

# 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@milkclub.org](mailto:pac@milkclub.org).

Good Luck,

The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

### Required Information

**Full Name:** Martin Rawlings-Fein

**Office Sought:** Board of Education

**Mailing Address:** 945 Taraval St, #169, San Francisco, CA 94116

**Phone:** 415-845-1157

**Email:** [votemartinrf@gmail.com](mailto:votemartinrf@gmail.com)

**Website:** <https://www.martinrawlings-fein.com>

**Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Since when?** I am and have been a member of the Harvey Milk Club. I believe the date I joined would be when I started looking at the various political clubs back in mid 2000s, possibly 2005.

**Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)?**

I am a bisexual trans man, who sometimes used the shorthand of LGBTQ or just queer. .

**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'm running for Board of Education out of necessity & would be the first and only openly transgender parent in this role. As an openly transgender and bisexual father of 2 public school students, successfully navigating the not-so-queer friendly boundaries presented to my children and family has instilled an undying passion for justice for the children I love more than anyone in the world. That said, love and passion are not enough, and I have decades of experience in public service, demanding justice for queer and trans folks youth and elders, indigenous communities and LGBTQ families. Further, my administrative and direct experience working with students has prepared me to fight for robust, culturally responsive, and critical educator trainings, curricula, & assignment processes.

*Experience:*

**University of California San Francisco (UCSF)**, Education Technology Specialist

**Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer school at Sha'ar Zahav**, Interim Director & Lead Educator

**Advocacy & Public Service Positions (past & present)**, Advocate for single-payer healthcare, various gender related advocacy efforts, marriage equality, & housing as a human right.

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

*Past Milk Club Presidents*

**Harry Britt** First president of the then-newly formed Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club and Former San Francisco Board of Supervisors President. Harry was my mentor at university and has been a firm supporter of mine for the last couple of decades.

**Rafael Mandelman** D8 Supervisor

**Gabriel Haaland**, Community Organizer, Dear Friend & Mentor

*Prominent Milk Club Members & Elected Officials*

**Christina Olague**, Former D5 Supervisor

**Bevan Dufty**, BART Board Member & Former D8 Supervisor

**Matt Haney**, Board of Education Commissioner & Milk Club Endorsed D6 Candidate

*Current Milk Club Executive Board Member*

**Brad Chapin**

*Endorsements that I've made (for November 2018)*

**Mia Satya**, For Board of Education

**Rafael Mandleman**, For D8 Supervisor

**Matt Haney**, For D6 Supervisor

**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?**

In SF, homeless families account for 40% of the homeless population: unacceptable. As of 2016, over 3,300 homeless CHILDREN lived on the streets of SF, & 2,352 enrolled in SFUSD. In a city this wealthy, there is no excuse for this. I support the "Heading Home Campaign," a public-private partnership between the City and County of SF, SFUSD, Hamilton Families, & nonprofits, aiming to house 800 SF families by 2020. I can't imagine my children living on the streets, but I see it before my very eyes. I believe in community, that these are our kids, too, and that as a community we have let them down. There is a great deal of work to be done in order to ensure that trauma-informed practices and standards are achieved in training and resources for impacted families.

**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?**

In this role, what is most relevant is the fact that teachers and families cannot afford to live in this city — we need as much off-market housing as possible, because Reaganomic supply and demand principles will not solve the crises facing our community. I will address affordability by fighting and lobbying for said housing opportunities, BUT within my role as commissioner, utilizing the MOH through coalition building, I'll fight for our students through the Teacher Next Door Program to advocate for more land and financial resources from the city. We must look to underserved and under-housed communities to empower, hire, and retain more qualified educators, and especially trans, gender expansive and enby folks, while offering real housing opportunities and incentives for a better, more diverse set of educators (e.g., Scott Key Annex: teacher housing currently in planning process). As a commissioner, I will advocate for ALL educators, INCLUDING paras, to get preferred housing placements.

**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 74 percent of San Franciscans approved Proposition 64, which in addition to legalizing recreational cannabis, also established the 600-foot rule. The addition of the 1000-foot rule in committee causes clusters of dispensaries in areas where they are too close together in "green zones." My priority is to break down the barriers that caused the extra 400-feet, and work with the dispensaries and school communities to find out what works for everyone. As a parent, I see the need for a buffer, but it can be reduced to 600-feet, which is the minimum required by state law.

**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?**

My kids have gone to the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center for the past six years for their summer program, and the community is the reason we have stayed so long. Being part of Booker T allows for my kids to be immersed in San Francisco African American community in a deep and meaningful way. While the achievement gap looms, we can't lose sight of the fact that we need to support every African American student in the district. That means partnering with groups like Booker T, going out to each school, and finding each communities need for stabilization.

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

Relevant to earlier questions, LGBTQ youth homelessness is a growing epidemic and robust resources for these young folks is a necessity. I'm passionate about this work, which is why I'm here, because I know that trans and LGBTQ advocacy has led to our survival. I worked on overturning the FDA ban on blood donations from gay and bi men, urged the Board of Education to pass a resolution to establish a high school course on LGBTQ history and commit to funding LGBTQ support services, and contributed to multiple reports on LGBTQ community. As a commissioner I will work with organizations like Gender Spectrum to train our trainers on gender and identity. Once our trainers are able, we could blanket the district with education and readily accessible information about how the understanding of gender identity is not just a trans, or enby issue.

## 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?	x	
2. Have you ever run for elected office before?	x	
3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who: I have a campaign manager, Elsa Isaacs	x	
4. Have you ever sought the Harvey Milk Club endorsement in the past?		x

<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?	x	
6. Do you support public funding for employment development specifically for transgender individuals?	x	
7. Do you support expansion of the LGBT curriculum in our City's public schools?	x	
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?	x	

<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?	x	
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.		x
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?	x	
13. Did you support Prop G (the "Harvey Milk Anti-Speculation Tax") in 2014?	x	
14. Did you support Prop F (stricter controls on AirBnB and other STR	x	

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

**IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES**

**YES NO**

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?	x	
17. Do you support the protection of Due Process for immigrant youth accused of crimes?	x	
18. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board?	x	
19. Do you support San Francisco expanding funding for immigration defense services?	x	

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

**YES NO**

20. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection sites?	x	
21. Did you support allowing localities to allow some bars to serve liquor until 4 am?	x	
22. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	x	
23. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott? If so, explain:		x
24. Do you support efforts to allow employees of Uber, Lyft and other ridesharing services to unionize?	x	
25. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?	x	
26. Do you support the use of Tasers by law enforcement?		x
27. Do you support capital punishment (i.e., the death penalty)?		x

**EDUCATION AND YOUTH**

**YES NO**

28. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections?	x	
29. Do you support the Common Core education standards?	x	

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

**YES NO**

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