

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

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on declaring your candidacy! The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club would like to get to know you better as we decide our endorsements for this upcoming election.

Our questions were developed with our members and reflect their priorities. Your participation in our Club's 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.

- **Part One is a series of short-answer questions (<100 words).**
- Part Two is are Yes or No questions that covers a broader set of issues than Part One.
- If you feel the need, you may expand upon your responses in Part Two on a separate sheet of paper, but you are not required to.

Please return the completed questionnaire by 11:59 PM Friday, August 10th, 2018. E-mail all questionnaires to Political Action Committee (PAC) Chair Tom Temprano at [pac@milclub.org](mailto:pac@milclub.org).

Good Luck,

The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

### **Required Information**

**Full Name:** Alison Collins

**Office Sought:** Board of Education

**Mailing Address:** 1819 Polk St.

**Phone:** 415-370-2581

**Email:** [alison@alisoncollinssf.com](mailto:alison@alisoncollinssf.com)

**Website:** [alisoncollinssf.com](http://alisoncollinssf.com)

**Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Since when?** Yes, since December, 2017.

**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 am an educator of 20+ years, community organizer and mom, with a masters in education from SFSU. I helped secure almost \$2 million for improvements at Carver ES in the Bayview, led strategic planning of the "A-G for All" graduation initiative in OUSD, and developed a successful United Way Bay Area grant for first-generation college-going families in SFUSD. I co-founded SF Families Union, an organization championing integrated, inclusive schools. In this capacity, I've serve on the Close the Gap coalition, working with UESF, Jobs with Justice, Coleman Advocates, SEIU-1021, Children's Legal Services, etc. to support democratically-controlled, community public schools.

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

*Organizations:*

UESF, United Educators of SF  
SEIU 1021, Service Employees Intl Union  
NUHW, National Union of Healthcare Workers

*Community Leaders:*

Honey Mahogany, Co-President of Harvey Milk Democratic Club\*  
Rudy Corpuz, United Playaz\*  
David Campos, Chair, SFDCCC\*  
Peter Golatta, Member of SFDCCC\*

*Board of Supervisors:*

Sandra Lee Fewer  
Jane Kim  
Rafael Mandelman  
Aaron Peskin  
Hillary Ronen  
Norman Yee

*Board of Education Members:*

Hyrda Mendoza, President of the BOE  
Stevon Cook, VP of the BOE  
Matt Haney  
Mark Sanchez  
Shamann Walton

\*organization listed only for identifications purposes

- 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?**

The largest growing demographic of individuals experiencing homelessness are single parent families. We have many homeless and transitional youth in our schools. As board member, I will increase support for wraparound services. This includes: wellness centers, support for homeless youth, and whole community schools. Whole community schools need more than just an increase in after school programs. For a long-term solution to our housing crisis we need to look to projects like the Our City Our Home ballot measure which is using the revenue sources from our city's most wealthy to help support the most vulnerable citizens.

- 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?**

I will do everything I can to increase affordable housing for educators. This includes, but is not limited to looking at SFUSD surplus property as an option for future housing development. Unfortunately, SFUSD surplus property is limited and will become increasingly so as charters claim more and more real estate using Prop 39. For this reason, I have already reached out to the private sector to see how they and the city can partner with the district to support this. We live in a rich city, and we have a responsibility to ensure our schools and housing are fully funded.

- 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?**

I need more education to weigh in on this issue. That said, I am a strong supporter of decriminalizing marijuana use. My mother used medical marijuana to alleviate the symptoms of cancer. It greatly helped her during the last months of her life. Additionally, I want to ensure we don't inadvertently harm marginalized communities. People of color are often targeted by policies related to drug enforcement. Ultimately, I will follow the lead of community organizations already working on this issue, including United Playaz and Wealth and Disparities in the Black Community - Justice 4 Mario Woods.

- 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?**

I am focused on fixing the academic opportunity gap. Every student deserves well-resourced schools, challenging instruction, and individualized support from experienced teachers. To achieve this I will continue to remove systemic barriers within our school system, such as tracking, and advocate for implicit bias training for educators. I will also ensure all schools are supported in implementing restorative practices. Finally, I will use my office to lift up #blackexcellence. The antidote to negative narratives that reinforce failure in our community is celebrating our rich history, culture, and contributions. Not all schools celebrate Black History. That will change under my leadership.

### **7. How have you supported the LGBTQ community and how will you continue to do so if elected?**

My middle school girls tell me hate speech and anti-LGBTQ slurs are at an all time high . I have consistently spoken out against and created curriculum to address these issues and am frustrated with the lack of initiative I see from SFUSD's central office. The district has made positive changes creating a newly designed sex education program which includes gender and sexual identity. That said, staff must be fully supported in leading sensitive conversations with students regarding LGBTQ identity and questions. We also must invest in and support K-12 ethnic and LGBTQ curriculum through diverse books and cultural celebrations.

## **PART TWO: Yes or No Questionnaire**

Please check Yes or No for each question.

### **GENERAL**

1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat? **YES**
2. Have you ever run for elected office before? **NO**
3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? **YES**  
If so, who: Kaylah Williams / 318-422-1202 / kaylah@alisoncollinssf.com
4. Have you ever sought the Harvey Milk Club endorsement in the past? **NO**

### **LGBTQ ISSUES**

5. Do you support public funding, including set asides, for the establishment and development of LGBTQ Cultural Districts in San Francisco? **YES**
6. Do you support public funding for employment development specifically for transgender individuals? **YES**
7. Do you support expansion of the LGBT curriculum in our City's public schools? **YES**
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? **YES**

### **TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES**

9. Do you support the expansion of rent control beyond buildings constructed prior to 1979? **YES**
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. **NO**
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? **YES**
13. Did you support Prop G (the "Harvey Milk Anti-Speculation Tax") in 2014? **YES**
14. Did you support Prop F (stricter controls on AirBnB and other STR platforms) in 2015? **YES**
15. Did you support Prop I (the Mission Moratorium) in 2015? - **No**

### **IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES**

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? **YES**

17. Do you support the protection of Due Process for immigrant youth accused of crimes? **YES**

18. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board? **YES**

19. Do you support San Francisco expanding funding for immigration defense services? **YES**

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES**

20. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection sites? **YES**

21. Did you support allowing localities to allow some bars to serve liquor until 4 am? **YES**

22. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work? **YES**

23. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott? **NO**

If so, explain:

24. Do you support efforts to allow employees of Uber, Lyft and other ridesharing services to unionize? **YES**

25. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings? **YES**

26. Do you support the use of Tasers by law enforcement? **NO**

27. Do you support capital punishment (i.e., the death penalty)? **NO**

### **EDUCATION AND YOUTH**

28. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections? **YES**

29. Do you support the Common Core education standards? **YES**

30. Do you support teacher training to implement alternatives to suspension in instances of disruption or willful defiance? **YES**

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? **YES**

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? **YES**

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES YES NO**

33. Do you ride Muni on a regular basis (more than once a week)? **YES**

34. Do you support CleanPower SF? **YES**

35. Do you support expanding free access to MUNI for seniors and disabled persons? **YES**

36. Do you support requiring ride hail companies (e.g. Uber, Lyft) to provide trip data to the City in order to operate here? **YES**