

# **Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club Questionnaire for Candidates for November 2018**

## **Required Information**

**Full Name:** Shamann Walton

**Office Sought:** Board of Supervisors, District 10

**Mailing Address:** 4900 Third Street, San Francisco, CA 94124

**Phone:** 707-332-3225

**Email:** info@shamannwalton.com

**Website:** [www.shamannwalton.com](http://www.shamannwalton.com)

**Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Since when?** No, planning to be.

**Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)?** No

## **PART ONE: Short-Answer Questionnaire (Please limit responses to 5 sentences or 100 words)**

**1) Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek. Feel free to add anything else that you'd like our members to know about you and your candidacy.**

I was born in San Francisco and lived in public housing at an early age in Bayview and Potrero Hill. I have spent the past two decades fighting to improve our D10 neighborhoods as the Director of Potrero Hill Family Resource Center, a program officer for DCYF, and now as the Executive Director of Young Community Developers and SF School Board Member. I've witnessed a once tight-knit community in D10 become separated and I have lost many of my childhood friends to crime and violence. Because of these experiences, I want to devote my life to changing that reality and find ways to inspire hope and opportunity across all our generations.

**2) Do you have any key endorsements you'd like to share?**

San Francisco Tenants Union

United Educators of San Francisco

Planned Parenthood Norcal Action Fund

SEIU Local 1021

National Union of Healthcare Workers

California Nurses Association (#2)

SFDCCC Chair David Campos

SFDCCC Vice-Chair Sophie Maxwell

SFDCCC Member Keith Baraka

Public Defender Jeff Adachi

Eight San Francisco Supervisors: Sandra Lee Fewer, Aaron Peskin, Vallie Brown, Norman Yee, Rafael Mandelman, Hillary Ronen, Malia Cohen, Ahsha Safai

Former Supervisors Eric Mar, John Avalos

All Members of SF Board of Education: Hydra Mendoza-McDonnell, Stevon Cook, Matt Haney, Emily Murase, Rachel Norton, Mark Sanchez  
4 Members of the CCSF Trustees: Brigitte Davila, Alex Randolph, Thea Selby, Shanell Williams  
BART Board Directors Bevan Dufty, Lateefah Simon

**3) More than 7,000 individuals are experiencing homelessness in San Francisco. Due to the physical and mental trauma inherent to living without stable housing, these individuals suffer from increased health problems and are three to four times more likely to die prematurely than their housed counterparts.**

**What do you see as the most important short-term and long-term solutions to the homeless crisis in San Francisco? What can you do in the office you are running for to help end homelessness?**

Under my leadership at Young Community Developers, my team will be staffing the new Navigation Center located near the Cesar Chavez hairball. As Supervisor, I will increase resources for strategically creating transitional and permanent housing for our homeless population. In the short-term, this includes creating more Navigation Centers with pathways to permanent housing and utilizing abandoned buildings to house and provide supportive services. In the long-term, this will involve building additional affordable housing, using some of our public land to build affordable projects or supportive housing, increasing the City's mental health and addiction treatment services, and ending the practice of releasing non-violent, mentally ill and/or addicted individuals from jail directly back to the street.

**4) What are your priorities and plans to address housing affordability and economic inequality in San Francisco? What have you done on this in the past?**

My priorities include building more 100% affordable housing, legalizing accessory dwelling units, creating pathways for residents to connect to living wage jobs, and mandatory local hire. As the Executive Director at YCD, I have worked vigorously to build close relationships with labor to provide job training and career opportunities for residents. I have fiercely negotiated with developers to bring 100% affordable housing projects into District 10 as well as provide community equity benefits for residents most impacted by construction. I have personally located neighborhood preference certificate holders who have been forced out of the City to bring them back to living in affordable units in District 10.

**5) Describe your philosophy and priorities for developing a legislative framework for recreational marijuana. Do you agree with the current framework adopted by the Board of Supervisors? What would you change, if anything?**

As a Black man, I have seen far too many of my friends, neighbors and peers convicted on marijuana charges. Recreational marijuana legislation in San Francisco must be based on equity so that it benefits low-income residents and people with marijuana convictions or other nonviolent felonies. As Supervisor, I will work with the cannabis industry to create training

pathways for individuals who have been criminalized by marijuana to work and thrive in the industry. Revenue from the industry must go back to low-income communities who have been impacted by the criminalization of marijuana to provide job training, youth programs, and other community benefits.

**6) The African American population in San Francisco is steadily declining. The racial bias of our police force and criminal justice system is well documented. SFUSD's achievement gap for African Americans students is the highest in the country as of 2017.**

**What do you think are the most important actions that you can take in your office to stabilize and support the African American community in San Francisco?**

As President and member of the San Francisco Board of Education, I spearhead the effort to close the achievement gap for Black, Latino, and special needs students and I helped secure the funding for the school district's first African American Achievement and Leadership Initiative. As Supervisor, I will continue investing and uplifting African American leadership in the community by collaborating with local organizations and churches to create a network of support. I will continue working with law enforcement to create true community policing strategies where law enforcement is actively building relationships with the community. Lastly, will make sure our African American population stops being displaced and bring back neighborhood preference holders into our communities in affordable housing developments.

We have to aggressively use the laws in place to bring back families and stabilize our Black community. Through my current role at YCD, we brought back 12 certificate of preference holders (COP), all Black families who moved to neighboring cities. I have personally located families who have been displaced and provided a path to bring them back to San Francisco. As Supervisor, I want to start a task force to identify more displaced families and develop a path back to SF.

**7) How have you support the LGBTQ community and how will you continue to do so if elected?**

In my role as a program officer for DCYF, I have fought to increase resources for the Lavender Youth Information and Recreation Center (LYRIC), a workforce and youth leadership development organization specifically focusing on LGBTQ youth during the 2008-2009 recession. As School Board Member, I have fought for funding for full time school district personnel to provide support and resource centers for LGBTQ students. I have authored resolutions to provide protections for all students, particularly immigrant and LGBTQ students, ensuring that they are protected from discrimination of any kind and supported a resolution for non-gender restrooms in our SFUSD schools. As Supervisor, I will continue to place the concerns of the LGBTQ community at the forefront of my decisions.

## PART TWO: Yes or No Questionnaire

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

<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat?	✓	
2. Have you ever run for elected office before?	✓	
3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who: Campaign Manager: Natalie Gee, natalie@shamannwalton.com	✓	
4. Have you ever sought the Harvey Milk Club endorsement in the past?	✓	

<b>LGBTQ ISSUES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
5. Do you support public funding, including set asides, for the establishment and development of LGBTQ Cultural Districts in San Francisco?	✓	
6. Do you support public funding for employment development specifically for transgender individuals?	✓	
7. Do you support expansion of the LGBT curriculum in our City's public schools? <b>ABSOLUTELY YES!</b>	✓	
8. Do you support efforts to expand access to PrEP and other initiatives of the "Getting to Zero" initiative to end the HIV epidemic in San Francisco?	✓	

<b>TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
9. Do you support the expansion of rent control beyond buildings constructed prior to 1979? <b>ABSOLUTELY YES!</b>	✓	
11. Have you ever been involved as homeowner, buyer or agent in the eviction of a tenant? If so, please explain on a separate sheet of paper.		✓
12. Do you support requiring Short Term Rental platforms (e.g. AirBnB, VRBO) to publish registration numbers for properly-registered STRs on their respective websites, handing over booking data to the Planning Department, and increased funding for the department for enforcement capacity?	✓	
13. Did you support Prop G (the "Harvey Milk Anti-Speculation Tax") in 2014?	✓	
14. Did you support Prop F (stricter controls on AirBnB and other STR	✓	

platforms) in 2015?		
15. Did you support Prop I (the Mission Moratorium) in 2015?	✓	

<b>IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
16. Do you support San Francisco's Due Process for All Ordinance, which prevents law enforcement from detaining suspected criminals in response to ICE requests, except in the case of violent crimes?	✓	
17. Do you support the protection of Due Process for immigrant youth accused of crimes?	✓	
18. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board?	✓	
19. Do you support San Francisco expanding funding for immigration defense services?	✓	

<b>SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
20. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection sites?	✓	
21. Did you support allowing localities to allow some bars to serve liquor until 4 am?	✓	
22. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	✓	
23. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott? If so, explain:		✓
24. Do you support efforts to allow employees of Uber, Lyft and other ridesharing services to unionize?	✓	
25. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?	✓	
26. Do you support the use of Tasers by law enforcement?		✓
27. Do you support capital punishment (i.e., the death penalty)?		✓

<b>EDUCATION AND YOUTH</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
28. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections?	✓	
29. Do you support the Common Core education standards?	✓	

30. Do you support teacher training to implement alternatives to suspension in instances of disruption or willful defiance? <b>ABSOLUTELY</b>	✓ <b>YES!</b>	
31. Do you support the full-funding of the Free City College program including funding for the Summer semester and an expansion of grants for low-income students already receiving state or federal financial aid?	✓	
32. Do you support the development of the Balboa Reservoir adjacent to City College's Ocean Campus so long as it includes a mix of market rate, affordable and faculty/student housing?	✓	

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
33. Do you ride Muni on a regular basis (more than once a week)?		✓
34. Do you support CleanPower SF?	✓	
35. Do you support expanding free access to MUNI for seniors and disabled persons?	✓	
36. Do you support requiring ride hail companies (e.g. Uber, Lyft) to provide trip data to the City in order to operate here?	✓	

**33. Unfortunately, there isn't any reliable means of public transportation where I live so I have to rely on my car to get to meetings across town as a School Board Commissioner. As Supervisor, I will continue to work directly with the leadership of SFMTA to bring reliable and accessible transportation to residents, including implementing rapid bus lines and creating efficient connections from east to west San Francisco neighborhoods.**