

Harvey Milk Club General Meeting February 19, 2019

1. A presentation from the president and the announcement of board nominations (Kevin Bard)
 - Nominations
 - i. Treasurer: Kate Usher
 - ii. E-Board Organizing: Bahlam Javier Vigil
 - iii. 1st At-Large (1 out of 5): Edward Wright
 - These nominations will go before members at the March general meeting and will require 50%+1 of the votes. Kevin expects to nominate the next set of at-large members.
2. Community outreach work efforts (Joe Adkins)
 - Joe presents on encouraging membership to be involved in community service.
3. An update on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity data collection issues (Tom Temprano)
 - Tom is legislative aide to Sup. Mandelman and also is a past-president of Milk Club.
 - Sup. Mandelman has called a hearing on the city's collection of SOGI data, which should be in March or April at SFBOS Government Audit and Oversight Committee. Hearing will include reports back on seven City departments (DPH, MOHCD, DHS, DAAS, DCYF, DSHS) are all now required to report SOGI data and to push on what City departments can do more to support the LGBTQ community.
 - Sup. Mandelman has introduced legislation to allow the City to permit cannabis events on public land, which were authorized by AB 2020 state legislation. Goals include supporting small business and increasing consumer safety. Will be heard at SFBOS Budget & Finance Committee in February.
 - Email Tom.Temprano@sfgov.org to get more involved.
4. A presentation from Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez
 - Assemblywoman Gonzalez represents Assembly District 80, which includes San Diego.
 - Introduced several bills last year to protect vulnerable workers on issues of sexual harassment (AB 51, AB 170, AB 547, AB 171), which were all vetoed by Gov. Brown. Asm. Gonzalez is asking for help to support #MeToo bills that protect the most vulnerable people and to push on Gov. Newsom to sign/support.
 - Email Mary.Latibashvili@asm.ca.gov to get more involved.
5. A presentation on the dangers of herbicides used in SF
 - Presentation from Rupa Bose, president of SF Forest Alliance
 - For more information, visit SFForest.net and SFForestNews@gmail.com
6. A homelessness panel and discussion
 - Presentation from Sam Lew at Coalition on Homelessness

- i. COH has been fighting the criminalization of homelessness, such as the sit-lie policy or 2016's Prop Q.
 - ii. "Sweeps" are a specific form of criminalization driven particularly by complaints, with little to no support from City. Right before rain, tents/shelter are being confiscated. The emergency weather protocol is hard to activate, and even when it is activated, that only brings a very small response (25-75 mats provided) and pop-up shelters rarely open.
 - iii. Sup. Haney has called a special hearing at SFBOS Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee on March 7 at 12pm (City Hall Room 250) to push City agencies that their protocol is inhumane and that they need to do better.
 - iv. Email kcutler@cohhsf.org to get more involved.
 - v. **MOTION: Kevin motions to oppose sweeps, call on decisionmakers to end sweeps, and to write a letter to BOS PSNS expressing this opinion. Sue Englander seconds. Motion passes.**
 - vi. Peter Gallotta, DCCC member, notes that there will be a resolution to be heard at the 2/27 DCCC meeting also opposing the sweeps.
 - o Presentation from Amy Farah Weiss at Saint Francis Challenge
 - i. Asking for people to sign the online petition with the following asks: 1) request public land to sublease, 2) get matching funding for public/private partnership for safe, organized spaces, and 3) pass policy to create incentives for subleasing of vacant private land for interim use.
 - ii. For more information, visit www.SafeOrganizedSpaces.org.
 - iii. **MOTION: Amy motions to share SafeOrganizedSpaces.org via official Milk Club channels; seconded by Paul. Motion passes.**
7. A discussion on conservatorship, SB 1045
- o Jessica Lehman with Senior & Disability Action; Tori Becker and Raul with Gay Shame
 - i. SB 1045 is a state law that gives three cities the right to expand conservatorship, which is when an individual is deemed a danger to themselves, the state is able to take over their rights. This coalition is not opposing conservatorship but that implementation of SB 1045 would connect homelessness to policing via "5150" (psychiatric) holds. Concerns include increasing criminalization, increased policing, loss of civil liberties, etc.
 - ii. Event this Thursday from 6-8pm at St. John's Episcopal (Valencia & 15th) to discuss this issue in depth.
 - iii. For more information, visit http://bit.ly/SDA_SB1045
 - iv. **MOTION: Jack Rice motions to support voluntary services before conservatorship. 17 yes, 20 abstains, 0 oppose; motion does not pass.**
8. Committee reports from Vice Presidents
- o Gabriela Aleman (PAC)

- i. Had presentation on Hijos del Arcoíris (Children of the Rainbow), a transitional home in Costa Rica to host LGBTQ folks escaping Nicaragua.
 - ii. 2019 elections: Still working on timeline and desire to consider early endorsements. Come to next PAC meeting to discuss further.
 - iii. Desire to bring back “Homeless Sexual Agenda” newsletter on LGBTQ activism
 - iv. Want to ensure Harvey Milk Club has presence at City Hall hearings
 - v. Developing database of resource for LGBTQ resources
 - Reid Coggins (Internal)
 - i. Welcoming first-time members/attendees today
 - ii. Introducing board’s internal team, MacKenzie and Janice
 - iii. Currently working on improving sign-in, printing out agendas, ensuring website is running properly
 - Brad Chapin (Events & Fundraising)
 - i. Working on committee development to continue Milk Club’s grassroots organizing tradition
 - ii. If you have any ideas, email bradchapin@berkeley.edu
9. A report on mediation efforts regarding 2019’s board elections (Tab Buckner and Kaylah Williams)
- Dialogue was facilitated by Esperanza Marcias and Kim-Shree Maufas with 13 people who ran in the Milk Club board endorsements; others. Mediation was opened up as a safe space to respect people
 - Report back: Getting rid of the slate system for board elections; ending behind-the-scenes board recruitment process for a more open one and start recruitment earlier; rebuilding the organization’s internal infrastructure and hosting events like Politics 101; wanting to address issues of “proxy wars” and involvement of City Hall legislative aides; working to recruit more people outside existing electoral politics (e.g. homeless advocates); distribute member surveys to solicit more ideas; etc.
 - Some desire from membership to continue this dialogue at March general meeting; board will figure out how to agendize next month.
10. Open forum: Member announcements
- Fundraiser on Mon 2/25 from 7-9pm at Manny’s to support Kimberly Ellis for CA Democratic Party chair. **MOTION: Sue Englander motions to co-host this event; Brad Chapin seconds. Motion passes.**
 - Anchor Union pub crawl at 540 Clement St. Sat 2/23 at 5pm to support unionization of Anchor Brewing workers.
 - **MOTION: Brad Chapin motions to support SB 233 (immunity from arrest for sex workers) and write a letter in support to Sen. Wiener; Sue Englander seconds. Motion passes.**
 - 104-year old Redstone building (16th & Van Ness) is possibly being possibly sold off and turned into a coworking space, which could potentially displace many nonprofit and community groups using the space. There is also a long history of

labor organizing and activism, was originally called the “Labor Temple.”

MOTION: Jack Rice to support resolution directed to Planning Commission and Supervisors to save the building and support the groups in the space;

Sue Englander seconds. Motion passes.

11. An update on efforts to create a public bank - continued to March meeting