

# San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California  
Milton Marks Auditorium  
Wednesday, September 25, 2013  
7:00 p.m.

## Minutes of Regular Meeting

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

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### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call at 7:05 pm

Present:

Members: Kat Anderson, David Campos, David Chiu, Malia Cohen, Matt Dorsey, Zoe Dunning, Kelly Dwyer, Bill Fazio, Tom Hsieh, Mary Jung, Leslie Katz, Hene Kelly, Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar, Trevor McNeil, Leah Pimentel, Alix Rosenthal, Arlo Hale Smith, Scott Wiener

Ex Officio Members: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy George Broder); U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier (proxy Brian Perkins); State Senator Mark Leno (proxy Keith Baraka), State Senator Leland Yee (proxy John Rizzo), Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (proxy Kim-Shree Maufas); Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy Jason Wong)

Absent excused: Petra DeJesus, Bevan Dufty, Megan Levitan, Carole Migden

Absent: John Avalos, U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Attorney General Kamala Harris

Post-roll call arrivals: Leland Yee proxy (Rizzo) (7:10); Smith (7:13); Mar (7:14); Katz (7:16); Wiener (7:24); Chiu (7:34); Campos (7:53)

Avalos gave proxy to Mandelman.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

M/S/C (McNeil/Ammiano proxy (Maufas))

Amendment proposed by Hene Kelly to wish Mary Jung a happy birthday. Everybody to sing Happy Birthday to Jung – right after approval of agenda. New item (2a).

a. Happy Birthday to Mary Jung: crowd sang and water and treats were passed around.

Agenda, as amended, approved by acclamation.

### 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

M/S/C (Kelly/Dunning)

Minutes of August 14, 2013 approved by acclamation.

### 4. Public Comment 7:12 pm

Michael Gumban Pangilinan from the Filipino American Democratic Club spoke in favor of approval of their charter. Member Broder asked what their bylaws say about endorsement of non-Democrats. Not in their bylaws, but they only endorse Democrats.

Bridgid Skiba, student at City College, who spoke in support of students who speak English as a second language.

Susan Pfeifer, about Covered California, which opens Oct. 1 – coveredca.com. As a member of the FDR Democratic Club, voices her support of City College.

Jonathan Lyens, FDR Democratic Club, to announce the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The following spoke in support of the City College resolution presented in this meeting:

Alisa Messer, AFT 2121 President, representing City College faculty to thank us for taking up the issue of City College.

Tim Killikelly, AFT 2121, teaches Political Science at City College.

Chris Jackson, City College trustee.

Public comment closed at 7:28 pm.

### 5. Reports

- a) **Chair** (Jung) – The DCCC slate card. Thanked Kelly, Hsieh and Rothschild for working on the card. 4 candidates and 4 ballot measures. Can raise enough money to send out two mailings. Thanked Rosenthal for helping with minutes last month and Anderson for always doing them, understanding she does not feel well tonight. Slate card will be done by Winning Directions.
- b) **Issues** (Rosenthal) – No report.
- c) **Voter Registration** (McNeil) – It is festival season with a lot of events happening on weekends. Members need to step up. Let Ally and him know if you are going and they will set you up to have a presence. Dunning will do Castro Street Fair.

- d) **Club Chartering** (Pimentel) – She is working with the treasurer to do the club treasurer training. November 13 training at SFAR conference room. She answered that the Filipino Democratic Club does not speak in its bylaws about endorsing non-Democrats. Broder asked that that question be asked of all clubs. Smith pointed out that that requirement has not existed since 2004. She moved to charter the Filipino DC (seconded by Smith).
- e) **Communications** (Dorsey) – Thanked Smith, Kelly and Hsieh for their work on this.
- f) **Finance** (Dunning) – Deferred to Medina regarding her report.
- g) **Treasurer** (Hsieh) – Apologized for not having a handout tonight. We are strong financially. Over \$69,000 cash on hand as of August 1<sup>st</sup>. \$8,500 per month is spent to keep the office running. Bounty cash was brought in. We have reserves and two fundraisers scheduled. That will keep us strong.
- h) **Executive Director** (Medina) – Introduced new intern Aaron Kahn. He will be here through fall. He is also interning at City Hall. Working on social media plan. Working with Nation Builder to improve our website. December 1, 2013 at 11 am is the fundraiser at Jane Morrison's. To fund the Sue Bierman interns, to get young people involved in politics (said member Kelly). Invitations will go out 6 weeks beforehand. Yesterday was National Voter Registration day. Got 70 new voters. 600 registered this month. Working with college campuses to help train and develop Democratic clubs.

6. **CDP Region 6 Update** (Kelly) – There will be an Executive Board meeting on November 22-24 at the Westin in Millbrae, if anyone is interested (these meetings are small and fun). There will be a Region 6 meeting in October, TBA. Club members need to get materials in to the CDP with a roster of the club members. Get a delegate for every 20 members for the January AD meeting. Need the rosters to be reviewed because members cannot be counted twice (even though they might be in more than one club). We will be endorsing in Congress and Assembly. The convention is first week in March 2014.

CA Dems competition: if you join CADEM 2014 and bring in another member, you get your fee waived. The contest (the caucuses and DCCC can enter) the more people you sign up for the club, they can win a free room. The other prize is a seat at the table with Kamala Harris at the luncheon.

7. **Revisions to the Policies and Procedures Manual** (Dorsey) -- Most of the revisions are minor renumbering, how we post resolutions have changed. Two substantive things: 1) Early endorsement at Article VI sections 1.0 and 2.0. Smith proposed a 60% vote with a timing hook, and 2) the Article V section 5 regarding endorsement of non-Democrat candidates. Will we allow chartered clubs to endorse non-Democrats in certain elections? Because of the DCCC earlier vote, that did not pass. Hsieh suggested we put language in this document to clarify. Hsieh commented this is much like what is required by the DOE re: independent expenditures.

Mandelman asked re: notice to clubs and the consequence if they ignore this?

Dorsey agreed that is a good point and there is no rush on this.

Hsieh said that this is an issue that keeps coming up. Suggested that Pimental take this up to notice clubs on new policies and procedures. He does not see a penalty. We are not in the business of bouncing clubs on violations. He cannot recall it ever being done.

Kelly commented that most clubs will not endorse a non-Democrat in any instance.

Hsieh agreed.

Mandelman thinks this is a good idea to make things clear for those who get the cards with the disclosure. He suggests we put this off for a month to reach out to several clubs.

Hsieh finds this agreeable with Mandelman's (and others) support in reaching out to the clubs. We have not discussed penalties because there are no penalties.

Wiener thinks it is fine now or putting it off. He opposes efforts to penalize clubs for endorsing non-Democrats. Thinks this is an excellent idea that avoids misrepresentations and increases transparency.

Katz concurs with prior comments. Best time to come up with anticipatory action is before there is a problem. Good idea to reach out to clubs before hand. Pointed out a missing closed parenthesis. Proposed that it be approved subject to club notification.

Katz/Smith: Move passage of amendments except Article V section 5, which will be tabled for consideration at the next DCCC meeting.

Approved by acclamation.

## **8. RESOLUTION OF THE SAN FRANCISCO DEMOCRATIC PARTY SUPPORTING CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO**

Sponsored by Rafael Mandelman, Scott Wiener, David Campos, David Chiu, John Avalos, Matt Dorsey, Carole Migden, Bill Fazio, Hene Kelly, Petra DeJesus, Leah Pimentel and Kelly Dwyer.

Additional sponsors: Ammiano, Katz, Cohen and Anderson.

Mandelman spoke about the great strengths of City College. City College is now in trouble according to the Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). The ACCJC found City College in violation of several standards and pulled its accreditation, but stayed that until July 2014. It has demanded a plan for closure.

There are legitimate differences about what City College should be doing.

We must be work to make sure the College does not close. Great harm is being done to the College right now. There has been a drop in enrollment of up to 25%. That decline in revenue will amount to the tens of millions of dollars.

The College has a \$200 million budget. Prop A might generate \$15 million. The loss is more than what the voters are providing.

Questions have been raised about the accreditors' behavior. The DOE has issued a report about that.

This resolution asks stakeholders to do everything they can to save the College.

Small amendments have been offered since the resolution was sent out in the agenda packet.

Authorize Dorsey to shorten this to comply with State Party guidelines for resolutions.

Wiener: He tries to keep emotion out of politics, but the ACCJC's actions "piss [him] off." This is unbelievably irresponsible. It is taking a core institution of this City and threatening it. Of all the criticisms that you hear, you never hear of anything but City College providing a great education. He has heard so many stories about City College helping people get a leg up.

(Member Anderson left due to illness. Notetaking then done by intern Aaron Kahn.)

Campos: declares support for resolution, says community has been disenfranchised.

Dwyer: expresses support for resolution. Personal cause for supporting: husband was immigrant, went to City College, got trained as firefighter.

Katz: former trustee, supports, 1/7 stat., urges committee to pressure contacts to also support City College. Suggests that we push state party to take up resolution supporting community colleges as a whole.

Mandelman: describes lack of transparency in election of accreditation members.

Katz asks if any effort has been made to withdraw authority of accreditation officials.

Mandelman: would require interference at federal level.

Cohen: supports. Considered offering language. Rather than adding amendments, is asking body to remain concerned about merging of southeast and Evans campuses.

Kelly: thanks Campos for pointing out that voters' will has been disenfranchised -- that prop A voters have been overruled by an unelected board. Points out importance of college in building city's community, fostering and strengthening organized labor in city. Provides numerous personal anecdotes illustrating this.

Yee (proxy): thanks Mandelman for putting it on agenda, and sponsors. First time in CA History that a governing body of an educational institution has been removed when there has been no budget shortfall.

Smith: was going to vote no, will abstain. Disapproves of City College board leadership, except Mandelman.

Ammiano (proxy): supports.

Leno (proxy): thanks Mandelman. *Incredibly* supportive, but as a policy he does not vote on resolutions that urge policy makers what to do, so abstains.

Lyens (Club president): FDR Democrats are supportive. Thanks Cohen for points re: campus mergers. Many seniors and people with disabilities heavily rely on the multi-campus system. Cites various faults in the ACCJC report.

M/S/C (Kelly/Smith).

Abstentions: Proxies for Phil Ting and Mark Leno; Arlo Hale Smith. Member Anderson had to leave early due to illness and did not vote. Proxy for Feinstein had to leave early for urgent business and did not vote.

## 9. New Business

Member Katz announced details of a brunch with President Obama and Representative Lee.

## 10. Adjournment

M/S/C (Katz/Kelly)

Member Jung adjourned meeting in memory of Sheryl Lewis and Evelyn Wilson.

Member Dunning adjourned in memory of Gloria Johnson, first LGBT member of state party executive committee.

Adjourned at 8:41 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Kat Anderson  
Recording Secretary  
Democratic County Central Committee*

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