

## LACDP Community Outreach Committee

### Minutes

8-10-20

1. Attendees: Mary Ellen Early (Chair), Elizabeth Hennes (LACDP Liaison), Drexel Heard (LACDP Executive Director), Wade Alexander, Stacey Golden, Karina Macias, Abigail Mejia, Ben Tarzinski, Jessica Vazquez
2. Chair's Welcome: Mary Ellen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the new committee members (all are newly appointed for the 2020-2024 LACDP term), asking each member to tell a little bit about themselves.
3. Chair's Report (*Our charge from LACDP Web Site*): *The Community Outreach Committee works with Community Organizations to create community service opportunities for LACDP members and Democrats across the county.* Mary Ellen related some of her experience with the Democratic Party, focusing on her years in LACDP, followed by a brief history of the Community Outreach Committee, which was originally called the Speakers' Bureau.
4. Preparing for Community Outreach – While we will not be meeting with community organizations in person for a long time, members can prepare themselves by becoming familiar with the following:
  - LACDP Code of Conduct
  - Democratic Party Platform (both DNC and CDP)
  - Positions on Ballot Initiatives (state and local)
  - Recent Resolutions (both CDP and LACDP)
  - LACDP Bylaws
5. Public Speaking: When invited to speak to an organization, get the name and cell phone number of your contact. If your car breaks down on your way to speak, you can call them. Find out how many people will attend, and a little bit about the organization. Also, Google them. Find out how long you are expected to speak, and if it includes Q&A. Have a bio/political resume available for purposes of introduction, also business cards (optional). Please inform Community Outreach Chair when you are booked to speak to an organization, and how it went afterwards. This will then be added to our monthly report to LACDP.
6. Disclaimer: Remember, Mark Gonzalez is the official spokesperson for the LACDP and Rusty Hicks is the official spokesperson for the CDP. Do not offer your own opinions unless they conform to the Party's platform/resolutions. Remember, **it's not about you!** If asked about the Party's position on an issue that you are not sure about, don't wing it. Someone may have fact checker on speed dial, and you will embarrass yourself and the Party if you are wrong. Instead, offer to get back to the organization's leader with the information (Be sure you make a note and follow up. Don't drop the ball!).

7. Be respectful of everyone you meet (especially reps from other political parties). You may be coming into contact with these people on a regular basis.
8. Promote LACDP events/activities, regional chartered headquarters, internship programs, etc.
9. After the pandemic, you will be given LACDP literature for each speaking engagement. Until then, Mary Ellen will email you a scanned copy of our standard piece.
10. In addition, the Community Outreach Chair would like to share contact information (Names, emails, cell phone numbers) with the entire committee, and asked if there were any objections. None were offered.
11. Members Input – This was a round robin where each member shared their vision for things they would like to see Community Outreach working on.
12. New Business – Members were encouraged to coordinate with LACDP, so there will be no overlap with other standing committees, and to familiarize themselves with the activities of the virtual coordinated campaign office in their geographic areas. Don't reinvent the wheel!
13. Next Meeting – Members agreed that the Monday before the LACDP General Meeting at 7:00 p.m. was a convenient date and time for regular meetings. Since September's meeting would fall on Labor Day, Community Outreach will next meet on Monday, September 14 (just for the month of September).
14. Adjournment at 8:00 p.m.