

# San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California  
Milton Marks Auditorium  
Wednesday, March 12, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

## Regular Meeting Minutes

Note: A majority of the members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and of one or more Board committees, currently serve as members of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee (DCCC). The law is not clear as to whether the open meeting requirements of state and local law apply to DCCC meetings attended by these Board members. Out of abundance of caution, Board members and the DCCC have agreed to comply with these open meeting laws.

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### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call at 7:06 p.m.

Chair: Mary Jung. Members: David Chiu (arrived 8:11), Malia Cohen, Matt Dorsey, Bevan Dufty (arrived 7:11), Zoe Dunning (arrived 7:23), Bill Fazio, Leslie Katz, Hene Kelly (arrived 7:10), Meagan Levitan (arrived 7:15), Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar, Trevor McNeil, Leah Pimentel (arrived 7:12), Alix Rosenthal, Arlo Hale Smith, and Scott Wiener (arrived 7:30). Ex-Officio Members: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy George Broder); U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier (proxy Brian Perkins); Attorney General Kamala Harris (proxy Matthew Rothschild); State Senator Mark Leno (proxy Keith Baraka arrived 8:30); Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (proxy Esther Marks arrived 7:19); Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy Jason Wong arrived 7:14).

Absent: U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi; State Senator Leland Yee.

Proxies: Kat Anderson (proxy Mary Jung); John Avalos (proxy Matt Dorsey); David Campos (proxy Eric Mar); Petra DeJesus (proxy Jamie Whittaker); Kelly Dwyer (proxy Hene Kelly); Tom Hsieh (proxy Arlo Hale Smith); Carole Migden (proxy Rafael Mandelman).

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

M/S/C (Rosenthal/Cohen). Approved by acclamation.

### **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Approval of the minutes of the DCCC's Regular Meetings from January 22, 2014. M/S/C: (RosenthalCohen). Approved by acclamation.

Approval of the minutes of the DCCC's Regular Meetings from February 26, 2014. Speier would like correction noted for next meeting. Motion to put over for re-consideration at next meeting. M/S/C: (Rothschild/Dorsey). Motion approved by acclamation.

### **4. Public Comment**

- Eileen Boken from the Sunset/Parkside Education and Action Committee and the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods urged the S.F. Democratic Party to endorse Prop B to protect the waterfront.
- Sigrid Irias, an attorney who works for San Francisco La Raza Lawyers' Association urged the endorsement of Daniel Flores for S.F. Superior Court Judge.
- Bruce Agid, a member of several community organizations, opposes Prop B because it will delay or kill proposed developments, and jeopardize needed funding and open space, especially south of AT&T Park.
- Patrick Valentino from South Beach is against Prop B. He believes we should be building more housing, not taking away jobs, housing and funding for affordable housing.
- Merle Goldstone invites the S.F. Democratic Party to co-host an upcoming event for State Senator Nina Turner, a Democratic candidate for Secretary of State in Ohio. She also urges a yes vote on Prop B.
- Xochitl Carniom, who works for La Raza Lawyers' Association and is on the California Law Revision Commission, urges the Party to endorse Daniel Flores for Judge. Flores has the right temperament and commitment to the community, as well as experience as a litigator.
- Jim Wachob invited Democrats to the Irish American Democratic Club's annual St. Patrick's Day Party on March 14.
- Vivian Imperiale urged support for Prop B, expressed awe for the beauty of San Francisco's waterfront, which must be preserved.

- Madeline Zapeda, an Alameda County Public Defender, supports Daniel Flores for Judge. She discussed his leadership in being a strong mentor for law students.
- Henry Karnilowitz, of the San Francisco Small Property Owners Association, opposes Prop B because San Francisco's waterfront doesn't have iconic buildings like the Sydney Opera House. Believes Prop B will kill open space, affordable housing, and 32,000 jobs.
- Tab Buckner expressed support for Prop B, recalled land use lessons learned from the Embarcadero Freeway. Hopes members heed message of last fall's 8 Washington vote. Tonight's vote will be remembered.
- Al Williams, supporting Kimberly Williams for S.F. Superior Court Judge, attested to the candidate's broad range of experience, and urged the party to endorse her.
- Jonathan Roberts, an attorney, urging support for Daniel Flores for Judge, cited his excellent record as a mentor to others in the legal profession.
- Rocío Avila urges the endorsement of Daniel Flores, who influenced her own decision to attend law school, and his support for the community as a staff attorney at La Raza Centro Legal.
- Corinne Woods, of Mission Creek, has decades of experience in waterfront land use issues. She argued that ballot box planning diminishes the City's negotiating position for public benefits, and that Prop B is not the right way to do planning.
- Reuben Hechanova, urges no vote on Prop B, which he believes makes a mockery of current planning processes in San Francisco. Planning shouldn't be decided by campaign sound-bites.
- Demian Oksenendler supports Daniel Flores for Judge, knows him as an attorney with both civil and criminal expertise. Can't think of a better candidate to promote Justice
- Bob Arnz, a lawyer of 38 years and USF Law School graduate, supports the Warriors Arena, and opposes Prop B.
- Vince Courtney, Sr. represents building trades and Alliance for Jobs and Sustainable Growth, opposing Prop B. Noted that Alliance voted unanimously to oppose Prop B.

- Susan Pfeifer, pitching March 22<sup>nd</sup> enrollment event for Covered California for OCA. Asks for Healthy San Francisco enrollees and those who know them to consider joining Covered California.
- Charles Dutkin, supporting Prop B, quoted Winston Churchill, who said democracy is terrible, except for everything else. Voters make major policy decisions on many issues, and Prop B doesn't prevent development.
- Luz Maria Rodriguez, IBEW Local 6, spoke against Prop B because it would prevent the creation of affordable housing in San Francisco and block needed repairs of dilapidated piers.
- Steve Cloherty, representative from IBEW Local 6, opposes Prop B because it would kill development.
- Jim Reilly, former president of City Democratic Club, spoke in support of Daniel Flores. From day one of Flores's legal career, he has worked to represent tenants and others and is a great litigator.
- Michael Buffington, a professor from Academy of Art University, spoke in support of Daniel Flores, who has the exact qualities to serve as a judge with fairness and honesty.
- Rose Warfield, supporting Kimberly Williams, spoke on why her candidate was very well qualified to serve as a judge
- A. Tyra Fennell, from the SF Arts Commission, is supporting Kimberly Williams, noted that her candidate is an experienced attorney who served under four district attorneys, and is a native San Franciscan.
- Steve Lutge, from Theatrical Stage Employees Local 16, urges a no vote on Prop B.
- Joanne Desmond, from Theatrical Stage Employees Local 16, urges a no vote on Prop B because it will adversely affect union jobs and the important hospitality industry.
- Michelle Tong voiced support for Daniel Flores, whom she knows from the Public Defender's Office. What we need on the bench is someone who is

able to see both sides of matters before the court. Flores is ready to serve the people of San Francisco.

- Bill Hannan, president of the Golden Gate Tenants Association, voiced support for Prop B.
- Rebecca Evans, of the Sierra Club, urged support for Prop B, arguing that it's not slanted at any particular development. She asked why anyone would trade a 1<sup>st</sup> class bay for a mall.
- Terrence Dunnigan, of Ironworkers Local 377, opposes Prop B, arguing that the City needs housing and jobs. All he hears from supporters are about heights and their views, but others deserve to have their views, too.
- Dan Prince, Ironworkers 377, opposing Prop B, which he argues expands the 8 Washington election to bad governance generally. We elect representatives to make decisions and have a process for development policies.
- Edwin Lindo, endorsing Daniel Flores for Judge, has seen Daniel in many situations, and has also seen judges who don't care. Flores cares.
- Andrew Bennett, IATSE Local 16, opposes Prop B because it will halt building on the waterfront, prevent Warriors Arena, and cost jobs.
- Roger Fonseca supports Daniel Flores for Judge. Fonseca is an attorney, but would likely not have been without Flores' encouragement. Flores is a good mentor who created a scholarship fund for disadvantaged youth.
- Paulina Maldonado, a legal assistant for Daniel Flores, strongly supports her boss for judge. He has been a great mentor and supporter.
- Matt Sullivan is supporting Daniel Flores for judge. Is impressed with his strong work ethic and good preparation. He is not especially political, but believes we deserve Flores for judge.
- Pat Karinan, Pile Drivers Local No. 34, opposes Prop B because it will cost union jobs.

- Lashon Walker supports Kimberly Toney Williams for Judge because she is an experienced trial attorney, led implementation of community justice courts, and aligned herself with the underprivileged throughout her career.
- Candy Smallwood, supporting Daniel Flores for judge, applauds his mentorship to new attorneys and believes he would make a great judge.
- F.X. Crowley, on behalf of IATSE 16, urges the DCCC to vote No on Prop B (before Hene Kelly kicks him out of here).
- Michael Ohta, a Potrero Hill native, works as a stagehand and opposes Prop B.
- Jo Elias-Jackson, a native San Franciscan, urges support for Kimberly Toney Williams for S.F. Superior Court Judge.
- Fred Barnes, Local 34 Pile Driver, opposes Prop B. He believes the working class is under attack and sees Prop B as one more measure that will chip away at the labor force of San Francisco.
- Julien Le Biavant, Local 34 Pile Driver, urges No on B.
- Brenda Barrow from SEIU, political co-chair of Local 1021, urges support for Kimberly Toney Williams. Also urges attendance at a conference on African American Political involvement at SEIU's Potrero headquarters.
- Norma Faris Taylor, urged the DCCC to endorse Kimberly Toney Williams for Judge.
- Peter Garza, Northern California Carpenters Regional Council, strongly opposes Prop B, which he believes will cost jobs and reduce affordable housing.
- Gloria Lucas-Davis, a native San Franciscan from Local 21 - IFPTE, supports Kimberly Toney Williams for Judge. She graduated from Catholic school, raised sons in San Francisco, and deeply respects someone who has raised a family as a single parent.
- Pat Lane, a native San Franciscan, works at AT&T and urges a no vote on Prop B. It will cost jobs, and workers in San Francisco need more work.

- Charles Laveny, of Operating Engineers 3, opposes Prop B and urges the DCCC to endorse No on B.
- Richard Schaefer, with the Sheetmetal Workers Local No. 104, urges a no vote on Prop B. A lot of properties with views used to be underwater, and development could go out a mile into the water. Prop B is about framing the debate in a confusing manner.
- Kevin Bard acknowledges his recent outspokenness about inclusion, expresses strong support for Kimberly Toney Williams, and also expresses support for Prop B.
- Chair Mary Jung summarized an e-mail from Chad Lonberger urging the DCCC to endorse the no position on Prop B.
- Jung summarized an e-mail from Joshua Channell opposing Prop B.
- Jan Chaffee, on behalf of grandchildren, wants them to have a chance to enjoy waterfront, urges the DCCC to vote yes on Prop B.
- Alma Robinson expresses support for Kimberly Toney Williams for Judge.
- James Bryant opposes Prop B because it will stifle needed economic opportunities in San Francisco.

## 5. Reports

DCCC member reports, including discussion and possible action, to offer updates on work assignments and discuss ongoing objectives.

- a) **Chair Report:** Chair Jung reported on recent Democratic Party activities, including the recent California Democratic State Convention in Los Angeles. She pointed to a handout from the CDP that reflects the candidate and statewide proposition endorsements from the Convention and stated the SF DCCC must follow these same endorsements. Jung noted that neither of the contested races received the necessary 60 percent for endorsement, and that will be reflected on the slate card.

- **Malia Cohen** asked if it would be possible to skip the reports to get to the endorsement process. Jung responded, and Dunning agreed, that reports would be very brief.
- b) **Finance Report:** Zoe Dunning pointed out the invitation that had been distributed on the DCCC fundraising breakfast at the Intercontinental Hotel on April 11. U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier is slated to keynote, and Dunning hopes it will be the make best fundraiser ever.
- c) **Executive Director:** Ally Medina noted that 22 Young Democrats went to the convention in Los Angeles, and San Francisco State University's College Democrats were honored there as College Dems of the Year.

## 6. Endorsements

Alix Rosenthal discussed the SFDCCC's endorsement process for candidates and ballot measures for the June 3, 2014 Municipal Election: candidates are allotted five minutes for their presentations, and another five minutes will be reserved for questions. Questionnaires have posted on website, Rosenthal said, expressing hope that everyone saw them. Hene Kelly discussed the process she would employ to inform candidates of their remaining time during their presentations.

### a) Endorsement of candidate for S.F. Superior Court Judge, Seat No. 20

- Daniel Flores, candidate for S.F. Superior Court Judge:** Flores discussed being born in San Francisco's Excelsior District to immigrant parents. He is a father with two children, and his wife is also a native San Franciscan. His entire law practice has been in San Francisco. He interned at La Raza Centro Legal, and did civil litigation for a San Francisco law firm. He opened his own law practice in 2005 to represent individuals and the small business community. As a native Spanish speaker, he knew he could be a resource for the community. He represented tenants against landlords, as well as landlords trying to navigate city laws. He fell in love with the court system, began volunteering at the Public Defender's office, and now does criminal defense work. For the last seven years, he has appeared before many judges, and is endorsed by 21 judges on the San Francisco bench. He respectfully asks for S.F. Democratic Party's endorsement.
- Rosenthal asked Daniel Flores about the fact that his party registration was undeclared until recently. Flores responded that he registered as a young man, and didn't think party identification mattered. However, he



has supported the values of the Democratic Party consistently, as a voter and as a donor. He is pro-choice, pro-same-sex marriage, supports a living wage, and is an advocate for affordable housing. He believes his actions speak for his Democratic values.

- Matthew Rothschild credits Flores with being motivational speaker, but questions why he said it wouldn't matter to be a Democrat as a young voter.
- Flores reiterated that when he registered as an 18 year old, he saw no reason to join a party at the time.
- David Chiu asked how many trials Flores had handled? Flores responded 15 trials, 11 criminal trials (comprising 10 misdemeanor and one felony matters), and two juvenile matters as well.
- Bill Fazio offered comment on concerns voiced by Rosenthal.
- George Broder asked if Flores passed the Bar Exam on his first try. Flores answered: Yes.

**Carol Kingsley, candidate for S.F. Superior Court Judge:** Kingsley acknowledged that she brought handouts, but regretted that she didn't bring cheerleaders to the meeting to attest to her qualifications, but applauds all those who showed up. Experience matters, Kingsley argued, noting that she has 30 years of experience as a mediator. While she has experience in both criminal and civil matters, the bulk of her experience has been on civil side. In past 10 years, she has successfully mediated hundreds of cases. As Police Commissioner, she heard cases there which were quasi-judicial. That's why she has demonstrated she has the experience and temperament for the judiciary. She has life experience, too, and knows what it's like to have a family member murdered. She has been a leader for twenty years on the issue of gun control. Her experience distinguishes her from the other candidates. She is also proud to be a lifelong Democrat, and touted endorsements that include former City Attorney Louise Renne.

- Chiu asked about Kingsley's trial experience. Kingsley has not served as an advocate in trials, but has been a mediator on hundreds of cases. She has also been a hearing officer on many more.

- Broder asked if Kingsley passed the Bar Exam the first time? Kingsley responded by noting that she had been served divorce papers two weeks before the exam, and for those personal reasons passed the exam on her second try.
- Rosenthal asked why Kingsley had not taken a position in the questionnaire on the issues questions. Kingsley cited the canon of judicial ethics, which she believes prohibits taking positions as a judicial candidate on matters that may come before the bench. She was, in fact, advised not to take a hard position on political issues.
- Hale noted that he is aware of a Minnesota case that conflicts with that view, which would allow judicial candidates to take positions.
- Rosenthal asked what's the gender breakdown in local judiciary. Kingsley answered that she didn't have hard numbers, but believes it's about one-third women and two-thirds men.

**Kimberly Toney Williams, candidate for S.F. Superior Court Judge:** Williams is a native San Franciscan, and her story is very much woven into the fabric of San Francisco itself. Her family migrated to San Francisco in 1942, as many African American families did to be a part of the World War II effort. Her grandmother worked in shipyards. In 1954, her family bought home in Portola, helping advance the American dream. Williams was the first in her family to graduate from college, and worked for a time as a securities broker. She then returned to law school, fulfilling the dream of her grandmother, who always wanted her to be a lawyer. Williams went on to serve as Assistant District Attorney for 19 years, under District Attorney's Arlo Smith, Terrence Hallinan, Kamala Harris and George Gascón. She has handled between 20 and 25 misdemeanor trials, and another 15 felony trials. Though her expertise is largely on criminal side, she has extensive civil experience as securities broker. She said the current gender makeup of the San Francisco Superior Court bench was 28 men and 22 women. Williams, if elected, would be only the third African American woman.

- Chiu asked Williams to repeat her statement on her trial experience. Williams reiterated that she had handled between 20 and 25 misdemeanor trials, 15 felony trials, and also at least 20 bench trials.

- Broder asked Williams if she had passed the Bar Exam on the first try? Williams responded in the affirmative.
- Fazio asked what Williams would say to those who questioned that she only has criminal experience. Williams noted that she has civil experience as a securities broker while serving as Wells Fargo. She also noted that there are civil aspects to sexual assault matters and that she had handled civil issues there as well.
- Rosenthal asked Williams why she declined to answer issue questions on the questionnaire. Williams responded that as a judicial candidate, it would be a breach of judicial responsibility to articulate positions on matters that may come before her.
- Rothschild asked if Williams has an opinion on death penalty. Williams responded that she does have an opinion, but declined to talk about it as a judicial candidate.
- Fazio asked, as a point of information, if the DCCC were to vote for no endorsement in the judicial race for June, could an endorsement be revisited for a November runoff. Parliamentarian Arlo Hale Smith responded that the committee can revisit its endorsement for a runoff, assuming there were a runoff one if none of the three candidates exceeds 50 percent. Wiener noted that, under the bylaws, any member can ask to re-agendize an item, including an endorsement.
- Fazio noted that as attorney, he has done exclusively criminal cases. He likes all the candidates, but is supporting Daniel Flores. He respects that Flores answered political questions. Noted Flores has a strong background in both civil and criminal matters. Fazio is not bothered by the fact that Flores was not a registered Democratic voter until recently.
- Chiu noted the field of strong candidates, but knows Kimberly Toney Williams is the best candidate. He is particularly impressed by her experience involving 60 trials.
- Mary Jung noted that since the year 2000, this is the first time she can recall in which judicial candidates declined to fill out issues questions. She has not seen that before, and said Matthew Rothschild brought up a good point. The last time this happened, upon further questioning, it turned

out that one of the candidates for a different elective office was barely pro-choice.

- Rothschild expressed support for Kimberly Toney Williams, and remains bothered by the fact that Daniel Flores did not register as a Democrat until a month earlier. The Attorney General is proud to endorse Kimberly Toney Williams for S.F. Superior Court Judge, Rothschild said.
- Cohen noted the process for judicial candidates. Believes Kimberly Toney Williams has a particularly remarkable background, and shared the story about Williams wanting and adopting a child, which she has raised as a single parent. Hopes the Party makes its endorsement for Williams.
- Bevan Dufty noted that he and Carol Kingsley have crossed paths many times over the years, and that Kingsley has been there over and over again to focus on the problem of gun violence. He has been personally impressed with her over the years for fighting gun violence.
- Matt Dorsey noted that he was impressed with the candidates' presentations, and spoke with many attorneys in advance, and found all to be well regarded by the legal community. Dorsey's intention to vote "no endorsement" doesn't reflect a negative view, but rather a positive view of all three. Sees no compelling reason for the Democratic Party to weigh in by endorsing one candidate over others.
- Kelly expressed support for Dorsey's remarks, noting that California Democratic Party Chair John Burton had made the same argument to her for a "no endorsement" at the recent CDP convention for state constitutional officers. "Don't endorse," Burton said, "we have a lot of good candidates."
- Rosenthal said she came to meeting not knowing whom to vote for but is inclined to vote for Kimberly Toney Williams. Feels strongly about the need for more women—and especially more mothers—in public service. Is impressed with Williams's background and questionnaire positions.

M/S/C (Rosenthal/Dunning) for a roll-call vote.

**DCCC Vote for candidate for S.F. Superior Court Judge, Round One**

- **Flores:** Avalos, Campos, DeJesus, Fazio, Kelly, Levitan, Mandelman, Mar, Pimentel, Wiener, Leno (11)
- **Kingsley:** Anderson, Dufty, Hsieh, Katz, Migden (5)
- **Williams:** Chiu, Cohen, Dunning, Dwyer, Rosenthal, Smith, Harris (7)
- **No Endorsement:** Dorsey, McNeil (2)
- **Abstained:** Jung, Feinstein, Speier, Ammiano, Ting (5)
- **Absent:** Pelosi, Yee (2)

Rosenthal notes that as no candidate met the endorsement threshold of 50 percent plus one vote among members present and voting, a second round of voting would now take place with the lowest-finishing candidate (Kingsley) removed from consideration.

Bill Fazio left at 9:15. Gave proxy to Dufty.

#### **DCCC Vote for candidate for S.F. Superior Court Judge, Round Two**

- **Flores:** Avalos, Campos, DeJesus, Dwyer, Fazio, Katz, Kelly, Levitan, Mandelman, Mar, Pimentel, Wiener, Leno (13)
- **Williams:** Anderson, Chiu, Cohen, Dunning, Rosenthal, Smith, Harris (7)
- **No Endorsement:** Dorsey, Dufty, Hsieh, McNeil (4)
- **Abstained:** Jung, Feinstein, Migden, Speier, Ammiano, Ting (6)
- **Absent:** Pelosi, Yee (2)

With 13 votes among 25 members present and voting, Daniel Flores is the S.F. Democratic Party's endorsed candidate for S.F. Superior Court Judge.

#### **b) Endorsements of Qualified Local Ballot Measures**

- Proposition A: Earthquake Retrofit Bond**, a general obligation bond measure that would authorize the City to sell up to \$400 million in

bonds to improve specific public safety and emergency response facilities.

Chiu spoke for the proponents. Argued that Proposition A would enable needed seismic upgrades, which is why the measure was approved and endorsed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Also noted that the bond would not increase tax rates because the City's rolling bonded indebtedness, which allows for new debt for important needs as older debts are paid off.

### **DCCC Vote on endorsement for Prop A**

M/S/C (Wiener/Levitan) Move to endorse Prop A by acclamation. Motion approved by acclamation, with two exceptions: Jackie Speier (who abstained) and Arlo Hale Smith (who voted no).

Rosenthal noted that the SFDCCC has endorsed "Yes on Prop A."

#### **ii. Proposition B: Voter Approval for Waterfront Height Increases.**

Measure would prevent the City from allowing any development on Port property that exceeds the height limits in effect as of January 1, 2014, unless the City's voters have first approved an increase in the height limit for that development. The measure applies to property currently under the control of the Port Commission, as well as any property that the Port may later acquire. Any ballot question to increase height limits on Port property must specify both existing and proposed height limits.

**Proponent of Prop B, Jon Golinger:** Golinger identified himself as being from No Wall on Waterfront, which successfully opposed the prior election's Props B and C, a position endorsed by the S.F. Democratic Party. Shared recent news that State Democratic Party Chair John Burton endorsed Prop B and read Burton's quote. Noted that Prop B doesn't stop projects but simply gives people right to vote. Prop B will help avoid bad projects, like 8 Washington, but wouldn't stop all projects. Golinger noted that 18 times developers have gone to voters and succeeded in passing those projects half the time. Prop B would create an incentive for developers to go to voters, so that major projects that affect our city will be sold to voters in the light of day. AT&T Park is one example of how this

happened. Even Golinger acknowledges that not all development on the Port is bad, citing three examples of great waterfront projects: the Ferry Building, the Exploratorium, and the new Cruise Ship Terminal.

**Opponent of Prop B, Tom Colen:** Colen identified himself as a plaintiff in the pending legal challenge to strike Prop B from the ballot. He noted that voters' decisions on Props B and C last year regarding 8 Washington set a bad precedent inasmuch as it frustrated development of San Francisco's needs. He described the current Prop B measure as "that on steroids." He noted that some Port property covered by the measure has an effective height limit of zero, which would require the Giants to go to voters even if they wanted to build a taco stand. At a time when we San Franciscans need to dramatically rethink our relationship to housing, Prop B is a terrible idea. He asked members to consider a stunning report by Port of San Francisco, which found that projects and benefits that would need to be "delayed, reduced or abandoned" included: 23 acres of open space; 5 maritime berths; \$8 billion in Port funding; and \$124 million in affordable housing fees. Prop B makes no sense as planning tool and is just a political stunt. Concluded that the judge is likely to rule on the legal challenge to the ballot measure on Monday.

**Rebuttal by Proponent of Prop B:** Golinger countered arguments about the loss of jobs and funding by saying that it assumes that voters would reject everything. If they're good projects, they'll be approved, Golinger argued. If they're not, they won't be approved. San Francisco's waterfront doesn't have to become like that in Miami or San Diego. Don't have to build up or block off like other cities. Save existing height limits, go to voters for changes.

**Rebuttal by Opponent of Prop B:** Colen argued that if Prop B passes, it won't lead to better development. Why would developers continue to go through a tough planning a process when they could just go to voters with a campaign? Don't kid a kidder, Colen said. San Francisco has a choice: it either has to produce more housing, or it will become more and more exclusive. Prop B puts more pressure on affordability in San Francisco and should be opposed.

## **Members' Discussion**

Kelly believes that the building trades deserve jobs, and wants her son to be able to afford an apartment or house in San Francisco. But she doesn't believe Prop B is an enemy of the building trades, or affordability, or that it reflects a "we got ours" mentality. Kelly wants to see waterfront built so it continues to be beautiful. She wants the Warriors arena, for example, but doesn't want the proposed buildings across the street.

Meagan Levitan would love to support Prop B, but can't support it for one important reason: the ballot component of the measure would empower developers. People think 8 Washington was a bellwether, Levitan argued, but the "no" side was backed with significant campaign funding. Lennar went to ballot and won a worse deal than it would have been otherwise.

Smith thinks Prop B is an attack on working people, and will vote against it.

Rafael Mandelman said that for the approximately 10 years that Aaron Peskin and progressive Supervisors were in City government, the City got good deals on developments through the existing process. He has thought and once wrote an op-ed arguing that ballot box planning was generally bad, but he believes voters should have the right to vote on the waterfront.

Chiu said he is not prepared to vote on this measure at this time. City leaders and voters have not examined the real impact of this. He is waiting for studies, and also waiting for court ruling.

Jamie Whittaker (proxy for Petra DeJesus) noted that developers can go to the ballot now, as they did with Prop C last year. This institutionalizes voters voice in the process when it involves the waterfront.

#### **DCCC Vote on endorsement for Prop B**

- **No on Prop B:** Anderson, Dufty, Dunning, Fazio, Hsieh, Jung, Levitan, McNeil, Pimentel, Smith, Wiener, Harris, Ting (13)
- **Yes on Prop B:** Avalos, Campos, Cohen, DeJesus, Dorsey, Dwyer, Kelly, Mandelman, Mar, Migden, Leno, Ammiano (12)
- **Abstain:** Chiu, Katz, Rosenthal, Feinstein, Speier (5)
- **Absent:** Pelosi, Yee (2)



Rosenthal noted that with 13 votes among 25 members present and voting, the SFDCCC has endorsed a “No on Prop B” position.

7. **New Business.** Jung called for new business, but none was raised.
8. **Adjournment.** Dorsey moved to adjourn the meeting in memory of Stu Smith, widely admired community leader, whom many DCCC members got to know when he was a candidate for SFDCCC in the 2012 election. Motion seconded by Zoe Dunning. Adjourned by acclamation at 9:44 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Matt Dorsey, corresponding secretary, substituting as recording secretary.