**The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club**

**Questionnaire for November 2020**

*Dear Candidates and Ballot Measure Representatives,*

*Congratulations on declaring your candidacy for office or your prefered ballot measure position. The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club invites you to get to know us a little better as we plan our endorsements for the November 2020 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 or your ballot position is successful.*

*There are three 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 or No questions covering a broad set of issues. Part 3 covers whom you have endorsed for office currently and in the past.*

*(Representatives of ballot measure positions only need to answer questions pertaining to ballot measures.)*

*Candidates, please email your answers to Edward Wright, our Vice President of Political Affairs, at* [*pac@milkclub.org*](mailto:pac@milkclub.org) *and to* [*correspondent@milkclub.org*](mailto:correspondent@milkclub.org) *no later than July 23rd.*

*In addition to this questionnaire, we invite you to participate in a recorded video interview on Zoom with Club leadership on either July 25th or July 26th. This virtual interview replaces the typical in-person presentation to our Membership, and the recording will be shared with our Members ahead of our endorsement recommendation and final vote. Stay tuned for more details on this later in the month.*

*Representatives of ballot measure positions will be interviewed during our regularly-scheduled July PAC Meeting on Tuesday, July 14th from 7-9pm, so please return your questionnaires prior to that date. Stay tuned for more details.*

***Your questionnaire responses and interview answers will weigh heavily in our overall endorsement process, so please take both seriously.*** *Please contact us at* [*pac@milkclub.org*](mailto:pac@milkclub.org) *to schedule an appointment once your questionnaire is completed.*

*Good Luck!*

*The Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club*

**Required Information**

***Full Name: Hillary Ronen***

***Office: Supervisor District 9***

***Campaign Address:***

***Campaign Phone:***

***Campaign Email:***

***Website: none***

***Political Party: Democrat***

***Are you a Member of the Harvey Milk LGBTQ Club?: yes***

***If so, since when?: think since 2010-2012***

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

**PART 1:**

**Questions for All Candidates**

* Describe your qualifications for the office you are seeking. Feel free to add anything that you would like our Members to know about you and your candidacy.

I am the current Supervisor of District 9 who has accomplished significant benefits for the District and City as a whole in my first term including:

* Creating the framework and solidifying Cultural Districts in the City.
* Creating the Office of Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention to ensure survivors are treated with dignity and accounantability.
* Fighting for and obtaining land and funding for two navigation centers in my District.
* Working with community to secure close to 1400 units of permanently affordable housing in the District.
* Closing Juvenile Hall.
* Passing Mental Health SF.
* Passed legislation to ensure youth have a trusted adult present when being questioned by the police.
* Established Right to Recover program to guarantee 2-4 weeks income for those that test positive for COVID-19 in order to make it possible to quarantine.
* Established a 0 interest $50k loan program for small businesses impacted by COVID-19 crisis.
* Passed legislation to authorize the City to take steps to create municipal energy utility independent from PG&E.
* Raised wages for SF’s homecare workers and non-profit workers.
* Created a definition, priority, and designated funding to expand cooperative housing model for people living with chronic mental illness and addiction.
* And many more District specific improvements.

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

I deeply admire the following people behind these endorsements so am very proud of them:

Sierra Club, Tenant’s Union, United Educators of SF, Unite HERE Local 2, NUHW, AFT 2121, Firefighter, Tom Ammiano, David Campos, Sups Preston, Haney, Walton, Yee, Affordable Housing Alliance, Bernicrats, DA Chesa Boudin, Public Defender Mano Raju.

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

Implementation of Mental Health SF, any and all policies to build more permanently affordable housing and supportive housing, using more of the social housing and cooperative housing models that haven’t been expanded since the 90s.

4. What work have you done to address economic inequality and housing unaffordability in San Francisco? What will you do to address them if elected?

Built and preserved close to 1400 units of permanently supportive housing, expanded cooperative housing model for those living with mental illness for the first time since the 90s, created the cultural district model to preserve community arts, culture, and character in neighborhoods under siege, fought for and obtained funding for additional attorneys to engage in eviction protection, strengthened Supervisor Campos’ Buy-out legislation to close loop-holes, etc.

5. Describe your work addressing racial injustice, economic inequity, and police brutality in San Francisco.

I wrote and passed legislation granting all youth the right to have a trusted adult present when being questioned by the police. I was one of three lead authors on the legislation to shut down juvenile hall, I led the effort to stop two police commissioner appointees who did not have reform leadership experience from being appointed to the commission. And I have decades long experience working in countless ways on economic inequality.

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

Created the legislation supporting the creation of the Compton’s Transgender and LQBTQ Cultural Districts. Helped pass the all gender bathroom legislation. Supported the trans community during the budget process every year. Being a strong ally to the LGBTQ community has always been and always will be a huge priority for me.

7. Describe your work addressing the climate crisis, and what specific steps you would take if elected to confront climate change and environmental injustice.

I served on the Bay Area Air Quality District fighting to stop oil refineries being built and expanded in the East Bay. I was the lead sponsor of legislation encouraging the SFPUC to gain independence from PG&E and build our own municipal energy utility.

8. Describe a time when you worked against an established power structure or entrenched authority to achieve progressive change. How was this positive change accomplished?

Since the time I was in college fighting against Prop 209 and 187, or in law school working in International Human Rights, to being an immigrant rights and employment lawyer for low-wage immigrant workers at La Raza Centro Legal, to a legislative aide for David Campos, to a Supervisor, to have spent my entire life fighting against entrenched authority to being about positive change for oppressed communities and have won dozens of those fights.

**Only Supervisorial Candidates**

1. What are your top three legislative priorities if elected.

* Homelessness & Implementation of Mental Health Reform
* Obtaining an additional 3600 units of affordable housing in the District towards my goal of 5000 units in 10 years.
* Police Reform

1. Should SFPD be reformed, transformed, reimagined, defunded, or abolished? And why?

Yes. In the near term reformed and defunded. In the long term transformed and in that process abolished. SFPD like all American police departments are fundamental flawed. They developed out of the slave catching system as a way to maintain racist institutions and power structures. We must eventually abolish and reimagine these institutions but that will take some time. In the meantime we must reform and defund them to make sure the role of PD is diminished over time.

1. How exactly will San Francisco balance its budget during this current economic crisis?

Will not be easy. I support all revenue measures on the ballot. We need to cut management expenses where needed. We need to defund several aspects of the SFPD. We need to cut waste and some Capital Projects. We need to fight for more revenue from Feds. I will do everything in my power to prevent lay offs and reduction of services to vulnerable populations.

4. How best should the Board of Supervisors handle the current COVID-19 health crisis and the shelter-in-place orders for both individuals and for businesses?

5. Do you support expanding transit-only lanes in your district?

Yes some after significant community outreach and mitigation measures for small businesses.

6. What strategies will you use to preserve and expand affordable housing in your district?

Fight like hell for every unit by fighting for funding and negotiating fiercely with private developers.

7. Do you support a navigation center in your district?

Yes – not only to I support, I have fought for land and funding to create 2 in my district.

8. How would you characterize the relationship between the executive and legislative branches of government in San Francisco?

Not super friendly or functional.

9. Who do you currently see as your closest allies on the Board of Supervisors?

Supervisors Dean Preston, Matt Haney, Shamann Walton, and Gordon Mar.

10. If district add-back funds are available in the future, where and how would you allocate them in your district?

To the most vulnerable communities as I have always done.

11. Which of San Francisco’s governmental bureaucracies is in most need of an audit and why?

So many but I would say top three are DHR, DBI, and DPW.

**PART 2:**

**Yes or No Questions**

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

**GENERAL YES NO**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Are you registered to vote as a Democrat? |  |  |

yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Have you ever sought elected office before? |  |  |

Yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you have a campaign consultant or other main point of contact? If so, who? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |

no

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Have you ever sought a Milk Club endorsement in the past? |  |  |

Yes

**LGBTQ ISSUES & SEXUAL LIBERATION YES NO**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support codifying various relationship structures as a protected class? (For example, a law that would prohibit discrimination against people in consensual nonmonogamous relationships in employment, housing, education, and healthcare.) |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support public funding for workforce programs, specifically for transgender job-seekers? |  |  |

Yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support public funding to expand access to PrEP? |  |  |

Yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support decriminalizing sex work? |  |  |

**Yes**

**TENANTS, HOUSING, AND HOMELESSNESS YES NO**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support immediate rent cancellation and mortgage forbearance for all tenants and homeowners impacted by COVID-19? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the creation of an independent commission to oversee the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Services? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the split-role repeal of Proposition 13? |  |  |

Yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the repeal of the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act? |  |  |

Yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the repeal of the Ellis Act? |  |  |

Yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Have you ever evicted a tenant? |  |  |

No

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the sweeps of homeless encampments by the Department of Public Works or SFPD? |  |  |

No

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the public acquisition of hotel rooms for permanent shelter and/or supportive housing for the homeless? |  |  |

Yes – I authored legislation requiring it

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Did you support Measure D, the vacant property tax, this year? |  |  |

yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Would you support a licensing system for landlords in San Francisco? |  |  |

yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support a public municipal bank in San Francisco? |  |  |

yes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support this year’s proposed real estate transfer tax for properties valued at or over $10 million? |  |  |

**yes**

**IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES YES NO**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Should U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement be abolished? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support San Francisco’s Sanctuary City status? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support due process protections for immigrant youth accused of crimes? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support allowing undocumented San Franciscans to serve on City boards and commissions? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support increased funds for immigrant defense services? |  |  |

**Yes**

**RACIAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE YES NO**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the death penalty? |  |  |

**No**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the use of tasers by law enforcement? |  |  |

**No**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Does your campaign accept contributions from law-enforcement associations, unions, or organizations? |  |  |

**I have received contributions from the Sherriff’s Association in the past**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support disbanding the SFPD and requiring officers to reapply to a newly constructed, less violent police force? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Should the San Francisco Police Officers Association be disbanded or at least have its political influence in the City severely curtailed? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support qualified immunity for police officers? |  |  |

**no**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support reparations for Black San Franciscans? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the implementation of supervised injection/consumption sites? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support extending voting rights in local elections to currently and formerly incarcerated people? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Have you ever crossed a union picket line or ignored a union boycott? |  |  |

**no**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the right for public sector employees to go on strike? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do support repealing California’s Proposition 209? |  |  |

**yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support the California App-Based Drivers Regulations Initiative? |  |  |

**No**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support rebuilding the county jail at 850 Bryant? |  |  |

**No**

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES YES NO**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support dissolving Pacific, Gas, & Electric and replacing it with a publicly-owned utility agency? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support expanding the CleanPower SF program? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support a plan to provide free transportation citywide? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Should the mayor continue to appoint all commissioners to the SFMTA? |  |  |

**No**

**PUBLIC CORRUPTION & POLITICAL TRANSPARENCY YES NO**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Did you support the *Sunlight on Dark Money (Prop. F)* measure on the November 2019 ballot? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support expanding SF’s public financing program to all City and County elected offices? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support Supervisor Matt Haney’s ballot measure to split Public Works into two departments, each with its own oversight commission? |  |  |

**Yes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do you support Supervisor Gordon Mar’s ballot measure to create an Office of the Public Advocate? |  |  |

**Yes**

**PART 3:**

**Support of Other Candidates**

*(Please answer whom you support or supported in each race. If you made a ranked endorsement or voted for more than one candidate using IRV, please indicate the rankings.)*

**2020 Candidate**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Democratic Presidential Primary |  |

**Bernie Sanders**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CA State Senate, District 11 |  |

**Jackie Fielder**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 1 Supervisor |  |

**Connie Chan**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 3 Supervisor |  |

**Aaron Peskin**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 5 Supervisor |  |

**Dean Preston**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 7 Supervisor |  |

**Vilaska Ngyuen and Myrna Melgar**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 11 Supervisor |  |

**John Avalos**

**2019 Candidate**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 5 Supervisor |  |

**Dean Preston**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| San Francisco District Attorney |  |

**Chesa Boudin**

**2018 Candidate**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mayor |  |

**Mark Leno and Jane Kim**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 4 Supervisor |  |

**Gordon Mar**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 6 Supervisor |  |

**Matt Haney**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 8 Supervisor |  |

**Rafael Mandleman**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District 10 Supervisor |  |

**Shamann Walton**