

# San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California  
Milton Marks Auditorium  
Wednesday, March 12, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

## Regular Meeting Agenda

Note: A majority of the members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and of one or more Board committees, currently serve as members of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC). The law is not clear as to whether the open meeting requirements of state and local law apply to DCCC meetings attended by these Board members. Out of abundance of caution, Board members and the DCCC have agreed to comply with these open meeting laws.

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### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair: Mary Jung. Members: Kat Anderson, John Avalos, David Campos, David Chiu, Malia Cohen, Petra DeJesus, Matt Dorsey, Bevan Dufty, Zoe Dunning, Kelly Dwyer, Bill Fazio, Tom Hsieh, Leslie Katz, Hene Kelly, Meagan Levitan, Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar, Trevor McNeil, Carole Migden, Leah Pimentel, Alix Rosenthal, Arlo Hale Smith, and Scott Wiener. Ex-Officio Members: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein; U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi; U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier; Attorney General Kamala Harris; State Senator Leland Yee; State Senator Mark Leno; Assemblymember Tom Ammiano; Assemblymember Phil Ting.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Agenda (Discussion and possible action)

Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of this agenda.

### 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Discussion and possible action)

Approval of the minutes of the DCCC's Regular Meetings from January 22, 2014 (attached) and February 26, 2014 (attached).

### 4. Public Comment

The DCCC will take public comment on all items on the agenda and, in addition, other matters germane to party business but not on the agenda.

### 5. Reports (Discussion and possible action)

DCCC member reports, including discussion and possible action, to offer updates on work assignments and discuss ongoing objectives.

- a) **Chair** (Jung). Report on DCCC activities, including the recent California Democratic State Convention in Los Angeles.
- b) **CDP Region 6 Update** (Kelly). Report on activities of the California Democratic Party from Hene Kelly, Director of Region 6.
- c) **Voter Registration** (McNeil). Report on voter registration efforts.
- d) **Club Chartering** (Pimentel). Report on club-related activities.
- e) **Finance** (Dunning). Report on progress toward strategic goals and fundraising activities.
- f) **Treasurer** (Hsieh). Report on the current budget and finances of the party.
- g) **Executive Director** (Medina). Update on DCCC activities and events.

**6. Endorsements** (Jung/Rosenthal) (Discussion and possible action)

SFDCCC's endorsement for candidates and ballot measures for the June 3, 2014 Municipal Election.

- a) **Judge of the Superior Court, Office Number 20**. Discussion and possible action: SFDCCC to vote on its endorsement of candidates for the contested race of S.F. Superior Court Judge, Office Number 20.
- b) **Qualified Local Ballot Measures**. Discussion and possible action: SFDCCC to vote on its endorsement of the following local ballot measures.
  - i. **Proposition A: Earthquake Retrofit Bond**. (Discussion and possible action) From the most recently available Ballot Simplification Committee summary: "Proposition A is a general obligation bond measure that would authorize the City to sell up to \$400 million in bonds to improve specific public safety and emergency response facilities."
  - ii. **Proposition B: Voter Approval for Waterfront Height Increases**. (Discussion and possible action) From the most recently available

Ballot Simplification Committee summary: “Proposition B would prevent the City from allowing any development on Port property that exceeds the height limits in effect as of January 1, 2014, unless the City’s voters have first approved an increase in the height limit for that development. The measure applies to property currently under the control of the Port Commission, as well as any property that the Port may later acquire. Any ballot question to increase height limits on Port property must specify both existing and proposed height limits.”

**7. New Business** (Discussion and possible action)

Note that the DCCC is unable to discuss or take action on items not on this agenda when those discussions pertain to matters within the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. The limited exception is to discuss and take action in deciding whether to calendar such items for a future meeting.

**8. Adjournment**

**Note: The Issues Committee will not meet on March 12, 2014.**

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**Agenda Item Information**

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**Meeting Procedures**

Each member of the public will be allotted the same maximum number of minutes to speak as set by the Chair.

**Disability Access**

The Milton Marks Auditorium and the State Office Building at 455 Golden Gate Avenue in San Francisco are wheelchair accessible. To seek a disability related accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact DCCC Correspondence Secretary Matt Dorsey at [info@sfdemocrats.org](mailto:info@sfdemocrats.org); or write to the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee at 645 Harrison St., No. 200; San Francisco, CA 94107. Requests must be received at least 48 hours before the meeting.

The nearest accessible BART station is Civic Center (Market/Grove/Hyde Streets). Accessible MUNI Metro lines are the F, J, K, L, M, N, T (exit at Civic Center or Van Ness Stations). MUNI bus lines also serving the area are the 5, 6, 9, 19, 21, 47, 49, 71, and 71L. For more information about MUNI accessible services, call (415) 701-4485. There is accessible parking in the vicinity of the California State Building at Civic Center Plaza and adjacent to Davies Hall and the War Memorial Complex. In order to assist the City's efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illness, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to perfumes and various other chemical-based scented products. Please help the City to accommodate these individuals.

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**Cell Phones, Pagers and Similar Sound-Producing Electronic Devices**

The ringing of and use of cell phones, pagers and similar sound-producing electronic devices are prohibited at this meeting. Please be advised that the Chair may order the removal from the meeting room of any person(s) responsible for the ringing or use of a cell phone, pager, or other similar sound-producing electronic devices.

# San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California  
Milton Marks Auditorium  
Wednesday, January 22, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

## Regular Meeting Minutes

Note: A majority of the members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and of one or more Board committees, currently serve as members of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC). The law is not clear as to whether the open meeting requirements of state and local law apply to DCCC meetings attended by these Board members. Out of abundance of caution, the Board members and the DCCC have agreed to comply with these open meeting laws.

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### 1. **Roll Call** 7:03 pm

Chair: Mary Jung. Members: Kat Anderson, John Avalos (left 8:30), David Chiu (arrived 7:34), Malia Cohen, Matt Dorsey, Bevan Dufty (arrived 7:14), Zoe Dunning, Kelly Dwyer, Bill Fazio (Hsieh served as his proxy), Tom Hsieh, Leslie Katz (arrived 7:23), Hene Kelly, Meagan Levitan (arrived 7:39), Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar (left 7:44), Trevor McNeil, Leah Pimentel, Alix Rosenthal, Arlo Hale Smith and Scott Wiener. Ex-Officio Members: U.S. Senator (Dianne Feinstein (proxy Jeff Mori), U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier (proxy Brian Perkins), Attorney General Kamala Harris (proxy Matthew Rothschild); State Senator Leland Yee (proxy John Rizzo - arrived 7:23); State Senator Mark Leno (proxy Keith Baraka); Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (proxy Kim-Shree Maufas); Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy Jason Wong – arrived 7:07)

Absent excused: Carole Migden

Absent: David Campos, Petra DeJesus. Ex-Officio Members: U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi

Late Proxies: Scott Wiener gave his proxy to Adam Taylor at 7:57 pm

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

## **2. Approval of Meeting Agenda**

M/S/C to approve agenda.

## **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

M/S/C to approve minutes.

## **4. Public Comment**

Naeemah Charles – President of SFSU College Democrats and USF College Democrats are jointly holding a fundraiser to enable students to attend the Democratic convention in Los Angeles. Details: February 15, from 2-4 pm right before the Chinese New Year’s parade. She will send an email to all of us with more details.

Alyce Brown – Reported the Commission on Access Appeals will discuss disability placards. The DMV has to update their records.

Jain Thapa – Asian Pacific Islander Democratic Caucus - seeks a ‘no’ vote on item 9.

Jim Wachob – FDR Democratic club – Supports the parking resolution.

Susan Pfeifer – FDR Democratic club – Supports the parking resolution.

SFMTA tried an end-run around the SF Board of Supervisors.

Margaret O’Sullivan – Irish American Democratic Club and Sunset Community Democratic Club – urges ‘no’ vote on item 9. This is counter-intuitive to the Democratic Party principles.

Patrick Valentino – Lawyer and South Beach Democratic Club – on item number 9. This is troubling, prohibitive and smothering. Would prohibit good people from serving on the committee. Maybe just focus on clear conflicts of interest that are financial.

Mark Murphy – Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club – re: item 9. Urges a “no” vote. Re: Malia Cohen’s resolution about protecting our children – it will save lives.

Annie Thatcher-Stephens – FDR Democratic Club – re: disability parking. Places an unnecessary burden on those with disabilities and seniors. Look at regulation of permits. Frowns on doing the end-run around the BOS.

Dave Massen – Citizens Climate Lobby – resolution in support of federal carbon tax (to be considered next month). Democrats in Congress support this idea. Four SF Democratic Clubs have signed on.

Susan Pfeifer – Democratic Party – gave Covered California update.

Alec Bash - proponent of national elections – hopes item 9 is not some internal smear machine or a solution in search of a problem.

Vera Haile – re: the disability placard resolution. She was not happy about the recommendations, such as having placard holders pay meter rates. This will mean people will stay home because they cannot afford the rates.

Vince Courtney – Laborers’ International Union – the laborers are fully in support of the FDR Democratic Club. Regarding item 9 – we are not happy with the proposal because we consider that it is bad for labor – to recuse all union members across the city from participating in this way. No evidence that there has been any malfeasance. We expect you to work together. You have to involve labor in your decision-making.

Michael Nulty – president Central City Democratic Club – re: disability-parking issue. We would like to co-sponsor this with the FDR club.

Arjan Amiri – re: disability parking – no one should have any additional rights that makes them better than other working members of society. We should charge these individuals for the parking. It is only fair that everyone pay for parking.

Brian Webster – Invited us to Labor Community awards Feb 28 at the Marriott; spoke against item 9 – infringes on the Chinese community’s participation in the Democratic Party.

Tony Fazio – worked on the slate card. There was never any impropriety attached to that slate card. To exclude the chair and the treasurer from the organization around the card makes no sense. That law needs to be looked at by an attorney.

Tomasita Medal – re: disability placards. Asks people to be empathetic about people with disabilities.

Public Comment closed 7:42 pm

## 5. Reports

DCCC member reports, including discussion and possible action, to offer updates on work assignments and discuss ongoing objectives.

a) **Chair** (Mary Jung). Report on DCCC activities, including the California Democratic State Convention on March 7-9, 2014 in Los Angeles. Would like to see as many of our members there as possible. Asked members who are not attending to turn in proxies soon and pay fees early to avoid late charges.

b) **Issues** (Alix Rosenthal). Report out from the Issues Committee meeting on resolutions before the SFDCCC. Voted unanimously to recommend the

resolution on disability placards. Not able to move on member Cohen's resolution because she did not attend the issues committee meeting.

- c) **Voter Registration** (Trevor McNeil). Report on voter registration efforts.
- d) **Club Chartering** (Leah Pimentel). Report on club-related activities, and update from the Presidents' Cabinet meeting. Working to streamline endorsement process. Brownie Mary and Willie B. Kennedy Democratic Clubs have requested charters.

M/S/C (Pimentel/Leslie Katz) to approve charters. Passed unanimously.

- e) **Communications** (Matt Dorsey). Report on memos from California Democratic Party regarding DCCC membership elections and updates to county committee bylaws to comport with changes to state law. This body is ahead of the curve on this. Information is posted.
- f) **Finance** (Zoe Dunning). Report on progress toward strategic goals and fundraising activities. Thanks to everyone who sponsored and attended the Jane Morrison event to benefit Sue Bierman Internship Program. Raised \$12,500. The big breakfast is April 11 with Congresswoman Jackie Speier. We already have \$25,000 in sponsorships. Nick Josefowitz has bought a table already. We did a strategic planning event a year ago. Review of some of those objectives. We are meeting our fundraising goals. Still need to work on recurring on-line giving. Voter registration and education goals are going well. Clubs – have not yet set up DCCC members as liaisons to the clubs. We are achieving a lot of our goals.
- g) **Treasurer** (Tom Hsieh). Report on the current budget and finances of the party. We had a very good year in 2013. Our federal account holds over \$79,000. Net income was over \$101,000. We had some professional fees because of the slate card. Have over \$65,000 cash on hand in both federal and state accounts.
- h) **Executive Director** (Ally Medina). Update on DCCC activities, including the Sue Bierman Memorial Internship Program. We are coordinating with the College Democrats who have been helping with phone-banking and voter registration. Please help send students to the Democratic Convention and participate in the February 15 fundraiser.



6. **CDP Region 6 Update** (Hene Kelly). Report on activities of the California Democratic Party from Director of Region 6. There is a pre-endorsement meeting on February 8 at 11:30 am in Burlingame. This is the one chance for clubs to have votes. If you cannot get to the meeting, you can ask to have a ballot sent to you and it can be sent to Kelly in various ways. She will even come get it. Details at [cadem.org](http://cadem.org). You can have a mail ballot but you cannot have a proxy. If there is a contest, the winner has to get 70%. If that does not happen, it goes to convention. At convention, you cannot have a mail ballot, but you can have a proxy. 60% is the threshold at convention.
7. **Resolution: Crimes Against Children** (Cohen, Katz, Dunning, Pimentel, Dwyer, Kelly, Ammiano)

Proposed resolution supporting the expansion of existing state law, which currently applies to children under the age of 14, to children under the age of 18, for purposes of requiring witnesses to report certain violent and sexual crimes against children to peace officers; and assuring the protection of all children under the age of 18 from such crimes. Brought to her by the African American caucus.

Katz said this was discussed at the CADEMs Resolutions Committee and they discussed that 14 years old was random and under 18 made more sense.

Brian Perkins (Speier) spoke about how critical support of this is.

Kelly commented that teachers must report this. If you have any inkling that a child has been abused in any way, report it.

Rafael Mandelman has two concerns about this: 1) generally we don't impose obligations on everyone to report crimes and 2) lewd and lascivious acts perpetrated by a 19 year old against a 17 year old – I'm not sure what that would look like.

Kim-Shree Maufas spoke about circumstances that make it clear that certain activity should be questioned. Don't just walk away.

Arlo Hale Smith commented that police don't have resources for witness protection.

McNeil commented that there are exceptions that allow space not to report.

M/S/C (Cohen/Katz). Passed unanimously except for abstentions from U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, Smith, State Senator Mark Leno, and Assemblymember Phil Ting

8. **Resolution: Protecting Parking Access for People with Disabilities** (Kelly, Dorsey, Mandelman, FDR Democratic Club) Proposed resolution opposing the City and County of San Francisco's efforts to amend state law to impose time limits and begin charging disability parking placard holders to park; and supporting collaborative efforts by local jurisdictions to combat fraud and misuse in the disability parking placards.

Rizzo asked if the City is looking for exemptions from State law for itself. Kelly and Katz confirmed yes.

Jung reminded the audience that chartered club presidents are allowed to speak during this time.

Jonathan Lyens commented that this effort by SFMTA would affect the entire State of California. This is not about an exemption. The SFMTA board is doing this in the absence of public comment.

David Chiu commented that we have recognized that there have been some abuses. SFMTA did not do a good job of figuring out how those with limited means can make this work.

Cohen asked how do we sort this all out when, for example, the MTA is not here and we cannot hear that perspective.

Rosenthal commented that the Issues Committee was not well represented. Only 5 of us, but it was vigorously discussed. MTA was not there.

Hsieh commented that there are parliamentary procedures that allow us to delay a vote if we don't think we have all the facts.

Lyens commented that this situation has been going on for 10 months. The MTA has gone around the Bay Area and held multiple presentations and did not invite the other viewpoint.

Katz called the question.

M/S/C (Kelly/Rosenthal) Passed unanimously except for abstentions from U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, Smith, State Senator Mark Leno, and Assemblymember Phil Ting

Alicia Wang was in attendance and was recognized for her work and leadership in the California Democratic Party.

9. **Revision to the Policies and Procedures Manual: Slate Card Conflicts of Interest** (Kelly) Proposed revision to the S.F. Democratic Party's Policy and Procedure Manual prohibiting members of the SFDCCC with certain financial conflicts of interest from serving on the Slate Card/Bidding Subcommittee, or voting to award certain SFDCCC contracts.

Kelly stated she seeks to open a conversation about transparency in our process. In no way do I want to "quiet" Asian Americans or take the vote away from them. I am not addressing this to anybody. This was addressed to transparency. I want people to know if I am supporting somebody other than what is on the slate card. That does not throw me off the slate card committee.

I am open to discussing this today or sending it back to committee. The last election's slate card was beautiful and "we won." I volunteered on this committee. I am not attacking anybody and I hope they are not attacking me.

I move that this be referred to the bylaws committee.

Matthew Rothschild (Harris) – a former chair of the DCCC and served on the slate card committee. When we saw this on the agenda, I thought this was inappropriate. The appropriate thing to do was to first say thank you. We had a public vote on recommendations before the slate card committee was working. There was transparency. The slate card was successful. We encourage people to be involved on campaigns, even if we disagree with them. We have all had positions different than what the DCCC officially recommended. I think this is a ruse. There should be no suggestion whatsoever that anything other than proper conduct occurred. We should vote "no" on this. I am against sending this to committee tonight.

Dunning – When I see a resolution, I ask, “what is the problem we are trying to solve,” and I did not see a problem. I am reminded of voter suppression. This is not about disclosure; it is about prohibition. It is about banning people. I support an up and down vote.

Maufas – if we have an up and down vote and it does not pass, can it be brought again? Jung responded – yes, at another meeting.

Rosenthal – Thanks Kelly for bringing this up. There is a section on conflicts of interest that would prevent most of us from participating. This bothered me during the last District Attorney race when I supported Sharmin Bock. We are an active group. I want this to go back to committee to address this.

Dorsey – Associates with Rosenthal’s remarks. He had his own questions when he was working for Dennis Herrera and Herrera was running – on whether or not to endorse. There are things we can spell out and address without prohibiting anyone.

Mandelman – I am incredibly fond of our chair, our treasurer and Tony Fazio. It is a good thing that we have a Chinese-American chair and treasurer. I have reviewed this resolution and although it needs work, it is patently fair.

Katz – There is a theme here that disclosure is valuable. This does not get to that. Timing is an issue here. When we put together a bidding committee, we cannot know what people are going to do. I recommend this be voted down. It targets valuable members. I assume all serve with the best interests of the Party. Rosenthal brings up a different section.

Smith – moves the previous question. Jung stated that the motion was not seconded and could not be voted on.

M/S/C (Rothschild/Katz) Move to oppose this resolution. Vote ‘yes’ to defeat the revision. The revision was defeated with a vote of 19 yes votes to 5 no votes. The revision was defeated.

Votes as follows: Yes (19): Anderson, Chiu, Cohen, Dufty, Dunning, Fazio, Hsieh, Jung, Katz, Levitan, McNeil, Pimentel, Smith, Wiener, Feinstein, Speier, Harris, Yee, and Ting.

No (5): Dorsey, Dwyer, Kelly, Mandelman, Ammiano.

Abstain (2): Rosenthal, Leno.

Left before vote: Avalos, Mar.

Dorsey asked that the item go to the By-laws Committee and be brought back before the DCCC at a later date. The Chair agreed to this.

**10. New Business**

None.

**11. Adjournment**

M/S/C (Ting/Dunning) Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Kat Anderson, recording secretary*

# San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California  
Milton Marks Auditorium  
Wednesday, February 26, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

## Regular Meeting Minutes

Note: A majority of the members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and of one or more Board committees, currently serve as members of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC). The law is not clear as to whether the open meeting requirements of state and local law apply to DCCC meetings attended by these Board members. Out of abundance of caution, the Board members and the DCCC have agreed to comply with these open meeting laws.

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### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call at 7:16 pm

Chair: Mary Jung. Members: Kat Anderson, David Chiu (arrived 7:40), Matt Dorsey, Zoe Dunning, Kelly Dwyer, Bill Fazio (left 8:26), Tom Hsieh, Leslie Katz (arrived 7:21), Hene Kelly, Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar, Trevor McNeil, Leah Pimentel, Alix Rosenthal, Arlo Hale Smith, and Scott Wiener. Ex-Officio Members: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy George Broder); U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier (proxy Brian Perkins); Attorney General Kamala Harris (proxy Matthew Rothschild); State Senator Mark Leno (proxy Keith Baraka); Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (proxy Esther Marks); Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy Jason Wong).

Absent-excused: Petra DeJesus; Bevan Dufty; Meagan Levitan; Carole Migden.

Absent: U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi; State Senator Leland Yee.

Proxies: John Avalos gave proxy to Mandelman; David Campos gave proxy to Mar; Malia Cohen gave proxy to Mawuli Tugbenyoh.

Meeting called to order at 7:18 pm.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

M/S/C (Ting/Anderson) to approve agenda as amended.  
Withdraw item 8.

### 3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

January 22, 2014 minutes withdrawn by Recording Secretary until next meeting.

### 4. **Public Comment**

Susan Pfeifer – ACA/Covered California update. FDR Democratic Club holds a pedestrian safety forum tomorrow night.

Alec Bash – Spoke in support of climate change resolution.

Jessica Closson – SF PTA. Spoke in support of sugary beverage tax.

Christina Goette – parent. Also works in public health department. Spoke in support of sugary beverage tax. Sugar suppresses our ability to burn fat. Too much sugar alters our hunger response. It acts in our brain much like other addictive substances. It impacts all of our organs. Get a lot of sugar in one dose in a different way than food.

Todd David – SF Parent PAC. Works on campaign for the soda tax. Spoke in support of sugary beverage tax. UCSF says there is a direct correlation between drinking sugary drinks and type II diabetes.

Dave Masson/Robin Cooper – Citizen’s Climate lobby. Spoke in support of carbon tax and dividend proposal. Climate change is the single biggest crisis in our time. We need aggressive action now.

Public comment ended at 7:41 pm.

### 5. **Reports**

DCCC member reports, including discussion and possible action, to offer updates on work assignments and discuss ongoing objectives.

a) **Chair** (Jung). Report on DCCC activities, including the California Democratic State Convention on March 7-9, 2014 in Los Angeles. Next meeting is March 12. Deadline for voter handbook is March 14. An interview meeting will be set in time. If you are not going to the Democratic Convention, please let Jung know who your proxy is, or you can have help getting a proxy.

b) **CDP Region 6 Update** (Kelly). Report on activities of the California Democratic Party from Hene Kelly, Director of Region 6. The Convention is the time to have an endorsement of the Constitutional offices of the State. At the early endorsement meeting, a high percentage of people voting. As a region, we decided to let the people decide and there was no

endorsement. 36% endorsed Campos; 31% endorsed Chiu; and 30% voted no endorsement.

- c) **Issues** (Dunning). The Issues committee recommends the carbon tax be passed. There was no vote on whether to recommend how to vote on the Soda tax. AB 1266 repeal was withdrawn.
- d) **Voter Registration** (McNeil). He is interested in working with members to activate our clubs. It has been 2 years since we went to our clubs asking for their endorsements and it will be two more years before our next election. Dorsey and Kelly affirmed that.
- e) **Club Chartering** (Pimentel). Report on club-related activities, and update from the Presidents' Cabinet meeting. New Avenues Democratic Club (Peter Lauterborn) submitted an application for charter. This club is on the Westside. Kelly Dwyer is the interim president.

M/S/C (Pimentel/Katz) to charter this club.

There was a successful Presidents cabinet meeting. Discussed streamline endorsement process including setting questions.

- f) **Recording Secretary** (Anderson). Attendance report on DCCC membership.
  - g) **Finance** (Dunning). DCCC breakfast on April 11 at Hotel Intercontinental. Working on sponsorships. Jackie Speier will be featured speaker.
  - h) **Treasurer** (Hsieh). Finances are good. With fundraiser, we will have at least 3 months of cushion. Thanked our executive director for keeping to our budget. Thanked Chris Gruwell for free space at the Hatch.
  - i) **Executive Director** (Medina). As of this morning, we have registered 750 voters this year. She brought proxy forms for the Convention. Lunar New Year College Democrats fundraiser raised \$8,000. After expenses, that gives \$5,000 to support students' attendance at the Convention. Our volunteer effort was great for the Alvarez for Mayor campaign.
6. **Resolution: Carbon Tax** (Eisen, President, Potrero Democratic Club/Avalos/Campos/Chiu/Cohen/DeJesus/Dorsey/Kelly/Mandelman/



Pimentel/Rosenthal/Wiener/Noe Valley and Richmond Democratic Clubs/Katz/Dwyer) Proposed resolution urging the U.S. Congress to enact a tax on the CO<sub>2</sub> potential of fossil fuels for the purpose of reducing U.S. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to 10 percent of 1990 levels by 2050.

Hsieh will vote “no,” on this because he can barely afford to pay for fuel. He does all that he can to keep his automobile costs down, bikes, carpools, etc. This is a complicated issue, but he does not believe that a tax that begins on the refinery level will not filter down to the consumer. This is regressive. Fazio will join with Hsieh. A lot of his clients will not file their income taxes and won’t be able to get their money back.

Chiu called the question.

M/S/C (Mandelman/Rosenthal).

- 7. Resolution: Sugary Beverage Tax** (Pimentel/Tom Ammiano, John Avalos, David Campos, David Chiu, Malia Cohen, Matt Dorsey, Kelly Dwyer, Zoe Dunning, Leslie Katz, Hene Kelly, Mark Leno, Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar, Trevor McNeil, Alix Rosenthal, Phil Ting, Scott Wiener.)

Proposed resolution supporting a sugary beverage tax for the purpose of decreasing consumption and enhancing public health and to fund recreation and nutrition programs; and urging the Board of Supervisors to submit to voters a ballot measure for the Nov. 2014 election to tax sugary beverages.

Mar and Wiener thanked Pimentel for bringing this to the DCCC. 30% of teenagers have pre-Diabetes. That is a healthcare catastrophe. This tax will generate over \$30 million in funding for school and park/rec nutrition and PE programs. This will improve public health. Wiener addressed “Why are we voting on this now?” To have time to urge legislative action. It can only go on the ballot if the BOS votes to place it on the ballot. We know the beverage industry is going to come in and try to “big foot” this issue, spending millions of dollars. We need to help build a coalition.

Pimentel/Wiener amends the resolution by removing footnotes so it will fit on one page in compliance with DCCC rules. No objections.

Hsieh spoke in response. He agrees that obesity is a problem. He works with BMW which represents the American Beverage Corporation. This is

complicated. It's about total food caloric intake. The legislation being presented stresses that a drink with 25 calories of sugar will be taxed at 2 cents per ounce. A gram of sugar is equal to 4 calories. Yes, this targets soda, but it also targets fruit drinks. Also, physical activity has been reduced because of our lifestyles. Must consider unintended consequences. Pointed at distribution point, a tariff, any 12-oz can of soda will be taxed at 24 cents. The merchant will have to raise prices. Many merchants are opposed to this. This has a regressive nature. It is intended to help low-economic families, but they are the ones most impacted by the higher prices.

Hene Kelly – was a health educator. Sugary beverages introduce sugar into a body without letting the body know that it has eaten enough. Education is extremely important. Agreed that healthy foods need to be brought to the low-income neighborhoods.

Smith – this is another tax on the working class. He recalled the late Michael Goldstein and that he and Goldstein agreed to not support a tobacco tax. Democrats should not engage in more tax and spend. This is a step in the wrong direction just like the war on drugs.

Wiener – All of Hsieh's arguments could be used to prohibit a tobacco tax. We've talked about legalizing marijuana, but we would also tax it. The tax in Arkansas was 2 cents per 12 oz. It was too de minimis – one would not expect it to affect consumption. Regarding the 700 businesses that allegedly oppose the tax, some of those may have not been gotten legitimately. See the article in the Bay Guardian.

Hsieh – responds to Wiener's comments. There was an expose' in the Bay Guardian. They found some inconsistencies, such as the wife of an owner signing something rather than the owner. There are paid canvassers going around and talking to merchants about whether they want such a tax. There were 4 or 5 mistakes found – that was a broad brush. He has been with the people who have real concerns. He has been with them at City Hall. They should not be demonized.

Jung – Does not believe in the nanny state. She is troubled by the regressive tax. She would like to hear more about this. She wishes the other side is here.

Katz called the question.

M/S/C (Pimentel/Wiener)

In support of resolution (19 yes votes): Avalos (proxy), Campos (proxy), Chiu, Cohen (proxy), Dorsey, Dunning, Dwyer, Katz, Kelly, Mandelman, Mar, McNeil, Pimentel, Rosenthal, Wiener, Speier, Leno, Ammiano, Ting.

Against resolution (2 no votes): Hsieh, Smith.

Abstain: Anderson, Jung, Feinstein, Harris.

8. Removed **Resolution: Opposing repeal of AB 1266, which clarifies legal protections for transgender students in California** (Dunning/Dorsey)

9. **New Business**

The port of SF did the ribbon-cutting for Bay View Rise mural. It is spectacular.

10. **Adjournment** at 8:42 pm (Rosenthal/Dunning)

*Minutes respectfully submitted by*

*Kat Anderson*

*Recording Secretary*

## **Note on Proposition A, Earthquake Retrofit Bond**

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The following 2-page summary is the most-recently approved digest of the Ballot Simplification Committee for Proposition A, "Earthquake Retrofit Bond" (a working title that remains subject to change).

A request for reconsideration from the San Francisco Department of Public Works is currently pending before the Ballot Simplification Committee regarding this measure. But the committee's completion deadline for its final digests (March 10, 2014) is *after* the DCCC's noticing deadline for the upcoming endorsement meeting.

## **Ballot Simplification Committee**

**Approved Digest - February 24, 2014: Packard, Fasick, Fraps, Jorgensen, Unruh**

**Requests for Reconsideration due by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25**

### **Earthquake Retrofit Bond** *(working title only, subject to change)*

#### **The Way It Is Now:**

The City owns and operates facilities that provide services for public safety and response to emergencies, including earthquakes. These facilities include:

- The Emergency Firefighting Water System, which provides a dedicated water supply system for fighting fires. This includes a reservoir, pipes, cisterns, pump stations and high-pressure fire hydrants;
- Neighborhood police and fire stations;
- The Medical Examiner's facility; and
- The police motorcycle unit and crime lab.

These facilities do not meet the seismic standards of the current building code and are not expected to remain functional in the event of a major disaster.

The City's 10-year Capital Plan identifies the repairs and relocation of public safety facilities as a high priority. To pay for large projects such as those included in the Capital Plan, the City borrows money by selling general obligation bonds. The City uses property tax revenues to pay the principal and interest on those bonds.

The spending of bond revenue is overseen by the Citizens' General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee. This nine-member committee is appointed by the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors, the Controller, and the Civil Grand Jury.

#### **The Proposal:**

Proposition A is a general obligation bond measure that would authorize the City to sell up to \$400 million in bonds to improve specific public safety and emergency response facilities.

The bond proceeds could only be used to:

- Upgrade, repair and retrofit the Emergency Firefighting Water System and related facilities;
- Improve and retrofit neighborhood police and fire stations;
- Build a seismically secure structure for the Medical Examiner; and
- Build a seismically secure structure for the police motorcycle unit and crime lab.

Proposition A would allow an increase in the property tax to pay for the bonds. It would permit landlords to pass through 50% of the resulting property tax increase to tenants.

Proposition A also would require the independent Citizens' General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee to oversee the spending of bond funds. One-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the bond funds would pay for the committee's audit and oversight functions.

This measure requires the approval of two-thirds of the voters.

**A “YES” Vote Means:** If you vote "yes," you want to allow the City to sell up to \$400 million in general obligation bonds to finance the construction, improvement and seismic retrofitting of specific public safety and emergency response facilities.

**A “NO” Vote Means:** If you vote “no,” you do not want to allow the City to sell bonds to finance the construction, improvement and seismic retrofitting of specific public safety and emergency response facilities.

word count: 408 [suggested word limit: 300]

## **Note on Proposition B, Voter Approval for Waterfront Height Increases**

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The following 1-page summary is the most-recently approved digest of the Ballot Simplification Committee for Proposition B, "Voter Approval for Waterfront Height Increases" (a working title that remains subject to change).

Two requests for reconsideration from Rebecca Evans and Jon Golinger are currently pending before the Ballot Simplification Committee regarding this measure. But the committee's completion deadline for its final digests (March 10, 2014) is *after* the DCCC's noticing deadline for the upcoming endorsement meeting.

## **Ballot Simplification Committee**

**Approved Digest - February 25, 2014: Packard, Fasick, Fraps, Jorgensen, Unruh**

**Requests for Reconsideration due by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26**

**Voter Approval for Waterfront Height Increases** *(working title only, subject to change)*

### **The Way It Is Now:**

The City and County of San Francisco, through its Port Commission, administers about 7-1/2 miles of the waterfront and former waterfront along the San Francisco Bay, including most of the property between Fisherman's Wharf and India Basin. The Port's property includes piers, land near the piers, and areas that were filled and are no longer adjacent to the Bay. The City acquired most of this property from the State of California and holds it in trust for the benefit of the people of California. State law restricts the allowable uses of this property.

In 1990 the City's voters adopted Proposition H, which required the City to prepare a Waterfront Land Use Plan with public input. The Port Commission adopted a comprehensive land use plan that governs acceptable waterfront uses consistent with Proposition H and public trust requirements.

The City's zoning laws regulate development on that property, including the maximum allowed height. Changes in existing height limits generally require neighborhood notification, public hearings, and approval by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. These changes do not require the voters to approve a ballot measure.

### **The Proposal:**

Proposition B would prevent the City from allowing any development on Port property that exceeds the height limits in effect as of January 1, 2014, unless the City's voters have first approved an increase in the height limit for that development. The measure applies to property currently under the control of the Port Commission, as well as any property that the Port may later acquire. Any ballot question to increase height limits on Port property must specify both existing and proposed height limits.

**A "YES" Vote Means:** If you vote "yes," you want to prevent the City from allowing any development on Port property to exceed the height limits in effect as of January 1, 2014, unless the City's voters have approved a height limit increase.

**A "NO" Vote Means:** If you vote "no," you do not want to make this change.

word count: 318 [suggested word limit: 300]