

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee
450 Golden Gate Avenue
Milton Marks Auditorium
Minutes of June 22, 2011

Roll Call began at 7:06 p.m.

Present: John Avalos, Mary Jung, Hene Kelly, Rafael Mandelman, Carole Migden, Jane Morrison, Connie O'Connor, Aaron Peskin, Arlo Hale Smith, Gavin Newsom (proxy John Shanley), Kamala Harris (proxy Matthew Rothschild), Mark Leno (proxy Keith Baraka), Fiona Ma (proxy Jason Wong), Tom Ammiano (proxy Kim Shree Maufas)

Absent at the time of roll call: Bill Fazio, Tom Hsieh, Leslie Katz, Eric Mar, Dianne Feinstein (proxy arrived at 7:48 p.m.), Nancy Pelosi, Jackie Speier, Leland Yee (proxy arrived at 7:19 p.m.)

Excused with Proxy: David Campos (proxy Mark Snyder), Sandra Fewer (proxy Hene Kelly), Michael Goldstein (proxy Aaron Peskin), Gabriel Haaland (proxy Jamie Wolfe), Eric Quezada (proxy Wendy Phillips), Alix Rosenthal (proxy Rafael Mandelman)

Excused without Proxy: David Chiu, Milton Marks, Melanie Nutter, Debra Walker, Scott Wiener

1. DCCC Chair Aaron Peskin called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Peskin reported there were newspaper articles regarding Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom's move from his San Francisco home, to his in-laws property in Marin County. This resulted in discussions on whether or not he lived in San Francisco and should continue on the San Francisco DCCC. He said he wrote Newsom regarding this and had not yet received an answer. He therefore posed the question to Newsom's proxy, John Shanley, who replied that Newsom did consider San Francisco as his residence.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Hene Kelly, seconded by Arlo Hale Smith, to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved without objection.

3. Approval of May 25, 2011, minutes

Moved by Smith, seconded by Kim Shree Maufas, to approve the draft minutes of May 25, 2011. This passed without objection.

4. Presentation by Mayoral Candidate Dennis Herrera

At 7:12 p.m., City Attorney Dennis Herrera started his presentation by recounting his election to the DCCC in 2000, narrowly winning his 13th AD seat by 59 votes, edging out incumbent Greg Day. He stated Peskin was also elected in 2000 and noted how different it is today for Alix Rosenthal as Treasurer because of Peskin's success at fundraising. Herrera was elected as Treasurer by his colleagues and spent his own resources to fund the DCCC at that time. After he was elected to City Attorney, he stepped down from his DCCC seat.

Herrera stated he has been in tune with democratic values and the Democratic Party his entire life and has been motivated by these values, which led him to the City Attorney's Office to protect seniors, the homeless, and LGBT community. He said his campaign is about knowing how to govern and make San Francisco the best city it can be. He remarked on his role in defending several issues which seemed impossible not very long before their enactment: (1) Closing the Mirant Power Plant, (2) Enacting Healthy San Francisco, and (3) Fighting gender rating in health insurance costs for women (women were charged 39% more in premiums).

Connie O'Connor asked Herrera what he thought set him apart from the other candidates. Herrera replied that you need to ask yourself - what do you want for the next four years? What type of City will San Francisco be in the next 50 years? He stated he has a record of accomplishments and he knows how to use

government to get things done.

Carole Migden asked him what he was going to do about future jobs. Herrera answered there were a lot of speculators who did well. He said there is a problem supporting small business - such as access to credit needs to be funded and expanded. Herrera also opined that college is not for everybody and that partnerships should be created for vocational and industrial training.

Kelly asked Herrera regarding his position on the circumcision ban. Herrera replied he is voting against it and did not feel it should be on the ballot.

Shree-Maufas asked Herrera about his children being in private schools. Herrera said that school choice is a personal choice. He is committed to public schools, but chose to place his child in a Mandarin immersion school, noting that for an immersion program to be successful, it needs to go to the 8th grade. San Francisco public schools stop short of this and have not fulfilled their promises to families by stopping the programs in the 5th grade. Herrera also said he believed Proposition H (school funding measure) should be renewed and expanded from \$60 million to \$90 million. He also is a believer in community schools, which focus not just on the academics, but also provides services such as health programs, park & rec programs, etc.

Peskin asked where the extra \$30 million would come from, since it isn't fair to continue strategies such as mining parking meters. Herrera stated we need to inspire confidence in people who want to invest in government. He said he was the only Mayoral candidate who endorsed Daryl Steinberg's bill of allowing localities a choice on taxes.

John Avalos asked that a tough choice would be on how to balance the budget. Herrera replied it would involve the \$600 million contracted to the nonprofits who provide vital services throughout the City. He would partner with them on strategic planning and identify significant nonprofit savings.

Avalos was excused at 7:44 p.m. and gave his proxy to Max Siegel.

Mary Jung asked Herrera what he thought about the ballot measure to dismantle Care Not Cash. Herrera replied he hadn't read the legislation yet, but thought we should not dismantle housing opportunities. Turning people out is a bad thing.

The presentation and Q&A portion were completed at 7:45 p.m.

5. Resolutions

There were none.

6. Consideration of an amendment to Policies and Procedures Manual - Regarding Chartered Democratic Clubs (Milton Marks)

Rafael Mandelman reported this amendment was discussed at the Issues Committee Meeting before the regular meeting of the DCCC. There was no support at the Issues Committee. It was agreed that Kelly would call Marks.

Moved by Mandelman, seconded by Jane Morrison, to send the proposed amendment back to Marks.

Matthew Rothschild stated he supported the resolution to send it back and thought this amendment would be a disincentive for clubs to want to charter with the DCCC.

Mandelman stated there was a concern about micro managing clubs and a question of who would police this. It also does not address primaries. There were lots of questions and objections.

The motion passed without objection.

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

8. Discussion regarding "Top Two" run-off system (Hale Smith)

Arlo Hale Smith said the subcommittee has not met yet since member Debra Walker was out of town. He will schedule a meeting after everyone is back and will send an email to everyone on the DCCC informing them of the time and place of the meeting..

9. Reports

9a. Chair's report (Peskin)

Peskin stated they are working on questions for the candidate questionnaires and welcome suggestions. Kelly and Mandelman have already made suggestions. Executive Director Emily Lowe is making a list of all the Democratic candidates and she will send them a notice shortly regarding the endorsement process. He announced that the August 13th Interview Meeting could include brief presentations from the candidates for District Attorney, Mayor, and Sheriff and that he thought it would be held at one of the Union halls, but was open to suggestions. The Endorsement vote of the DCCC will be on August 17th at 6 p.m. Peskin also thanked everyone who helped with the fundraiser and especially recognized Lowe, who now does the event mostly by herself.

9b. Executive Director's Report (Lowe)

Lowe reported the Unity Lunch raised \$29,665, there were \$15,416 in expenses, and the profit will be \$14,249. She said she also hired two interns and sic bounty workers last month. The next major fundraiser will be in October at the Far East Restaurant, and will honor Sheriff Michael Hennessey.

Migden was excused from the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Keith Baraka stated the Irish Cultural Center has large meeting rooms suitable for the candidate/ballot measure interviews and that the LGBT Center was also an option. Peskin recalled that the interviews in 2010 only drew about 15 people.

9c. Treasurer's Report (Rosenthal)

Peskin stated that the Treasurer is not present, but asked committee members to review the two reports that were distributed.

9d. Fundraising Report (Nutter)

Melanie Nutter was not present and there was no report.

10. New Business

There was no new business.

11. Adjournment

Moved by O'Connor, seconded by Kelly, to adjourn the meeting. This passed without objection. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.