response to COVID-19. It is an emergency response program to help the most vulnerable seniors that are sheltering in place. Some services provided: groceries, medication, weekly phone calls, and Friday special care packages. Check out their website to see all that they can provide and the cities they are serving. You may be interested in [volunteering](#).

Please contact [Harriet Chase](mailto:Harriet.Chase@roadrunner.com) for interest: hzchase@roadrunner.com/310-545-1026.

Housing & Homelessness —

The LA County Board of Supervisors recently passed two new motions. The first motion, which is embedded in the article below and is a must read, intends to change the way LA County deals with racism -- meaning that antiracism will be one of the county's primary concerns. The second motion, Reimagining LA County, seeks to put a new charter amendment on the Nov. 2020 ballot that would set aside at least 10% of the county's generated unrestricted revenues each year to be used for the community investment. These motions would have a big impact on the poor in our community and there are lots of mixed feelings. Please take a few minutes to [read more here](#).

Are you interested in learning more about the homeless? Contact Teri Neustaedter if you're interested in joining our committee: tmufic@gmail.com; 913 568 5466.

Education—

The Education Committee is examining two areas of interest for the year - early childhood education and the impact of declining enrollment on low-income districts. If you are interested in participating with us on either of these topics, please contact [Jeanne Hamilton](mailto:Jeanne.Hamilton@lwbcc.org) for more information.

Natural Resources —

July literally Zoomed by. **As public meetings moved online and Zoom meetings became the new normal, public participation in government meetings skyrocketed while the range of voices making public comment diversified.** I hope this will prompt permanent changes in the way we enable public input.

I worked with LWV volunteers around Los Angeles County (Pasadena and Whittier) to provide the historical and policy research for **LWVC to support SB 625 to temporarily put the Central Basin Municipal Water District under Water Replenishment Board receivership.** This emergency measure is sorely needed because of the already weak financial and administrative condition of CBMWD. Covid-19 made it imperative to deliver water to every household, regardless of ability to pay. However, the water wholesalers and distributors still need to pay for water to put into the pipes.

Planning and preparation for the **first ever Zoom quarterly League Day for LWV of Los Angeles County Inter-league Organization** (LWV/LAC ILO) also consumed much of the month. 79 people registered and up to 63 people participated simultaneously as people logged in and left the meeting as they needed. We tried to replicate the in-person networking with smaller chat rooms before and after the plenary training sessions with mixed success as we learned how to use the Zoom platform.

The second session of smaller group chat rooms facilitated more uniformly productive discussions. As the chair of the Natural Resources Committee for Los Angeles County, I hosted the room for Natural Resources/Sustainability advocates around the county. **The inequality of and the inadequate government response to Covid-19 and the frustration we share with the misinformation peddlers garnered much discussion.**

Covid-19 is a fast-moving demonstration of what happens when we sideline science for politics and allow the merchants of doubt to spread their contagion. This playbook has been used by many groups including the tobacco, fossil fuel and agribusiness industries and also anti-vaxxers.

We shared our issues of concern (in no particular order): slow speed transportation network, parks after dark, banning coagulant anti-rodenticides, pollution in general (& specifically particulates in air and water), 2500' setback from sensitive sites for oil drilling and fracking, single-use plastics ban, dangerous refinery practices.

Some of these are under federal and state jurisdiction. Carol Moon Goldberg showed us the steps to follow to enable LWVC to take action on state legislation. (I did it last month for SB-625 and can help you.)

I will be joining the South Bay Cities Council of Government's (SBCCOG) slow speed transportation project as a citizen volunteer. Transportation is our region's largest source of pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Giving people safe and convenient infrastructure to move around while reducing their emissions is my highest (but not only) priority.

For further questions, please contact [Grace Peng](mailto:Grace.Peng@lwbcc.org) (310-613-7432).

Stay Connected!

Like to add something to next months calendar? Please contact us by the following:

LWV of the Beach Cities
BeachCitiesLWV@gmail.com
(310) 379-6663

See what's new [online](#) or on [Facebook!](#)

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE BEACH CITIES