

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California
Milton Marks Auditorium
Wednesday, May 28, 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. Roll call at 7:08 pm; Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm

Chair: Mary Jung. Members: Kat Anderson, John Avalos (proxy Rafael Mandelman), David Campos (proxy Tom Temprano), David Chiu (8:02 pm), Malia Cohen, Matt Dorsey (proxy David Burke), Bevan Dufty (proxy Mary Jung), Zoe Dunning, Kelly Dwyer (7:15 pm), Bill Fazio (7:15 pm), Tom Hsieh (7:17 pm), Hene Kelly, Megan Levitan (7:19 pm), Rafael Mandelman (left 7:58 pm), Eric Mar, Trevor McNeil, Leah Pimentel (proxy Thea Selby), Alix Rosenthal, and Arlo Hale Smith. Ex-Officio Members: Attorney General Kamala Harris (proxy Matthew Rothschild); State Senator Mark Leno (proxy Keith Baraka); Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (Proxy Kim-Shree Maufas)(7:14 pm), and Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy Alex Walker).

Absent excused: Petra DeJesus, Carole Migden, Scott Wiener, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, and U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier.

Note: Rebecca Prozan was present, and participated in the business of the meeting after being voted by acclamation to replace member Leslie Katz who recently resigned after moving out of AD 17.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

M/S/C/U (Kelly/Dunning)

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

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

Regular DCCC meeting minutes of April 16, 2014 approved. A correction on how the CDP endorses was already incorporated into the draft minutes, as requested by member Kelly.

4. Public Comment 7:12 pm

Tom O'Connor – SF Firefighters Local 798 President. Spoke in support of Anderson/Chiu-proposed resolution about firefighter and police disabilities arising from job-related cancers. Study of 30,000 firefighters from 1950 to present shows a definitive link between firefighters and cancer – strange, rare cancers. This plague is affecting the fire service. O'Connor referenced the San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation, *founded by Tony Stefani in 2006*. *Stefani, a San Francisco native and retired Fire Department captain, started the foundation after surviving his own battle with cancer.*

Ron Flynn – Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club spoke in support of Rebecca Prozan's appointment to the DCCC (to replace Leslie Katz). Rebecca was on the board of this organization. She steps up, very active in the community.

District Attorney George Gascon – spoke in support of the appointment of Prozan. Gascon highlighted: 1) Prozan's commitment to this community; 2) her commitment to the values of our City; and 3) her commitment to the Party – not only at the local but on the national level. She has a long-history of supporting the party.

Steve Ngo – spoke in support of Prozan. She has worked to make government by and for the people. They met when he was at UC Hastings. They worked on Harris, Chiang and Obama campaigns together. A consummate Democrat with a big heart.

Catalina Ruiz-Healy – spoke in support of Prozan. She worked on City Elections Commission and several other organizations with Prozan and was able to observe her work. Prozan is extensively involved and works hard and has a great sense of humor.

Alfredo Pedroza – spoke in support of Prozan. Pedroza highlighted: 1) Prozan’s love of the Party – passionate about getting the right people elected to office and 2) her great integrity.

Obai Rambo – VP of Black Young Democrats of SF – spoke in favor of consolidation of endorsement process for SF Democratic clubs.

Jay Cheng – President of Asian Pacific Democratic Club – spoke in favor of endorsement consolidation.

Susan Pfeiffer – Update on Covered California. COBRA participants can now leave their plans and switch to a Covered California plan – this is an option for 2 months. Look for “find help near you” for advice from an insurance agent. Shout out to Assemblyman Phil Ting for legislation denying the ACC to raise dues.

Jonathan Lyens – President of the FDR Democratic Club. Unemployment rate in disability community is twice of those who are fully abled. At BOS, Eric Mar will lead a discussion on employment of disabled workers.

Cheryl Davis – MoMagic and the Ella Hill Hutch Community Center – spoke in support of Prozan. Prozan works with her at the EHHCC to discuss opportunities for young people – with an important focus on people of color.

Alex Randolph – He helped run Bevan Dufty’s campaign in the Castro 8 years ago. Spoke in support of Prozan. Dufty told him to call Prozan to get ready for campaigning. She is an incredible mentor.

Public Comment closed at 7:35 pm.

5. Appointment

According to Chair Mary Jung, member Leslie Katz moved out of her Assembly District, leaving her seat vacant.

M/S/C/U (Rothschild/Hsieh). Proxy Kim-Shree Maufas asked for a roll call on this vote. During roll call, members Tom Ammiano and David Campos abstained. Otherwise, the appointment of Prozan to the vacancy left by Katz was approved unanimously by the body. (Member David Chiu arrived after the vote and asked that it be noted that whereas he missed the vote, he

would have voted affirmatively to appoint Prozan. He had given his proxy to member Leah Pimentel who had to take her son to the emergency room and missed the meeting.)

Prozan took a seat with the DCCC members and commented that she looks forward to working with everyone and thanked everyone for their support.

6. Reports

- a) **Chair** (Mary Jung). She reported the Party raised enough money to put the slate card out. Executive Director Ally Medina will send it out to all members via e-mail.
- b) **CDP Region 6 Update** (Hene Kelly). An Executive Board committee meeting will occur July 11-13 in Oakland. There will be a post primary meeting after the June election. She will find out more about the process and what will be allowed in terms of clubs being allowed to vote.
- c) **Voter Registration** (Trevor McNeil). Looking forward to working with the summer interns. Please grab Voter Registration forms whenever you go out.
- d) **Club Chartering** (Thea Selby for Pimentel). Looking at how to simplify and streamline the endorsement process. This helps candidates with logistics issues and clubs that are small and don't have appropriate meeting places. Would like DCCC to support a pilot program for bringing some of the clubs together for the endorsement process. Some clubs will donate towards this endeavor. At the LGBT center, 7 clubs could hold meetings and the cost would be \$1800 to rent the whole venue. The Harvey Milk Club pledges \$300 in support.

Tom Temprano spoke on the topic of clubs being able to have unique interaction with the candidates – it's just candidates hopping around the building instead of hopping around the City.

Member Kelly Dwyer mentioned the Irish Cultural Center as a possible location for meetings on the west side.

Member McNeil also supports the idea of a meeting on the west side. Offers two suggestions: 1) candidates' friends/volunteers covering the

sidewalk – make way for people to pass, and 2) clubs consider requiring that members attend at least one meeting before voting in an endorsement meeting.

Member Kelly asked Kim-Shree Maufas if such meetings can be held at schools, who responded that they can be – but teachers have to be asked for use of their classrooms. Have to check with the schools. Kelly also raised the issue of multiple memberships.

Member Prozan discussed Saturday on the east side, Sunday on the west side – can also use Jewish Community Center.

Member Levitan commented that it would be really effective if we consolidated the interview meetings. Alex Walker affirms that.

Thea Selby commented that they did look at schools, but schools are opening in August when the endorsement process will begin. Selby moved that the party fund this pilot program for a streamlined endorsement process for the November election in the amount of \$3,000.

Member Levitan suggested a more refined proposal be brought to the next meeting with a specific budget. Members Kelly, Malia Cohen and Zoe Dunning affirmed that, and want to associate with Levitan's comments.

Jung suggested that the motion be removed and a committee come up with a plan and a budget to be presented next month. Selby agreed to withdraw the motion under those circumstances.

- e) **Finance** (Dunning). We still have \$20,000 outstanding to collect from the fundraising breakfast. A state of the party party is slated for July.
- f) **Treasurer** (Hsieh). The financial state of the party is very strong. We have about \$110,000 cash on hand between our two accounts. We have \$83,000 of discretionary funding, which is exactly where we need to be. If others want more expenditures, we would need to plan another event. We need about \$120,000 to run our DCCC – to pay and benefit staff and cover legal and accounting expenses. We are lucky that our rent at the Hatch is given to us. Current budget does not include the outstanding pledges.

g) **Executive Director** (Medina). Introduced some of our summer interns. We will have 10 interns working about 3 days per week, paid. Claire Conroy was promoted to Operations Manager. The interns will first be working on the Ami Bera Campaign. Medina is ordering more business cards. Let her know if you need cards. She also asked for help editing Constant Contact emails. Member Anderson volunteered.

7. Resolution: Firefighter and Police Disabilities
(Anderson/Chiu/Rosenthal/Hsieh/Kelly/Dwyer)

Proposed resolution supporting legislation (BOS/Chiu) to create a presumption that firefighter and police disabilities from illnesses such as cancer are caused by their work.

Member Anderson spoke in honor of her step-father, a retired firefighter, and all those who are affected by work-related illnesses. Suggested viewing "Toxic Hotseat," documentary about these issues. Thanked SF Firefighters Local 798 President Tom O'Connor for speaking during public comment and representing these brave service-members, who deserve our support.

Member Tom Hsieh, whose brother is a firefighter, thanked member Anderson for bringing this to the DCCC. He hears this as a continuing story of cancer. Think of ailments of those who worked 9/11. This is a real issue. This line of duty – there aren't many options for them when they contract cancer – difficult re: the presumption. Hope others will follow to pass a presumptive ordinance.

Member Bill Fazio queried whether the policy is too limited. Other ailments covered by state should be covered by local ordinance. Member Chiu responded that we are mirroring what the state has re: the cancer presumption.

Kelly wants name added as a sponsor. Her father worked at Mare Island. He died of mesothelioma. What is happening to first responders is what happened to people working at Mare Island. No one should have to fight a battle 3 times. She thinks this is a good resolution. We should protect our first responders.

Dwyer wants to add name. She is a wife of a firefighter. Thanked Chiu and Anderson for this resolution.

Member Matthew Rothschild called the question. There was no objection.

Proxy Keith Baraka thanked Supervisor Chiu and member Kat for supporting this. He's seen too many firefighters in caskets.

M/S/C/U (Anderson/Hsieh) Passed by acclamation. No abstentions.

8. New Business

The Irish American Democratic Club is hosting its JFK luncheon honoring Chuck Ayala Sunday at noon at the Irish Cultural Center.

There was discussion about how to get wifi in the meeting auditorium and how to be responsible about going paperless regarding meeting documents.

9. Adjournment 8:36 pm

Chair Jung asked that we keep Renee Golanty-Koel in our thoughts. She is very ill.

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