

# San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California  
Milton Marks Auditorium  
Wednesday, July 22, 2015  
7:00 p.m

## Regular Meeting Minutes

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call at 7:04

Chair: Mary Jung. Members: Kat Anderson, Joshua Arce, Malia Cohen, Petra DeJesus, Matt Dorsey, Zoe Dunning, Bill Fazio; Hene Kelly, Rafael Mandelman, Trevor McNeil, Carole Migden, Rebecca Prozan, Alix Rosenthal, and Francis Tsang. Ex-Officio Members: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (George Broder); U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier (Brian Perkins); Attorney General Kamala Harris (Rebecca Prozan); Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma (Bill Barnes); State Senator Mark Leno (Keith Baraka); and Assemblymember David Chiu (Jen Kwart).

Absent excused with proxy: Tom Hsieh (proxy Kat Anderson); Meagan Levitan (proxy Mary Jung); and Leah Pimentel (proxy Zoe Dunning).

Absent excused: Bevan Dufty.

Absent: U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Assemblymember Phil Ting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

(Additional attendance notes: Eric Mar and Scott Wiener arrived at 7:20 p.m. Tom Temprano arrived as the proxy for David Campos at 7:21 p.m. Joel Engardio and Marjan Philhour were ratified as members at 7:59 p.m.)

### 2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

(Kat Anderson/Josh Arce) M/S/C Approved by acclamation.

### 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Member Arce offered corrections to the June 17 draft meeting minutes. (Carole Migden/Hene Kelly) M/S/C to approve minutes with amendments. The June 17<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved by acclamation.

Petra DeJesus asked for consideration to withhold approving the May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes until she has a chance to edit her remarks. The members agreed to postpone this and expect the May 27<sup>th</sup> minutes to be approved at the August 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **4. Public Comment**

Vincent Casalaina, Northern Vice Chair of the CDP Progressive Caucus, was introduced. He announced the Progressive Caucus will be holding a meeting on Saturday and all democrats are invited to attend.

Former Member Kelly Dwyer spoke and explained she recently moved from San Francisco to Vacaville. Mary Jung presented her with a Certificate of Recognition from Assemblymember Phil Ting and thanked her for her service. Dwyer expressed her support for Agenda Item 6. She reflected on her DCCC service as one of the best experiences of her life and encouraged us to support progressive activism. She recognized and expressed gratitude for our passion and commitment, and to mentors such as Trevor McNeil, Matt Dorsey, Alix Rosenthal (for encouraging women and mothers to be involved), Petra DeJesus, Hene Kelly, David Campos, and Eric Mar.

Migden addressed her remarks to Dwyer, recognizing her unique contributions and involvement. She further noted that Dwyer came with a family that supported her gumption and activism.

Eric Mar and Scott Wiener arrived at 7:20 p.m.

Susan Pfeiffer, CDP Finance Committee Member, asked all DCCC members and volunteers to sign up for the DEM2016 program on-line. She also asked everyone to come see her if they are interested in volunteering on the Hillary Clinton for President campaign. They are tabling at the Ferry Building this weekend and she asked everyone to join her.

David Campos' proxy, Tom Temprano, arrived at 7:21 p.m.

Al Perez, President of the Filipino-American Arts Exposition and a member of the Entertainment Commission, spoke in support of the appointment of Marjan Philhour to the DCCC. He stated Filipino-Americans are now the largest Asian American population in California.

Daz Lamparas, Vice-Chair of the Filipino-American Democratic Club, associated himself with the remarks of Perez in support of Philhour's appointment.

Chris Hite and Rebecca Young, both members of the Public Defender's Racial Justice Committee (RJC), reported they met with the Police Officers Association (POA) and Police Chief Greg Suhr and made some changes to the original resolution (introduced in May) to recognize what is already happening in the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) and what additional changes can be made to improve the Department. They asked the DCCC to consider supporting the resolution with these new changes, noting it is the result of a multi-meeting, collaborative effort. They attempted to recognize the work of the SFPD while remaining true to their goals. They noted that most of their suggestions had already been adopted at the federal level and is part of President Barack Obama's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing Plan. They further explained the SFPD should recognize they work within a community of human beings. The current plan is an effort to recognize that there is training to help change internal structures to policing.

Bill Fazio asked if Chief Suhr supported this resolution. Hite replied in the affirmative. He explained the POA supports a lot of the plan but not certain portions. The POA does not like an order to place black and brown officers in black and brown communities – part of this is due to union requirements.

Sally Stephens. A Westside Democrat, spoke in support of Joel Engardio's appointment to DCCC, noting his independence and common sense.

Michael Gumban Pangilinan, Chair of the Filipino-American Democratic Club, asked the DCCC to ratify Philhour's appointment.

Jeremy Friedlander, resident of the Inner Sunset, spoke in support of Engardio.

Todd David, President of Noe Valley Democratic Club, spoke in support of both Philhour and Engardio.

Bruce Agid, Vice President of the South Beach District 6 Democratic Club, urged ratification of the appointment of Engardio to the DCCC.

Kimberly Ellis, Executive Director of Emerge CA, spoke in support of Philhour.

Rebecca Delgada Rottman, former DCCC member, spoke as an individual and member of the Filipino Community. She urged support for Philhour.

Public comment closed at 7:42 pm.

## 5. Reports

### a) Chair (Jung):

#### i) Ratification of appointments to the S.F. DCCC.

Jung explained the process for appointments to the DCCC and the Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC), noting these appointments are made by the Chair. One vacancy was caused by long-time member Arlo Hale Smith's resignation. In the past few months, she spoke at length with him about the importance of LGBT representation in Assembly District 19 and he asked her to consider Engardio and Leslie Katz. As Jung was familiar with both of them, she interviewed them, along with many other candidates. All the candidates were well qualified and very loyal democrats and it was a difficult decision. Engardio was able to accept the appointment. He has been an active democrat and serves on the Board of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club and recently helped start a new democratic club. When former member Dwyer resigned, she asked that a Mom be considered for her appointment. Philhour is a mother of three and lives in the Richmond District. She regrets she cannot be here as she is dealing with personal issues in the Philippines. They are both enthusiastic and are willing to help with voter registration and fundraising to build the Party.

(Rebecca Prozan/Anderson) M/S/C Moved for a vote by acclamation on appointments of Engardio and Philhour.

Migden was excused at 7:52 p.m. and gave her proxy to Mandelman.

Rafael Mandelman expressed positive thoughts about Engardio, a good person, although he noted they rarely agree on political issues. He does not know Philhour. He expressed support for Keith Baraka – a gay, black firefighter who has done a lot of work in the Democratic Party and should be considered in the future.

Wiener is thrilled to support the two appointments and associates himself with Mandelman’s remarks regarding Baraka.

Mar spoke about the importance of Engardio’s independence and Philhour’s fundraising experience.

Rosenthal spoke in support of Philhour as a straight shooter.

Malia Cohen spoke in support of the two appointments and knows Jung spent a lot of time deliberating about this. She expressed her wishes that there be an African-American male perspective on the DCCC and expressed support for Baraka.

The question was called and the members voted to ratify by acclamation Joel Engardio and Marjan Philhour as members of the DCCC at 7:59 p.m. Engardio was invited to take a seat.

- ii) Ratification of appointment(s) of delegate(s) to the California Democratic Party for the remainder of the 2015–2016 term to fill any vacancies.

Jung appointed Lindsay Lassman to the DSCC seat recently vacated by Molly Fleischman. Lassman is working on Clinton’s Campaign in the fundraising department. Responding to a question by Bill Barnes, proxy for Fiona Ma, Jung explained that Philhour also needs to be appointed and ratified for a DSCC seat. Jung further explained that Engardio will not have a seat on the DSCC since Smith allowed his seat to be filled by a young democrat at the beginning of the DCCC term.

(Kelly/Zoe Dunning) M/S/C Lassman and Philhour appointments to the DSCC approved by acclamation.

- iii) Appointment of subcommittee chair to reform and clarify DCCC Bylaws on Conflict of Interest provisions to fill vacancy created by the resignation of S.F. DCCC member Arlo Hale Smith.

Jung appointed Prozan to chair the committee. Members Dorsey, Hsieh, and Kelly are also members. She invited all members to participate in the committee meetings.

- iv) General update on activities of the S.F. Democratic Party, including the upcoming July 31 deadline for vendor proposals for the party's November 3, 2015 Municipal Election endorsement slate card.

Jung reported the deadline for RFPs is July 31<sup>st</sup>, and that they will be reviewed during the lunch break at the August 8<sup>th</sup> interviews. The selection of the vendor will be on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

- b) **Endorsements** (Rosenthal). Report on plans for S.F. Democratic Party's endorsement process for candidates and ballot measures for the November 3, 2015 Municipal Election.

Rosenthal reported the DCCC will be voting to endorse in the following races: District 3 Supervisor, Sheriff and one seat on the Community College Board. Deadline for running is July 23<sup>rd</sup> and questionnaires to Democratic candidates will follow. She reported the ballot might be long and members should educate ourselves about the measures. The interviews for candidates and ballot measures is on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, at the LGBT Center starting at 10 a.m. The vote on endorsements will be on August 12<sup>th</sup> in the State Building auditorium.

- c) **Voter Registration** (McNeil). Report on voter registration efforts.

McNeil reported on a great turnout at the new citizens events and summer festivals have also been going well. He asked members and clubs to call him if they are planning to go to events and need voter registration forms. He will make sure you get the supplies you need. Jung congratulated him on the birth of his new baby girl, born on Pride Sunday.

- d) **Club Chartering** (Pimentel). Report on activities of chartered Democratic clubs.

As Leah Pimentel is out of the country, Barnes provided information on the Consolidated Democratic Club Endorsement Program. He reported the LGBT Center and CCSF/Ocean will be available for endorsement meetings. He is currently gauging club interest and intends to send emails out with confirmations.

- e) **Finance** (Dunning). Report on the S.F. Democratic Party's recent June 25 Breakfast Fundraiser with Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom and other finance matters.

Dunning reported the breakfast was well-attended and successful. There were great comments from Mayor Ed Lee and Lt. Governor Newsom. Over \$143,000 has been collected and we received a fair amount of federal funds, which will help fund our intern programs. August 6 is the next event and will be a Republican Debate watch party at \$25 per ticket. She invited everyone to participate.

- f) **Treasurer** (Hsieh). Report on the current budget and finances of the party.

In Tom Hsieh's absence, Jung asked members to review the finance reports that are at each member's seat.

- g) **Recording Secretary** (Anderson).

Anderson asked members to review a draft of the Member Attendance chart and let her know of any corrections.

- h) **Executive Director** (Medina). Report on party administrative matters, including internship program and other issues.

Ally Medina, Executive Director, reported the DCCC is under budget on federal money, so we are doing smaller events such as the Republican Debate Party to help build the federal account. The August 6 event will include drinks, food, circus-themed games, bingo and a Trump piñata. She thanked the co-hosts and sponsors. The event will be held at Laborers Local 261 on 18<sup>th</sup> and Shotwell. We are still taking donations. The interns have registered over 800 people since they started this summer. The recent voter registration effort at the Naturalization Ceremony brought in 125 registered democrats.

- i) **CDP Region 6 Update** (Kelly). Report on activities of the California Democratic Party.

Kelly spoke about the pre-endorsement process – in particular, the Club member roster, which is important to allow members to vote in the pre-endorsement meeting. She explained that for every 20 members in an Assembly District, a Club gets one vote. It is not on a first-come, first-served basis. She looks at all the names in a club and will try to make sure that every club gets as many delegates as possible. So if some people are in a lot of clubs, she will shift around a #21 into a #20 spot in another club

so both clubs will get a delegate. She announced there will be a rally at 11 a.m. on July 30<sup>th</sup> at the Frank Ogawa Plaza in Oakland to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Medicare.

Dunning asked about Kelly's allocation process to clarify that it is done to create votes, not remove them. Kelly affirmed this.

**6. Resolution: Racial Justice Committee's Plan for Police Reform (Kelly).**

Discussion and possible action on resolution to support Racial Justice Committee's Plan for Police Reform, which includes training and reviews; expanded independent oversight; policy changes for police encounters in schools, those with mental disabilities and others; and data collection for various actions by law enforcement officers.

Kelly reported that Chief Suhr supports this resolution and that every paragraph has been reviewed. The SFPD does a lot of the things that are in the resolution. The POA did not like the fact this is on Public Defender Jeff Adachi's stationary.

(Mandelman/Mar) M/S Moved to approve the resolution.

Dorsey thanked the people who worked on this and all the time they put into it to find common ground. He did not feel all the talk was a waste of effort. However, this has always been a non-starter for him because of an inherent adversarial role in our criminal justice system. He feels the party is being asked to take a side and he is not comfortable with it.

Anderson thanked the committee for their thoughtfulness and time and noted the powerfully dangerous work that our public safety personnel - police and firefighters - face daily. She acknowledged how difficult it must be for our law enforcement members to go out every day knowing they might not come home. While she supports efforts to ensure that people in the community are treated with the dignity they deserve, she wants to make sure the dangerous work is honored, too. She will listen to the discussion and decide how she will vote.

Fazio stated he supported Adachi as a Public Defender, but he is not in favor of Adachi's Office telling the SFPD what to do.

Arce thanked everyone for their hard work. As a civil rights attorney, he has seen one side. His dad was a police officer and he sees that side, too. He is concerned that with some members desiring to vote against the resolution, there is a risk that the progress made by the sponsors will be lost. He agrees that the DCCC should acknowledge the hard work and progress that has been made by the SFPD, but should also acknowledge that more work must be done on 21st Century Policing. He offered the following as amendments to the resolution.

For the title, Arce recommended striking the words “the Racial Justice Committee’s Proposal for”. The new title would be: “Resolution in Support of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing in San Francisco.” Under the first “Resolved”, strike out the words “Racial Justice Committee’s Proposal for” and replace it with “San Francisco Police Department’s continued progress on”. The resolution would stand on its own.

Kelly objected and communicated a parliamentary point of order.

Prozan stated the changes to the resolution are slight and make the resolution better. She supports the amendments as described by Arce.

Arce suggested that the slight changes were made so that everybody could get behind the resolution.

Mar stated that we are undercutting two strong women and those who stand with Black Lives Matter with this amendment.

Barnes reflected on changes to the Police Commission and Citizen Oversight that have been invaluable. He thought the DCCC should not conflate Black Lives Matter on mission creep between city departments.

Mandelman asked to hear from Dwyer and the two members from the Public Defender’s Racial Justice Committee - Hite and Young.

Young stated that Adachi did not write this, but she did, and then it was shaped and modified by Hite and other members of the Committee. Adachi reviewed and approved it. This was their response to a nation-wide movement. After she worked on this, she realized that nothing they had written was new, and in fact, most of it was already part of President Obama’s 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing Plan. Because of this overlap, she did not feel she was

elbowing in on the SFPD and telling them how to do their jobs. This plan is being put forward to correct some of the harm that is going on. The RJC thought police need to feel safe in the communities, just as the people who live there. She thought police training was needed on how to treat people on the street. She found Chief Suhr to be one of the most reasonable police officers she has ever sat down with and he explained what the SFPD is already doing.

Hite spoke about when officers are shot, referencing a shooting of a police officer earlier in the day. He stated that is tragic, but should not be used as an excuse to not examine reforms. He stated Chief Suhr completely supports the RJC's plan at this point and the RJC even went so far as to adopt some of the language that he wanted.

Dwyer commented this is a huge issue right now and the resolution lauds the SFPD and puts it front and center as to what police departments should do. This is not about us telling the police what to do; they serve us.

Engardio sought clarification on several of the points, which Kelly confirmed the police are already doing. He wondered if the resolution is necessary.

Cohen spoke about her experiences with her constituency and understands the fear. She is grateful for the conversation that has occurred for the past three months on this matter. She noted this is a unique opportunity for us to come out of the fear and make change. This will help everybody and make our communities safer – not just for the residents, but also for our public safety forces. She has read the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing document and thinks the SFPD is great, but there is still room for improvement. She spoke emotionally about the disparate treatment of people in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color. However, she also recounted the killing of a young mother – a random act of violence – who was in front of her house and was shielding her children from a drive-by shooter. She asked the DCCC members to not be afraid and to take a stand on asking for improvements to the Police Department.

DeJesus commented on the newspaper piece about the POA. She recounted the POA just does not want Jeff Adachi's name on this. She serves on the Police Commission and can attest that Items 1-8 in the RJC Plan are already in place or are being addressed. She reported Item 9 is the most critical point that is needed. She thought Black Lives Matter does not address the issue of

access to data on who is shot by the police. She disagreed with the amendment and thought it needed to be part of the 72-hour noticing requirement.

(Arce/Anderson) M/S/C to accept the amendments to the resolution.

The amendment passed on a vote of 13 Yes, 10 No, 4 Abstain, with the following votes:

13 Yes: Anderson, Arce, Dunning, Hsieh, Jung, Levitan, McNeil, Pimentel, Prozan, Tsang, Wiener, Ma and Chiu.

10 No: Campos, Cohen, DeJesus, Dorsey, Engardio, Fazio, Kelly, Mandelman, Mar and Migden.

4 Abstain: Feinstein, Speier, Harris and Leno.

Following the vote count, Kelly left the room in protest. She returned and said she was going to vote for the amended resolution because she wanted to move forward.

(Arce/Anderson) M/S/C to accept the amended resolution.

The amended resolution passed on a vote of 13 Yes, 7 No, 6 Abstain, with the following votes:

13 Yes: Anderson, Arce, Dunning, Hsieh, Jung, Kelly, Levitan, McNeil, Pimentel, Prozan, Tsang, Wiener and Chiu.

7 no: Campos, Cohen, DeJesus, Dorsey, Engardio, Fazio and Mandelman.

6 abstain: Migden, Feinstein, Speier, Harris, Leno and Ma.

Following the vote, several members left the room in protest.

- 7. Resolution: Honoring Arlo Hale Smith** (Dorsey and Jung). Discussion and possible action on resolution to honor departing S.F. DCCC member Arlo Hale Smith for his longtime service to the Democratic Party, including as the DCCC's parliamentarian, corresponding secretary, and institutional memory on party history; and for his advocacy for LGBT equality and other causes.

- 8. Resolution: Honoring Kelly Welsh Dwyer** (Dorsey and Jung). Discussion and possible action on resolution to honor departing S.F. DCCC member Kelly Dwyer for her service to the Democratic Party, including for her advocacy for social and economic justice, working mothers, and to protect the civil rights of those in our criminal justice system.

(Cohen/Arce) M/S/C Moved to consider Items 7 and 8 together. This passed by acclamation.

(Dorsey/Wiener) M/S/C Moved to accept the resolutions. This passed by acclamation.

Dorsey reflected that he was sad about these departures. He met Hale 25 years ago and has such gratitude for him. He loves Kelly's passion. He would like this to become a tradition that we honor everyone who leaves the DCCC with a resolution.

Wiener recounted he has been on the DCCC for twelve years and losing members is hard, especially Hale, who was so committed to this institution.

The resolutions passed by acclamation.

## **9. New Business**

Jung announced that the DCCC is putting together a table at the San Francisco Labor Council's annual pre-labor day breakfast and asked interested members and democratic clubs to let her know if they want to sit with the DCCC.

There is a tribute for labor leader Leroy King this Saturday at the Longshoreman's Hall starting at 10 a.m.

Barnes announced Senator John Burton (ret.) will be commended for his service on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. A part of a highway will be named for him.

## **10. Adjournment at 9:24 p.m. (Anderson/Arce)**

*Respectfully submitted by  
Kat Anderson  
Recording Secretary*