

## **Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club**

### Questionnaire for Candidates for November 2014

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on declaring your candidacy. The Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club invites you to get to know us better as we seek to learn more about you. As we plan our endorsements for the 2014 election cycle, your participation in our club questionnaire allows our membership to better understand you as a candidate: who you are, what you stand for, and what you plan to accomplish in office.

There are two parts to our questionnaire. Part 1 is a series of short-answer questions. We invite you to be descriptive in this section, however, please keep your responses to under 5 sentences. Part 2 is a simple Yes/No questionnaire that covers a broader set of issues than Part 1. You may expand upon Part 2 answers on a separate sheet of paper. Please return the completed questionnaire by **11:59 PM Thursday, August 14th**. E-mail all questionnaires to PAC Chair Alex Walker at [pac@milkclub.org](mailto:pac@milkclub.org). Please bring at least 5 copies (printed front and back) of your questionnaire to our PAC interviews on **Saturday, August 16**. If you are unable to do so, please let Alex know ASAP. Please do not print this cover sheet.

We will be having our candidate interviews on **Saturday, August 16** from **9:30 AM to 4:30 PM** at the **LGBT Center's Ceremonial Room** (1800 Market at Octavia). Alex should be in touch to schedule a 10-minute slot (5 minute speech and the rest for questions and wrap-up). If you have any questions or to reschedule, email him at [pac@milkclub.org](mailto:pac@milkclub.org) or call him at 415-876-8254.

Good Luck,

The Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club

## Required Information

**Full Name:** Dr. Amy Bacharach

**Office Sought:** Community College Board

**Mailing Address:** 381 Bush Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94104

**Phone:** 415-692-3556

**Email:** amy@amybacharach.com

**Website:** www.amybacharach.com

**Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club?** No

**If so, when did you first join?**

**Are you lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)?** No

## PART 1: Short-Answer Questionnaire

- 1) Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek (include your key issues/priorities if elected and any key endorsements you'd like to share), plus anything else that you'd like our members to know about you and your candidacy.

As a reminder from my close campaign two years ago, I am in a unique position to govern San Francisco City College because of my work in developing and analyzing policy, implementing evidence-based practices, and making hard decisions, as well as my work as an adjunct professor for many years and my passion for education, having gone from high-school drop-out to PhD. With City College at a critical stage, my goal is to focus on the overall stability of the institution as a whole and ensure available, accessible, and affordable education for our community while also ensuring adherence to the accrediting agency's standards. The primary objective is to keep City College open, accredited, and top quality. I believe that if strong, independent leaders are elected to the Board at this point, the State Board will be more likely to reinstate the CCSF Board sooner. My vision is for the elected Board to move forward with strengthening the institution as a whole, making sure that the community's needs are being met with high-quality education and training and that the college is on track for financial stability. The Board must also rebuild mutual trust with all of its stakeholders, including faculty and staff, students, the community, the state chancellor's office, and even the accrediting agency. Although I jumped into the race late (a week before the filing deadline), early endorsers include Fiona Ma, Alix Rosenthal, Leah Pimentel, Zoe Dunning, Kim-Shree Maufas, Sandra Fewer, Rachel Norton, and Supervisor Jane Kim. I also received an early endorsement from the San Francisco Women's Political Committee.

- 2) If you are running for College Board, tell us about what you have done to support CCSF during its accreditation crisis and what you plan to do to keep it open and funded. Even if you aren't running for College Board, if you have been a part of the fight to save CCSF, feel free to tell us about what you have done to help.

Throughout the past two years, I've encouraged students to stay at CCSF and others to enroll in CCSF, letting them know that the school remains accredited. In order to keep the school open, the Board must be reinstated and must work together with all stakeholders, including faculty, students, the chancellor, the state board, and the accrediting agency to ensure that all standards are met and the institution has a plan to retain those standards while keeping its consistent high-quality education for the whole community. San Francisco City College is ripe for new perspectives, and I bring a fresh, pragmatic approach to decision making with new, creative ideas for increasing revenue and making hard decisions. Once CCSF is stabilized, I will work to harness the success of City College graduates in the community to create an alumni network to mentor current students, to provide expansive practical internship opportunities, and to help fund the future generation's educational aspirations.

- 3) Do you support repeal or reform of the Ellis Act? Locally, what specifically would you do to fight for housing affordability in San Francisco?

I support major reform of the Ellis Act. Although there needs to be a way for landlords to legitimately get out of the rental business, the Act is clearly being abused by speculators and others. However, affordability is primarily affected by the lack of housing availability in the city. The city desperately needs development to meet demand and also desperately needs affordable housing for various income levels, including low-income and "middle class," which have been forced out of the city in disproportionate amounts. More than a year ago, I was working on a resolution to mandate a certain percentage of all new development to be mixed use and mixed income, with 25 percent of the development at low income, 25 percent at "affordable," and 50 percent at market rate. Although this resolution never gained traction, I am happy to see that the idea is being moved forward in some capacity.

- 4) In your opinion, what kind of reform of Prop 13 is needed, if any? Would you support a split-roll property tax system?

Prop 13 must be reformed to ensure adequate tax revenue for education in California. Funding for education has been decimated since Prop 13, and the results are nothing short of a crisis. I believe that it should be reformed so that commercial property is properly assessed every time it is sold, regardless of how many people own the corporation or who is buying or selling. Thus, I support the split-roll system.

- 5) LGBTQ elders and older people living with HIV face a number of challenges, including finding affordable housing, accessing health care and a general lack of services. Many are being evicted. If you were elected, what would you do in your power to help address these challenges?

Although a community college trustee would have little power to change policies

related to this per se, being an elected leader brings a responsibility to speak up for and act on behalf of those most vulnerable in the community. I would support legislation and initiatives to help address these challenges.

6) Similarly, LGBTQ youth face challenges including bullying and a high rate of homelessness if ostracized by their families. If you are elected, what would you do in your power to help these youth? For School Board candidates, what would you do on the SFUSD board to help LGBTQ students who are bullied?

I have done a lot of research and judicial education in the area of foster youth and juvenile justice, particularly in the area of human trafficking. LGBT youth are among those most at risk for trafficking due to being ostracized and kicked out of their homes at alarming rates. I hope to work with the SF Unified School System to create a collaborative and unified approach to bullying. At the college, I will encourage and publicize CCSF's The Tolerance Project, which includes resources for teachers and students on facilitating tolerance and community. I will also continue to promote diversity in hiring so that students have diverse teachers to stimulate discussions about bridging differences. I will also encourage an orientation period for full-time students that includes diversity training.

7) Supervised injection facilities or drug consumption facilities have been shown to reduce new HIV and hepatitis infections, overdose deaths, and public drug use, and to increase linkage to medical care and substance use treatment and save money, yet they remain controversial and illegal. If you are elected, what would you do to advocate for supervised injection sites?

I would fully support initiatives for injection facilities.

## PART 2: Yes/No Questionnaire

Please check **Yes** or **No** for each question.

GENERAL	YES	NO
1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat?	X	
1. Have you ever run for elected office before?	X	
1. Do you have a campaign consultant? If so, who: Marjan Philhour, California Group	X	
1. Have you ever sought the Milk Club endorsement in the past?	X	

### LGBTQ ISSUES

1. Do you support including full transgender health benefits in Covered California health plans?	X	
1. Do you support public funding for employment development for transgender individuals?	X	

**TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES**

1. Do you support rent control?	X	
1. Have you ever been involved as homeowner, buyer or agent in the eviction of a tenant? If so, please explain:		X

**RACIAL AND IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES**

1. Do you support driver's licenses for undocumented persons?	X	
1. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board?		X
1. Do you support the protection of due process for immigrant youth accused of crime?	X	
1. Do you support the DREAM Act?	X	

**SOCIAL JUSTICE, HEALTH, NIGHTLIFE AND LABOR ISSUES**

1. Do you support capital punishment (death penalty)?		X
1. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	X	
1. Did you support Prop 35 in November 2012?	X	
1. Did you support Sen. Leno's 2013 bill (or at least the concept) to allow localities to allow some bars to serve liquor until 4 AM?	X	
1. Do you support the legalization, taxation, and regulation of adult recreational use of marijuana?	X	
1. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott? If so, explain:		X
1. Do you support the Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights?	X	

**EDUCATION AND YOUTH ISSUES**

**YES NO**

1. Did you support Assemblymember Ammiano's AB 1266 (rights for transgender students)?	X	
1. Do you support the Common Core education standards?	X	
1. Do you support lowering the threshold to pass a local parcel tax for education to 55%?	X	

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

1. Do you support California's high speed rail plans?	X	
1. Do you support Governor Brown's Delta Tunnels plan?		X

**LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES**

1. Do you support Prop A (Transportation and Road Improvement Bond)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop B (Population-Based Adjustment to General Fund Appropriation to Transportation Fund)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop C (Children and Youth Fund)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop D (Retiree Health Benefits for Former Redevelopment Agency and Successor Agency Employees)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop E (Tax on Sugar-Sweetened Beverages)?	X	

1. Do you support Prop F (Pier 70 Development Height Limit Increase)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop G (Harvey Milk Anti-Speculation Tax)?		
1. Do you support Prop H (Maintaining Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park as Natural Grass)?		X
1. Do you support Prop I (Park Code – Children's Playgrounds, Walking Trails, Athletic Fields)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop J (Administrative Code – Minimum Wage)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop K (Affordable Housing Goals)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop L (Transportation Priorities)?	X	

**STATE BALLOT MEASURES**

1. Do you support Prop 43 (Water Bond)? <b>Note: this may not end up being on the ballot this year.</b>		
1. Do you support Prop 44 (Rainy Day Fund)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop 45 (Health Insurers Justify Rate Increases)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop 46 (Drug Testing Doctors; Raising Medical Malpractice Awards Cap)?		X
1. Do you support Prop 47 (Reducing Some Crimes From Felonies to Misdemeanors)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop 48 (Indian Gaming Compacts Referendum)?	X	
1. Do you support Prop 49 (Constitutional Amendment Opposing Citizens United)?	X	