

PDC Policy Proposals and Board Actions October 2015

(Amendments are highlighted in yellow)

Delegate Eligibility Proposal:

- **Passed as Amended:** For a PDC member to be eligible to be a club-appointed delegate to the California Democratic Party or County Central Committee, the individual must have been a member in good standing of the PDC for the 6 months prior to the selection, **or with a majority of the board approval.**

Newsletter Event Listings Proposal:

- **Passed:** If an organization or candidate asks the PDC to include an event in the newsletter, it should be left to the discretion of the President, Editor, and Publisher

Weekly Email Calendar Proposals:

- **Passed as Amended:** Include a “table of contents” at the beginning of the weekly email of the events contained in it, **if possible (editor’s discretion)**
- **Passed:** We do not include direct appeals or solicitations in our weekly email calendar, only fundraising events (unless it is a paid advertisement and displayed as such)
- **Passed:** We do not use “raiser codes” when listing events in the calendar. Use neutral fundraising links

Note: The PDC policies distinguish between “co-hosting” and “co-sponsoring” events. In both cases, the PDC advertises the event through its channels (website, calendars, Facebook, Board encouragement, etc). Event co-sponsorship is taken to imply that the PDC also is making a financial contribution. Generally the PDC’s primary value in co-hosting events is in advertising (website, calendars, Facebook) to our membership. We prefer not to “co-sponsor” events that are contingent on a financial contribution. The PDC policies distinguish between fundraising events and events that are primarily educational, political organizing or community building.

Event Co-Hosting Proposal:

- **Passed:** A decision for the PDC to Co-host an event (ie no financial contribution is required of the club) requires a simple majority (50%+1) of the whole board

Event Co-Sponsoring and Club Contribution Proposals:

- **Passed:** When an organization or individual requests the PDC make a financial contribution, the vote whether to do so will take place at the next board meeting following the proposal and discussion. If a decision is needed in a timelier manner, a vote will be taken by email, sometime after the board meeting where the proposal and discussion occurred
- **Passed:** A decision for the PDC to make a financial donation (to a candidate, event, initiative, organization) requires a 2/3 majority vote of the whole board
- **Passed:** Decisions regarding Co-hosting (advertising) a fundraising event and making a financial contribution to the subject of the fundraiser will be made separately
- **Passed:** A decision for the PDC to Co-sponsor a fundraising event requires a 2/3 majority of the whole board

Political Candidate Endorsement Proposals:

- **Passed:** The PDC does not endorse in the case of local measures, initiatives, or petitions.
- **Passed:** The PDC only endorses candidates with a unanimous vote of the board, followed by a one week period during which a board member can veto (basically, we virtually never endorse, except in the case of super obvious situations, such as a popular, incumbent Representative that seeks our endorsement)

Initiative or petition endorsements Proposal:

- **Passed:** Keep Section 11.04 as included in our by-laws.

Addendum: Section 11 of the PDC Bylaws

Article XI. Political Endorsements

Section 11.01 As permitted by law and the rules of the California Democratic Party, the Coalition may endorse Democratic candidates, ballot propositions, and local measures. The procedure varies according to the election type. In contested races, all candidates must be given equal opportunity to appear or make a

written statement. No candidate shall be endorsed prior to one week following the filing deadline for the office sought.

Section 11.02 Partisan Offices

- (a) The Board may endorse any Democratic candidate(s) for partisan office in a general or special election by a 2/3 vote of the entire Board.
- (b) If the Board chooses not to endorse a Democratic candidate, or if none is available, no endorsement shall be made.
- (c) The board may not endorse any candidate in a contested partisan primary. The Board may call a special endorsement meeting of the membership. The membership may endorse any Democratic candidate(s) by a 2/3 vote.

Section 11.03 Non Partisan Offices: The Board may endorse any Democratic candidate(s) for non_partisan office by a 2/3 vote of the entire Board.

Section 11.04 Ballot Propositions and Local Measures: An official endorsement, either for or against, a ballot proposition or policy question can be made by the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting or at a special meeting with the following procedure:

- (a) The President must notify Board members at least 10 days in advance of the meeting that one or more endorsements are on the agenda; the notice must indicate what endorsements are sought.
 - (b) There will be two votes taken at the Board meeting; both by open ballot. At the first vote the Chair of the meeting will ask for a count of those in favor and those opposed to the measure on which an endorsement is sought. If there is a majority either for or against the measure the second vote counts the votes for and against the question: Shall the PDC officially endorse the position just taken by a majority?
 - (c) An official PDC endorsement shall be contingent on receipt of “yes” votes on the endorsement question by 55% of the total board membership or 75% of the Board members voting, whichever number is greater.
 - (d) Official endorsements may be used publicly by the proponents or opponents of the issue. The vote count for and against the issue may be publicized in the PDC Newsletter.
- Section 11.05 Democratic Party Offices: The Board may endorse any candidate(s) for Democratic Party office by a 2/3 vote of the entire Board