

## **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: Sophie Maxwell***

***Office Sought: DCCC***

***Mailing Address: 1568 Jerrold Ave. S***

***Phone: (415)821-3909***

***Email: [sophiemaxwell9@gmail.com](mailto:sophiemaxwell9@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 am a SF resident and Democrat, I believe in the Democratic Party values and principals.

I have registered people to vote knocked on doors in Manteca, Modesto, and San Fran.

made phone calls hundreds of texts I have run for office and won encouraged others to run

and supported them, democracy is a participatory form of government and I have

participated. I am currently on the DCCC and have gained experience and perspective.

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

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?

Recognizing and respecting the humanity and value in everyone and being committed to housing as a right. Understanding that there is not a cookie cutter solution or approach and putting everything on the table.

Staying committed to finding a solution to this issue, by supporting candidates and policies that keep it on the forefront.

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?

As a member of the DCCC I will support candidates who have a working plan for affordable housing and economic equality. I will make sure that the democratic platform includes affordable housing pay equity for everyone.

As a San Francisco Supervisor of district 10 I sponsored city build which put the city's economic muscle behind training and getting people from D10 hired in skilled labor construction jobs.

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

As Supervisor of district 10, I helped to shutdown two of the oldest polluting power plants in the state located in an African American community in SF as well as exposing the subtle face of racism, by speaking up and speaking out on a regular basis.

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

As a member of the DCCC I supported policies and candidates that have helped to serve the economically-under resourced LGBTQ community.

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

I support the concept, more affordable housing is needed throughout the State however there needs to be a linkage with transportation and infrastructure for a sustainable community.

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

I have no problem with law enforcement keeping people safe and staying within the range of their duties.

The parade is a huge endeavor it is not just a parade it is a statement. If there is another model to help underwrite the cost fine, if not then you need Corporate partners participation as long as their intentions are in the right place.

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

Yes, it has been shown when people engage early they stay engaged,

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

Brown

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

I supported Chesa Boudin, with money, walked precincts and lent my name.

12. Who did you support in the 2019 Mayor's race?

Breed

## **Only SF 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?

I am presently an elected member of the DCCC

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

More voter participation, supporting people of color, women and LGBTQ candidates, and helping to give voice to people who feel voiceless.

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

a. Currently we have meetings in the community, our meetings are live streamed so people can view from anywhere.

b. Recognizing leadership from the community and supporting them in anyway we can.

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

Yes, Right now it is a volunteer move, working to make it a state requirement.

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

Mayor:	Breed
District Attorney:	Loftus
District 5 Supervisor:	Brown
Prop C (Vaping):	no
Prop D (Uber/Lyft Tax):	Yes
Prop E (Teacher & Family Housing):	Yes
Prop F (Sunlight on Dark Money):	Yes

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

No, I am still undecided

## **Only Judicial Candidates**

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

1. Are you presently serving on the bench? If so, how did you obtain your seat?

2. Please provide three main reasons why you should serve as judge.

3. What are your thoughts on the cash bail system, and how should it be changed?
  
4. Please share your perspective on racial bias and its effects on the criminal justice system. How would you reduce this sort of bias? (For example, San Francisco has approximately 5% African American residents but over 50% of its inmates are African American.)
  
5. If you are serving on civil court, what measures would you take to try to make civil court more affordable and accessible to people of low income and modest means?
  
6. If you are serving on criminal court, what mitigating factors would you consider in sentencing defendants which you feel are not given enough consideration now?
  
7. Have you ever been held in contempt, been the subject of an adverse finding by the Commission of Judicial Performance, or been reprimanded by the California State Bar? If the answer is yes to any of these, please explain the circumstances.

### **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. Do you support raising the Federal Minimum wage? If so, to what amount?
  
10. Is your campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.
  
11. What are your main strategies for meeting voters?
  
12. 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 are your plans for improving and expanding public transportation?
6. 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?
7. 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?
8. Is your campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.
9. Do you support a candidate or candidates for President in 2020? Why?

### **Only Presidential Candidates**

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

1. Please explain why your candidate is running for President.
2. Briefly describe three major achievements your candidate has made prior to running for president.
3. Does your candidate support Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's *Green New Deal*? Why or why not?

4. Does your candidate support Medicare For All? If so, how would it be implemented?
  
5. Does your candidate support reducing military spending, and diverting it towards domestic programs? If so, how would you help implement this?
  
6. Does your candidate support reducing America's military presence in other countries?
  
7. What would your candidate do to improve America's current immigration policy? Give some examples.
  
8. What steps will your candidate take to ensure reproductive freedom and LGBTQ rights?
  
9. Does your candidate support raising the Federal Minimum wage? If so, to what amount?
  
10. Explain the criteria your candidate considers when appointing federal judges.
  
11. Is your candidate's campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.

## **Only Ballot Measures**

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

1. Briefly explain the purpose of this ballot initiative and what it would do.
2. What would be the fiscal impact of this initiative?
3. Who crafted this initiative, and how was it placed on the ballot?
4. Who are the initiative's principal consultants, and what is its main funding sources?
5. Who are some of the initiatives's individual and organizational supporters?
6. Who are some of the initiative's individual and organizational opponents?
7. Why do you think the Harvey Milk Club should endorse this initiative?

**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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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2. Have you ever sought elected office before?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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3. Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who? _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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4. Have you ever sought a Milk Club endorsement in the past?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6. Do you support public funding for employment development for transgender job-seekers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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9. Do you support the split-role repeal of Proposition 13?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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10. Do you support the repeal of the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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11. Do you support the repeal of the Ellis Act?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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12. Do you support increasing funding for enforcement capacity for Short Term Rental platforms, e.g. AirBnB and VRBO?		
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13. Do you support the sweeps of homeless encampments by the Department of Public Works?		
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14. Do you support a vacancy tax on empty commercial properties?		
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15. Do you support a vacancy tax on empty residential properties?		
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16. Would you support a licensing system for landlords in San Francisco?		
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17. Do you support a public municipal bank in San Francisco?		
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**IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES**  
**YES NO**

18. Should U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement be abolished?		
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19. Do you support San Francisco's Sanctuary City status?		
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20. Do you support due process protections for immigrant youth accused of crimes?		
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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?		
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22. Do you support increased funds for immigrant defense services?		
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**SOCIAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND LABOR ISSUES**  
**YES NO**

23. Do you support the death penalty?		
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24. Do you support the use of tasers by law enforcement?		
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25. Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?		
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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?		
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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?		
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28. Do you support the implementation of supervised injection/consumption sites?		
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29. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?		
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30. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or ignored a union boycott?		
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31. Do you support the right for public sector employees to go on strike?		
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32. Do you support AB 5, making it harder for companies to label workers as independent contractors instead of employees?		
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33. Do you support the recent vote by the SF Board of Supervisors to close Juvenile Hall?		
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34. Do you support the rebuilding of the county jail at 850 Bryant?		
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**EDUCATION AND YOUTH**  
**YES NO**

35. Do you support expanding LGBTQ curriculum throughout San Francisco's public schools?		
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36. Do you support the full, continuous funding for Free City College?		
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37. Do you think teachers' salaries should be increased to ensure a living wage in San Francisco?		
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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”)?		
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**ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

**YES NO**

39. Do you support the recent bailout of Pacific, Gas, & Electric?		
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40. Do you support the dissolution of Pacific, Gas, & Electric?		
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41. Do you support expanding the CleanPower SF program?		
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42. Should CEQA guidelines be reduced in order to increase development?		
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43. Do you ride San Francisco public transit on a daily basis?		
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44. Do you support free access to public transit for seniors, disabled persons, the economically disadvantaged, and the underserved?		
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45. Do you support a plan to provide free transportation citywide?		
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46. Do you support the ongoing switchbacks on the K, N, and T Muni lines?		
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47. Should the mayor continue to appoint all commissioners to the SFMTA?		
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48. Did you support Measure D on the November 2019 ballot?		
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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?		
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51. Does your campaign accept corporate contributions?		
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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?		
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53. Do you support expanding SF's public financing program?		
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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?		
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