

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.

Good Luck,

The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club

Required Information

Full Name: Thea Selby

Office Sought: San Francisco City College Board Trustee

Mailing Address: 1 Polk Street, San Francisco, CA

Phone: 415-517-7497

Email: alybarr2012@gmail.com

Website: www.theaselby.org

Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Since when? Yes

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 a product of public schools and have sent both of my children to public schools here in San Francisco. I have taught at a college and regularly take classes at City College to keep in touch both with students and faculty. I have been a Trustee over the last four years and we have turned CCSF around; we hired a permanent Chancellor, reaffirmed our accreditation for seven years, and, with the support of the those who voted for Supervisor Jane Kim's Proposition W, implemented FREE CITY. If re-elected I would continue implementing improvements by further increasing enrollment, adding a Rams Transit Pass, creating a permanent and safe home for our Diego Rivera Mural in the new Performing Arts and Education Center, and ensuring that our facilities are rehabbed in a sustainable way.

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

Aaron Peskin, Supervisor

Hillary Ronen, Supervisor

Rafael Mandelman, Supervisor

All current CCSF Trustees

Mark Leno, former State Senator

Matt Haney, Board of Education Commissioner

David Campos, Chair of the San Francisco Democrats & former Supervisor

Carlota Del Portillo, Friends of Mission Campus & former Board of Education Trustee

Petra de Jesus, DCCC member

Kimberly Alvarenga, Executive Director, Domestic Workers Rights

Carolina Morales, Harvey Milk LBGT Club Co-President

Peter Gallotta, former Harvey Milk LBGT Club President

Lito Sandoval, former President, San Francisco Latino Democratic Club

Faauga Moliga, candidate for School Board

Mia Satya, candidate for School Board

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 most important short-term solution to the homeless crisis is passing C this November, giving \$300M a year to supportive services and housing homeless individuals. In the long-run, we have to develop and improve housing and supportive services to keep our residents housed, employed, and safe.

As a Trustee, there are steps we have taken to structure CCSF in a way that increases access to education to all San Franciscans, including homeless individuals. If re-elected, I would continue to work on my goals of expanding affordable housing and supportive programs for CCSF students (see bullet points in

question #4).

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 have had two opportunities to increase access housing since I have been on the CCSF Board. In the first instance, we negotiated a 50% affordable housing rate for the building at 33 Gough Street that we leased for 75 years. We also worked with the City and County and the developers who are developing a parcel next to the Ocean campus; we negotiated that they would build 500 units slated for students along with public parking at no cost to CCSF.

Many of our students at CCSF are low-income. There are many things we can do to better serve them with affordable housing and other programs. These ideas include:

- Create discounted transit passes for the 57% of students who currently use public transit.
- Ensure that FREE CITY is a permanent program that may include books and transportation in addition to tuition.
- Keep our social services strong--everything from our mental/physical health services to counseling services.
- Continue and strengthen our food pantry program with Marin and San Francisco Food Bank. I am proud of the work I've done with the food bank and students to establish six locations on campus where students can obtain food.
- Build housing for homeless students and create ways to subsidize housing that already exists for students. There is a program that is working in other cities that pairs seniors with students. Seniors with homes may have space, but need extra income. Students need a room, can be good company for the seniors, and can pay rent. I'd like to look at expanding this program around CCSF campuses.

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 am on the Cannabis Task Force and have several things that I'd like changed with the current legislative framework:

1. Unlike every other state, almost no revenue from cannabis sales goes to education. In a state that finds itself among the lowest in per pupil spending (thanks, Prop 13), we need to find other sources of revenue to help our teachers receive good wages and keep our students in good facilities.
2. The medicinal cannabis in the gross receipts tax passed by the BOS, while free at the retail level, still can be taxed at the growing and manufacturing stages. We should keep the gross receipts zero from seed to sale.
3. There is not a plan for compassionate cannabis, which thrived under the pre-Prop 64 era. We have recommended that the BOS work on rebuilding and supporting the compassionate cannabis services once again.

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?

We currently have more African Americans attending CCSF than the percent of African Americans who live in San Francisco, but the achievement gap for African Americans is still the highest among our students. To address this issue:

1. In 2019 we will be implementing AB705, which eliminates Basic Skills classes. With support, African Americans will graduate faster and at higher percentages.
2. We need to hire more African American faculty, administration and staff so that African American students can see themselves in City College and succeed.
3. Further, the effects of economic inequality, a lack of affordable housing, homelessness, and a lack of access to education disproportionately affect African Americans. By addressing these issues as outlined in my previous responses, we are also stabilizing and supporting the African American community in San Francisco.
4. We need to continue steps to educate those formerly incarcerated because of low-level drug offenses, of which disproportionately target African Americans.

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

I am a proud ally of the LGBTQ community. I support candidates who are LGBT, like Mia Satya, Rafael Mandelman, Tom Temprano and Kimberly Alvarenga. I am a proud member of the Milk Club, and support them by attending meetings and sponsoring events when I can. I requested to be a co-sponsor of a resolution put forth by Rafael Mandelman, Tom Temprano and Alex Randolph aimed at supporting Transitional Aged LGBT youth at City College. I have recently requested that all Trustees be notified when the Lavender Graduation takes place so that I can attend; I attended at Anna Conda's graduation and was very moved by the stories of the graduates. When a transgender student came to me and said that there was no bathroom in the Queer Resource Center, I spoke to the Chancellor and asked him to rectify the situation. He then informed me that we were re-evaluating all bathrooms to make them gender free. If re-elected, I will continue to advocate for my LGBTQ brothers and sisters in any way that I can.

PART TWO: Yes or No Questionnaire

Please check Yes or No for each question.

GENERAL YES/NO

- 1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat? Yes.**
- 2. Have you ever run for elected office before? Yes.**
- 3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact?**

If so, who: I have a Campaign Manager, Alex Barrett-Shorter.

- 4. Have you ever sought the Harvey Milk Club endorsement in the past? Yes.**

LGBTQ ISSUES YES/NO

- 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 YES/NO

- 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? Yes.**

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? 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? No, but I support immigration reform.**

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

SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES YES/NO

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 YES/NO

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

29. Do you support the Common Core education standards? No.

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)? Um, Yes!!

34. Do you support CleanPower SF? Yes.

35. Do you support expanding free access to MUNI for seniors and disabled persons? Yes, and college students!

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!