

Santa Monica Ranked Voting meeting 05/03/2004

- I. Who we are, what we want, what we're up to
 - A. Snoop around at the website. www.smrankedvoting.org.
 - B. Big News
 1. Wilshire-Montana to vote on IRV in June.
 2. Upcoming speaking engagements with Pico Neighborhood Association and Torrance Democratic Club.
 3. Report on status of women and girls in Santa Monica.
 4. Results of recent SMRV elections
- II. Get involved!
 - A. Short term projects
 1. Letters to write, right here, right now!
 - a. Rep. Fran Pavley – request co-sponsorship of AB1039, request endorsement
 - b. City Councilmembers – request endorsement
 - c. MoveOn.org -- endorsement of IRV (SCA14), what's up with the plurality election on your website?
 - d. Letter to Kerry campaign – endorsement of IRV
 - e. Dean people – Democracy for America
“To underscore the danger of voting for any third-party candidate in elections this close, a statistic from the 2000 campaign may prove useful: a total of eight third-party candidates won more votes than the difference between Al Gore and George Bush nationwide.” -- Howard Dean, *New York Times*, 04/12/2004. Ask Dean to talk about IRV when addressing the spoiler problem.
 - f. Air America – request that they invite a member of CVD to talk about IRV.
 2. Letters to write at home
 - a. Sen. Kuehl – on behalf of SMRV, thank you for co-sponsoring SCA 14.
 - b. City Council – cover letter for SMRV study on undervoting in SM elections.
 - c. Letter to Chairs of neighborhood organizations letting them know that we have drafted language for a by-laws amendment to adopt IRV for officers or Choice Voting for their board.
 - d. Letters to the editor
 - i. spoilers and IRV
 - ii. representation of women and minorities
 - iii. upcoming Wilshire-Montana vote
 - iv. Supreme Court decision in support of gerrymandering – PR would put an end to this
 3. SMRV merchandise – buttons, brochures, bumper stickers
 4. Opinions on San Francisco's first IRV ballot

- B. Long term project
 - 1. PR books in libraries
 - a. *Behind the Ballot Box: A Citizen's Guide to Voting Systems*, Douglas J. Amy
 - b. *Proportional Representation & Election Reform in Ohio*, Kathleen L. Barber
 - 2. Santa Monica College / UCLA – speak to Democrat Club on campus, student government associations, etc.
 - 3. Candidate survey (closer to election time) – get candidates on record about IRV!
 - 4. Speaking engagements – anybody speak Spanish?
 - 5. Local organizations – Are you a member of an organization that elects a board? Arrange a presentation on IRV, propose amendment of by-laws. City commissions that elect their officers.
- III. Upcoming Wilshire-Montana vote – talk to people in the area! If you live in Wilshire/Montana, pay your membership dues and rock the vote! Currently scheduled for June 26, keep an eye on the website for updates. (ALWAYS keep an eye on the website.)
- IV. Join our listserv for regular updates
- V. You are all encouraged to join Californians for Election Reform- they have offered to help us with materials, etc.
- VI. Next meeting, first Tuesday in June (June 1st). Same bat time, same bat channel.