

## **The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club** **Candidate Questionnaire for March 2020**

*Dear Candidate,*

*Congratulations on declaring your candidacy. The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club invites you to get to know us a little better as we plan our endorsements for the March 2020 primary election. Your participation in our Club's questionnaire will allow our Membership to better understand who you are, what you stand for, and what you plan to accomplish if you are elected to office.*

*There are two parts to our questionnaire plus additional questions for individual offices. Part 1 is a series of short-answer questions, with a 150-word limit on answers. Part 2 is a series of Yes/No questions covering a broad set of issues.*

*Please email your answers to Political Action Committee (PAC) at [pac@milkclub.org](mailto:pac@milkclub.org) and to our Correspondent Lee Hepner at [correspondent@milkclub.org](mailto:correspondent@milkclub.org).*

*There will be an opportunity for you or a proxy to speak in person at the club's PAC meeting on Saturday, December 7th from 11am to 6pm at the Women's Building at 3543 18th Street. Please contact us at [pac@milkclub.org](mailto:pac@milkclub.org) or [president@milkclub.org](mailto:president@milkclub.org) to schedule an appointment. **And please note that your time will be limited to 5 minutes (including questions). So, the content of this questionnaire will be the main source for endorsement consideration.***

*Good Luck!*

### **Required Information**

**Full Name: Christopher Christensen**

**Office Sought: Democratic County Central Committee AD 17**

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 640127 San Francisco CA 94164**

**Phone: 415-509-2463**

**Email: [chrisducky9976@gmail.com](mailto:chrisducky9976@gmail.com)**

**Website:**

**Are you a Member of the Harvey Milk LGBTQ Club?: No**

**If so, since when?:**

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

## **PART 1:**

### **Questions for All Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek. Feel free to add anything that you would like our Members to know about you and your candidacy.

I have been an officer and Legislative committee rep for my union (ILWU) for the last 8 years. I am a born and raised 4 generation San Franciscan ILWU union member and I believe that we are all one union despite the acronyms that are in front of our names SEIU, Unite Here, UESF, IFPTE, IASTE, ILWU etc. we are all one. Along those lines my mentor and friend Fred Pecker really showed me how to stand up against any kind of Social, Economic, and Racial injustices without compromising your morals and beliefs. I was one of the individuals who organized Anchor Steam into my union the ILWU. I am Labor Council Delegate and worked on the Waterfront Working Group Plan for the Port of SF and am also a committee member for the Maritime Commerce Advisory Committee also for the Port of SF.

2. Do you have any key endorsements that you would like to share? Why are these endorsements meaningful to you?

ILWU NCDC, Hillary Ronen, Dean Preston, Shahid Buttar

3. What do you see as the most important short-term and long-term solutions to SF's homeless crisis? What can you do in your office to help end homelessness?

I believe Matt Haney and Hillary Ronen's mental health bill is a major step in the right direction. I am fully supporting their efforts and legislation.

4. What are your plans to address housing affordability and economic inequality in San Francisco? What work have you done on these issues in the past?

I supported the Parcel Tax to allow teachers to live in the city they teach in. I also was one of the individuals who helped unionize the Anchor Steam workers into my union the ILWU. These workers were fighting for a living wage and health care in a work place that cut pay and deconstructed their already awful health care. I also have been active in our struggle to help our other ILWU entity, VCA Pet Hospital Vet Tech Workers, secure a fair first contract against the greedy Mars corporation. The VCA worker are only asking for a better quality for their working conditions and Mars refuses to

bargain even though they are a multi-billion-dollar corporation. At this moment I am working to organize a shop of about 240 workers to better their quality of life in their work place and also outside of work.

5. Describe your work addressing racial injustice and inequity in San Francisco.

I was supporting and actively engaging at actions with my SEIU 1021 brothers and sisters for their Escape Racism campaign.

6. How have you supported economically-under-resourced LGBTQ San Franciscans, and how will you continue to do so if elected?

I helped change policy within my union to better protect the rights for or gender neutral, transgender, and LBGQT members. If elected I will continue to support by helping implement positive changes and better protections for all LBGQT San Franciscans and not just my union member.

7. Do you support State Senator Scott Wiener's SB 50, a rezoning proposal to promote housing density? Why or why not?

No. There is not enough inclusionary affordable housing outlined in SB 50. Also, it needs provisions for the sensitive communities (Mission, Bayview etc.) too protect from displacement of its long time or low-income families.

8. What are your thoughts on the role of law enforcement and corporations in the annual Pride parade?

I do not support their role in Pride Parade especially after what happened in this years Pride. They proved to people they do not belong.

9. Do you support lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections? Why or why not?

Yes. It teaches our youth the value of our Democratic System at an age where development is key. Statistics show youth who vote at an earlier age are less likely to be incarcerated and a more productive in society when they get older.

10. Who did you support in the recent District 5 Supervisorial race? Dean Preston

11. Who did you support in the recent District Attorney's race? Chesa Boudin

12. Who did you support in the 2019 Mayor's race? No One

### **Only San Francisco DCCC Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Are you presently a member of the San Francisco DCCC? If so, did you obtain your position from an appointment?

No

2. Please explain three main goals you would like to achieve as a DCCC member.

I would like to bridge the gap between the working-class San Francisco families and community members that contumely are being priced out of a city they either work in or grew up in. Also, to be a voice for those voiceless community members that need help fighting against racial, social, and economic injustice and to fight for immigrant rights. Also, to help give a voice to the labor union struggle in SF.

3. How will you make the local Democratic Party more accessible, relevant, and engaged to community members?

I believe to get people engaged in our democratic process you have to take the time to really listen to the community that you were elected to represent. As a union officer I am elected to serve my membership by my membership despite my own personal issues or views. That translates to all elected officials whether it be a union or a city or state elected position. As corny as it may sound elected by the people for the people is a very relevant statement in these times. You are elected to serve your constituents regardless of your own person views. What is best for the communities you serve. With all that being said allow the community voice to be heard is what can empower people to engage and to start to make relevant change for the better.

4. Do you support limits on DCCC fundraising? If so, explain how?

Yes. It levels the playing field for grassroots candidates who are supported by community contributions and those who are funded by corporate contributors looking to control a candidate.

5. If you served on the DCCC during the 2019 endorsement process, how did you vote for?

N/A

Mayor:

District Attorney:

District 5 Supervisor:

Prop C (Vaping):

Prop D (Uber/Lyft Tax):

Prop E (Teacher & Family Housing):

Prop F (Sunlight on Dark Money):

6. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

Bernie Sanders. I believe in taxing the top 1%. Everyone should pay their fair share. Also, Medicare for all. It is our human right to be able to get quality health care to at times live.

### **Only Congressional Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. Please explain why you are running for Congress.

2. Briefly describe three achievements you have made in your Congressional district.

3. How will you make the local Democratic Party more accessible, relevant, and engaging for community members?

4. Do you support Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's *Green New Deal*? Why or why not?

5. Do you support *Medicare For All*? If so, how would you implement it?

6. Do you support reducing military spending, and diverting it towards domestic programs? If so, how would you help implement this?
7. Do you support reducing America's military presence in other countries?
8. What would you do to improve America's current immigration policy? Give some examples.
9. What steps will you take to ensure reproductive freedom and LGBTQ rights?
10. Do you support raising the Federal Minimum wage? If so, to what amount?
11. Is your campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.
12. What are your main strategies for meeting voters?
13. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

### **Only State Assembly & State Senate Candidates**

*(Please answer each question in 150 words or less.)*

1. What are your top three goals as a member of the State Legislature?
2. Will you increase truly affordable housing while respecting the autonomy of local zoning and housing policies? If so, how?

3. How will you continue to advance state environmental policies that adequately address the climate crisis?

4. Will you support a permanent ban on fracking in California?

5. What will you do to enforce California's Sanctuary State law and protect people from ICE and the Trump Administration's border patrols?

6. What are your plans for improving and expanding public transportation?

7. How will you ensure that public education is fully funded and that all schools are provided with adequate resources, regardless of locale? How exactly will you increase teachers' pay?

8. How will you address and help remedy the record number of prison inmates? What programs will you undertake to assist prisoners before release and reduce recidivism?

9. Is your campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.

10. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

## **PART 2:**

### **Yes or No Questions**

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

**GENERAL YES NO**

1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat?	Yes	
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2. Have you ever sought elected office before?		No
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3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who? _____		No
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4. Have you ever sought a Milk Club endorsement in the past?		No
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**LGBTQ ISSUES YES NO**

5. Should the SFPD formally apologize for the decades of homophobic and transphobic abuses and violence it committed against the LGBTQ community that have spanned decades.	Yes	
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6. Do you support public funding for employment development for transgender job-seekers?	Yes	
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7. Do you support efforts to expand access to PREP and the <i>Getting to Zero</i> initiative to end the HIV epidemic in San Francisco?	Yes	
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**TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES YES NO**

8 Do you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Services?	Yes	
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9. Do you support the split-role repeal of Proposition 13?	Yes	
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10. Do you support the repeal of the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act?	Yes	
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11. Do you support the repeal of the Ellis Act?	Yes	
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12. Do you support increasing funding for enforcement capacity for Short Term Rental platforms, e.g. AirBnB and VRBO?	Yes	
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13. Do you support the sweeps of homeless encampments by the Department of Public Works?		No
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14. Do you support a vacancy tax on empty commercial properties?	Yes	
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15. Do you support a vacancy tax on empty residential properties?	Yes	
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16. Would you support a licensing system for landlords in San Francisco?	Yes	
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17. Do you support a public municipal bank in San Francisco?	Yes	
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**IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES YES NO**

18. Should U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement be abolished?	Yes	
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19. Do you support San Francisco's Sanctuary City status?	Yes	
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20. Do you support due process protections for immigrant youth accused of crimes?	Yes	
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21. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including, but not limited to, the SF School Board?	Yes	
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22. Do you support increased funds for immigrant defense services?	Yes	
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**SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES YES NO**

23. Do you support the death penalty?		No
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24. Do you support the use of tasers by law enforcement?		No
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25. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?	Yes	
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26. Should the Department of Police Accountability have the power to investigate allegations of misconduct by members of the Sheriff's Department?	Yes	
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27. Should a civilian oversight commission for the Sheriff's Department be created, with the power to suspend or terminate members of the department?	Yes	
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28. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection/consumption sites?	Yes	
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29. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	Yes	
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30. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or ignored a union boycott?		NO
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31. Do you support the right for public sector employees to go on strike?	Yes	
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32. Do you support AB 5, making it harder for companies to label workers as independent contractors instead of employees?	Yes	
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33. Do you support the recent vote by the SF Board of Supervisors to close Juvenile Hall?	Yes	
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34. Do you support the rebuilding of the county jail at 850 Bryant?		No
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**EDUCATION AND YOUTH YES NO**

35. Do you support expanding LGBTQ curriculum throughout San Francisco's public schools?	Yes	
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36. Do you support the full, continuous funding for Free City College?	Yes	
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37. Do you think teachers' salaries should be increased to ensure a living wage in San Francisco?	Yes	
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38. Do you support the March 2020 ballot initiative known as the San Francisco Affordable Housing/Jobs Balanced Development Act ("M2")?	Yes	
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**ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES YES NO**

39. Do you support the recent bailout of Pacific, Gas, & Electric?		No
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40. Do you support the dissolution of Pacific, Gas, & Electric?	Yes	
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41. Do you support expanding the CleanPower SF program?	Yes	
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42. Should CEQA guidelines be reduced in order to increase development?		No
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43. Do you ride San Francisco public transit on a daily basis?	Yes	
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44. Do you support free access to public transit for seniors, disabled persons, the economically disadvantaged, and the underserved?	Yes	
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45. Do you support a plan to provide free transportation citywide?	Yes	
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46. Do you support the ongoing switchbacks on the K, N, and T Muni lines?		No
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47. Should the mayor continue to appoint all commissioners to the SFMTA?		No
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48. Did you support Measure D on the November 2019 ballot?	Yes	
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**POLITICAL TRANSPARENCY      YES NO**

50. Did you support the recent <i>Sunlight on Dark Money (Prop F)</i> ballot measure on the November 2019 ballot?	Yes	
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51. Does your campaign accept corporate contributions?		No
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52. Does your campaign accept contributions from individuals with a financial interest in land use matters valued at \$5 million or more?		No
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53. Do you support expanding SF's public financing program?	Yes	
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54. Do you support Supervisor Gordon Mar's charter measure to prohibit a mayoral appointment within 90 days of an election?	Yes	
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