

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California
Milton Marks Auditorium
Wednesday, April 16, 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.

1. Call to Order at 7:06 pm and Roll Call at 7:09 pm

Chair: Mary Jung. Members: Kat Anderson, Malia Cohen, Matt Dorsey, Bevan Dufty (proxy Mary Jung), Zoe Dunning (proxy Leah Pimentel), Kelly Dwyer (arrived 7:17 pm), Tom Hsieh (proxy Trevor McNeil), Leslie Katz (arrived 7:12 pm), Hene Kelly, Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar, Trevor McNeil, Leah Pimentel, Alix Rosenthal, Arlo Hale Smith, and Scott Wiener. 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); Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (proxy Rafael Mandelman); Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy Jason Wong).

Excused: Bill Fazio, Meagan Levitan, U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi

Absent: John Avalos, David Campos, David Chiu, Petra DeJesus, Carole Migden

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Agenda amended to pull item 5(c) because the issue cannot be heard without more information from the State Democratic Party.

M/S/C (Kelly/Dorsey/unanimous)

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the DCCC's Regular Meetings of February 26, 2014 and March 12, 2014. Attendance roster is attached with these minutes.

M/S/C (Kelly/Smith/unanimous)

4. Public Comment 7:12 pm

Susan Pfeifer spoke about the ACA. 3 million people now have health insurance. The FDR Democratic Club thanks those who attended their pedestrian safety forum. Next focus is on hiring of people with disabilities. FDR President Jonathan Lyens is now employed with the Cityagain. Please consider endorsing Derek Cressman for Secretary of State. He is endorsed by the Clean Money Campaign and several Democratic clubs.

Melanie Ramil, with Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones, asked for support for the insurance resolution on tonight's agenda.

Ace Washington (Ace on the Case) spoke about community reform.

Brent Turner for California Association for Voting Officials spoke about election systems. See www.cavo-us.org for details. SB360 allows California to self-certify our election systems.

Michael Steger, Democratic candidate for Congress, shared his platform.

Sharen Hewitt for We the People Democratic Club spoke about the right to vote for people that are hospitalized (inadvertent disenfranchisement).

Public Comment closed at 7:31 pm.

5. Reports

- a) **Chair** (Jung). Thanked everyone who attended/supported the DCCC breakfast at the Hotel Intercontinental. She reported on the spirited presentation by Congresswoman Jackie Speier and the surprise visit by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi. She noted that Senator Dianne Feinstein, Pelosi, and Speier made contributions to the event – as did State Senator Leno, Assemblyman Phil Ting, and Board of Equalization candidate Fiona Ma. Jung reported that the DCCC raised \$165,000 at the 2013 Breakfast

and this year \$174,000 was raised. Money collection continues. Special thanks to Ally Medina and Clair Conroy and several DCCC members for special contributions of time and resources.

- b) **CDP Region 6 Update** (Kelly). In numbers of donors, Dem2014 has slipped to 977 members. If we can get most everybody to sign in to Dem2014, give even a modest amount, we can give the party 1,000 donors. She will bring contribution forms to the May meeting.
- c) **[Pulled] CDP Endorsement Update:** (Smith) Status report on the California Democratic Party reopening the endorsement for Secretary of State.
- d) **Voter Registration** (McNeil). Thanked everyone for the fundraiser, which is the bread and butter for paying for voter registration efforts.
- e) **Club Chartering** (Pimentel). The Willie B. Kennedy Democratic Club Executive Board was sworn in at the State Building in April by former Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr. State Senator Leno gave introductory remarks. Supervisor Malia Cohen and Board President David Chiu also spoke during the program.
- f) **Finance** (Dunning). Dunning brought up the idea of a “State of the Party” Party event for the end of June or July and said she would ask for volunteers as the idea took shape.
- g) **Treasurer** (Hsieh). No oral report was given, but the current budget and finance report was distributed.
- h) **Executive Director** (Medina). Reported on S.F. Democratic Party’s Summer Internship Program. \$7,000 remains in the program account and she would like to replenish up to \$12,000. We are going to stipend up to 10 summer interns at \$100 per week because we do not believe in unpaid labor. 15-20 hours per week. Last summer, we registered over 4,000 voters, so this is a good use of resources.

6. **Slate Card RFP Selection** (Jung)

SFDCCC to select state card vendor from among qualified submissions for the June 3, 2014 Municipal Election. RFPs were sent out over one month ago to past vendors and suggested vendors. Ms. Medina called every vendor to encourage applications. Four firms applied; 2 met the qualifications: (Low

bid) Winning Directions \$44,385 (34 cents per piece). They did our card last year. Tony Fazio, Peter Moran and Vince Courtney – union-run shop. They made multiple changes to the card and even designed a new slate card, but they did not invoice for that. (Higher bid) 50+1 \$49,267 (38 cents per piece) They did November 2012 with us, which was a difficult campaign. The committee considered that this is a woman and minority run business. Difficult considerations re: postage charges, so that was taken out of the bid. Committee recommended Winning Directions. Both are local-owned businesses.

M/S/C (Rothschild/Wong) to select Winning Directions. Votes were as follows: In support of committee recommendation (16): Anderson, Dorsey, Dufty, Dunning, Hsieh, Jung, Katz, Levitan, McNeil, Smith, Wiener, Feinstein, Speier, Harris, Leno, Ting.
Against the committee recommendation (6): Dwyer, Kelly, Mandelman, Mar, Pimentel, Rosenthal.
Abstained (2): Cohen, Ammiano.

Alix Rosenthal and Hene Kelly will vote “no” because they usually support women- and minority-owned businesses.

Eric Mar spoke in support of 50+1 and recalled meeting with Tony Fazio outside the city limits.

Scott Wiener and Kat Anderson spoke about the importance of the committee’s analysis and the history of slate card selection.

Katz stated there is a significant difference and asked if someone was going to help us raise the difference in funds? Good point about locally owned businesses, we can raise that in the next RFP.

Pimentel – affirms what was said by the last 3 speakers.

Rothschild considers Brisbane and South City as local and is not offended by that. There is an issue here, but not too awkward to discuss, that 50+1 works for one of the candidates (David Chiu) and Winning Directions does not have a candidate that would be on the slate card.

Cohen – will abstain because one of the firms will consult with her in the November election.

Dwyer – affirms supporting San Francisco local businesses.

Katz – clarified that Winning Directions is based in San Francisco.

Wong called the question.

M/S/C (Rothschild/Wong) to select Winning Directions. Votes were as follows:

In support of committee recommendation (15): Anderson, Dorsey, Dufty, Dunning, Hsieh, Jung, Katz, McNeil, Smith, Wiener, Feinstein, Speier, Harris, Leno, Ting.

Against the committee recommendation (6): Dwyer, Kelly, Mandelman, Mar, Pimentel, Rosenthal.

Abstained (2): Cohen, Ammiano.

- 7. Endorsements: Affirming the CDP's Primary Endorsements** (Jung) Affirming the California Democratic Party's June Primary Endorsements as the official endorsements of the San Francisco Democratic Party for: Edmund G. Brown for Governor; Gavin Newsom for Lieutenant Governor; John Chiang for Treasurer; Kamala D. Harris for Attorney General; Dave Jones for Insurance Commissioner; Tom Torlakson for Supt. of Public Instruction; Fiona Ma for Board of Equalization, District 2; Nancy Pelosi for Congress (CD12); Jackie Speier for Congress (CD14); Phil Ting for State Assembly (AD19); Yes on Proposition 41 (Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bonds); Yes on Proposition 42 (Public Records).

Discussion whether this body can take a vote/back a candidate if the CDP does not take a position. In the Assembly race, no endorsement was the state party's position. Kelly stated that if the CDP makes "no recommendation," then the DCCC cannot make an endorsement outside of that "no recommendation." She offered to ask the State Party to affirm this and said she will forward the information to the DCCC once they have replied.

M/S/C (Mandelman/Rosenthal/acclamation) to affirm the CDP endorsements. Passed by acclamation. Hale abstained because of Brown.

- 8. Resolution: Insurance Rate Public Justification and Accountability** (Pimentel/Katz) Resolution urging the California Democratic Party to support the 2014 Insurance Rate Public Justification and Accountability Act, which

authorizes the California Insurance Commissioner to reject excessive rate increases and impose certain other requirements on health insurance companies.

M/S/C (Rosenthal/Katz) to approve resolution. All present in favor with the following exceptions: Speier abstains. Smith votes no. McNeil and Anderson asked to be added as co-sponsors.

9. New Business

Matt Dorsey spoke about reducing paper; we will have fewer copies of documents at the next meeting.

Leslie Katz spoke about the Secretary of State race. There is a May 7 fundraiser at Don Ramon's for Alex Padilla, starting at \$100 or what anyone can afford to give. Other sponsors are Ma, Herrera, Gascon, Cohen, Farrell...

Hene Kelly reported that Jane Morrison will turn 94 tomorrow.

10. Adjournment 8:18 pm

Meeting adjourned in honor of Jane Morrison's 94th birthday.

**Minutes respectfully submitted by
Recording Secretary Kat Anderson**