

# San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California  
Milton Marks Auditorium  
Wednesday, August 12, 2015  
7:00 p.m.

## Special Meeting Minutes

### 1. Roll Call at 7:09 p.m., Call to Order 7:11 p.m.

Chair: Mary Jung. Members: Kat Anderson, David Campos, Malia Cohen, Petra DeJesus, Matt Dorsey, Zoe Dunning, Joel Engardio, Bill Fazio (7:12 pm), Tom Hsieh, Hene Kelly, Meagan Levitan (7:20 pm), Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar, Trevor McNeil, Marjan Philhour, Leah Pimentel, Rebecca Prozan, Alix Rosenthal, and Francis Tsang.

Absent excused with proxy: Joshua Arce (proxy Vince Courtney, Jr.); Bevan Dufty (proxy Rebecca Prozan); Carole Migden (proxy Rafael Mandelman); Scott Wiener (proxy Adam Taylor); U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy F.X. Crowley); Attorney General Kamala Harris (proxy Debbie Mesloh); Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma (proxy Cally Wong); State Senator Mark Leno (proxy Julius Thurman); Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy Alex Walker) and Assemblymember David Chiu (proxy Jen Kwart).

Absent excused: U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

M/S/C (Zoe Dunning/Malia Cohen) Motion made to move public comment to item 4 and vote on the Ballot Propositions in alphabetical order. Passed by acclamation.

### 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

M/S/C (Hene Kelly/Dunning) Motion made to approve the draft minutes of the Regular Meetings of May 27, 2015 and July 22, 2015. This passed by acclamation.

### 4. Public Comment (transferred)

Giuliana Halasz, District 2 resident – Opposes Prop F.  
Larry Bush, Friends of Ethics – Supports Prop C.

Bethany Golden – Supports Julie Christensen for District 3 Supervisor.  
Tom Temprano, candidate for City College Board – Requests a “no endorsement” vote.  
Susan Pfeifer, Covered CA and CADEM – Covered CA has entered into a children’s partnership with the School District. Please sign up for DEM2016. Go to cadem.org and under “take action,” enroll online. Take the challenge.  
Eric Dew - Opposes Prop F.  
Ian Lewis, Unite Here Local 2 – Reported that SF Labor Council voted unanimously in support of Prop F.  
Brent Turner, CA Association of Voting Officials – Supports open source voting systems. We do not want secret software codes in our election systems.  
Donald Dewsnup, SFBARF – Do not endorse Aaron Peskin for District 3 Supervisor. No on Prop F.  
Tami Bryant – Supports more affordable housing and Ross Mirkirimi for Sheriff.  
Marcus Ishmael, SFSU Democrats and SFBARF – Opposes Prop I.  
Derek Remski – Opposes Prop I. Supports Alex Randolph for Community College Board.  
Nathan Stalnaker, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Evelyn Soto, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Kathy Wu, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Maria Tellez, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Gladys Soto, Latino Democratic Club – Supports I. Vote for it or “no endorsement.”  
Brian Hanlon, SF BARF – Opposes Prop I.  
Leora Tanjuatco – Opposes Prop I.  
Daniel Camp, SF BARF – Opposes I. Supports Christensen.  
Mike Ege, SF BARF – Opposes Peskin and Prop I. Supports Christensen.  
Tony Wessling – Opposes I. Supports Christensen.  
Alex Randolph, incumbent and candidate for Community College Board – Seeks DCCC endorsement.  
Buck Bagot – Supports Prop I.  
Gabriel Medina, MEDA – Supports Prop I.  
Adrian Simi. Carpenters Local 22 - Opposes Prop I.  
Robert Donoso, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Mercedes Carreto, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Ashir Rayikanti – Opposes Prop F.  
Richard Ow – Supports Christensen.  
Katherine Has Von Rotes Schilitzler, SFBARF – Opposes Prop I.

Dey Nava, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Bruce Bennett – No on Prop F.  
Lawrence Gordon – No on Prop F.  
Cathryn Blum - No on Prop F.  
Gabriela Mares, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Bruce Agid, VP of South Beach District 6 Democratic Club. – Supports Prop D.  
Patrick Valentino, affordable housing attorney – Supports Prop A.  
Laura Clark, GrowSF – No on Prop I. Supports Christensen.  
Mary Janet Ramos, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Keith Freedman, CCSF professor – No on F. No on Prop I. Yes on Christensen.  
Jesus Alonzo, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Peter Susskind, District 10 resident – No on Prop F.  
Hugo Vargas – Supports Prop I and Peskin.  
Lorraine Bader – No on Prop F.  
Karen Cancino, District 5 resident – No on Prop F.  
Deserie Gomez, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Christina Olague – Supports Prop I.  
Rafael Picazo – Yes on Prop I and Peskin.  
Adri Denbroeder – No on Prop I.  
Christian Garcia, SF Alliance – Supports Christensen. Opposes Prop I.  
Rob Poole, SF Housing Action Coalition – No on Prop I.  
Rodolfo Cansino – No on Prop F. “Don’t snitch on your neighbor.” Yes on Christensen.  
Sarah Souza, Latino Democratic Club – Yes on Prop I.  
Stella Charbakshi, District 3 resident – No on Prop F. Yes on Christensen.  
Frank Martin Del Campo, SF Labor Council – Supports Prop I.  
Alan Aronoff – No on Prop F.  
Lou Fischer – No on Prop I. No on Prop F. Supports Julie Christensen.  
Laurel Muniz, Latino Democratic Club – Supports Mirkiri and Prop I.  
Angus McCarthy – No on Prop I.  
Armand Domalewski – No on Prop I. Supports Christensen.  
Gabriela Andrade, SF Alliance – No on Prop I. Yes on Christensen.  
John O’Connor – No on Prop I.  
Sean Keighran – No on Prop I.  
Sonja Trauss – No on Prop I.  
Betty Mackey, District 6 resident – Yes on Prop I. Supports Peskin.  
Cynthia Bashaar – No on Prop F.  
Marina Bianchi – No on Prop F.  
Timur Khan – No on Prop F. Supports Christensen.

Public comment closed at 8:27 p.m. Will be reopened near end of meeting if still needed.

## 5. Reports

- a) **Chair** (Mary Jung). Member Tom Hsieh will serve as Parliamentarian. Training will be announced for a future meeting. Member Rebecca Prozan will assist with this.
- b) **Voter Registration** (Trevor McNeil). Report deferred to Executive Director Ally Medina.
- c) **Club Chartering** (Leah Pimentel). Announced Coordinated Chartered Club Endorsa-Palooza will be held on Saturday, August 29, at the LGBT Center.
- d) **Finance** (Dunning). Reported a successful watch party event for Republican Debate.
- e) **Treasurer** (Hsieh). Reported financial state of the party is strong with \$171k cash on hand.
- f) **Executive Director** (Medina). Jung praised Medina for a fabulous debate party and thanked our interns and fellows. Over 250 people attended. Medina thanked Laborers' Local 261 for hosting. Another such event is being considered. Over 100 new citizens were registered at the last new citizen's swearing-in ceremony.
- g) **CDP Region 6 Update** (Kelly). Reminded members and audience that Executive Board Meeting will be this weekend at Hyatt Hotel in Burlingame.

## 6. Slate Card Vendor Selection

Jung reported the process for selecting the slate card vendor – starting with the release of the RFP in June and continuing to a recommendation at the Endorsement Interview Meeting held last Saturday. Two vendors submitted bids and were considered. 50+1 was recommended.

M/S/C (Kelly/Matt Dorsey) Motion made that DCCC accept bid of 50+1.

David Campos stated he will vote against this because this firm has made money by representing corporate interests like AirBnB, and is much like Republicans.

Alix Rosenthal, Cohen, Mar, Pimentel, Joel Engardio and Dunning commented that this firm has supported many progressive candidates and they are women- and minority-owned. Jen Kwart and Nicole Derse are strong consultants.

Kelly spoke in support of 50+1.

Hsieh commented on the recent rhetoric about our Party. He shared the background of his father who escaped a communist regime. We all support Democratic values – whichever shade of blue we are.

On a voice vote, the “ayes” were in the majority. Campos and DeJesus voted “nay.” Migden and Ting abstained. 50+1 was awarded the DCCC Slate Card contract.

## **7. Endorsements**

Jung praised Rosenthal for organizing and running an efficient and educational endorsement meeting last Saturday.

Rosenthal provided a recap of our early endorsements for Mayor, City Attorney, District Attorney and Treasurer; and reported on questionnaires received; and interviews held with local candidates and ballot measure proponents and opponents.

Rosenthal commented that completed questionnaires are on [sfdemocrats.org](http://sfdemocrats.org). She thanked all those who participated on Saturday. McNeil was excused because he is a new father. She chided the other 20 who missed it, commenting she didn't know what their excuse was.

F.X. Crowley clarified that a vote cast at the DCCC is not the same as an endorsement, and should not be considered as such.

### **a) Sheriff.**

For Sheriff, Vicki Hennessy received the sole endorsement from the DCCC. The following is the first vote: Hennessy 21, No Endorsement 6, Mirkirimi 1 and Abstain 2.

The following was the vote:

Hennessy: Anderson, Arce, Cohen, Dorsey, Dufty, Dunning, Engardio, Fazio, Hsieh, Jung, Levitan, McNeil, Philhour, Pimentel, Prozan, Tsang, Wiener, Feinstein, Ma, Ting, Chiu.

Mirkarimi: Migden.

No Endorsement: Campos, DeJesus, Kelly, Mandelman, Mar and Leno.

Abstain: Rosenthal and Harris.

M/S/C (Cohen/Prozan) Motion made to solely endorse Hennessy. This passed by a voice vote, with members Campos, DeJesus and Mandelman voting “nay.” Kelly abstained.

**b) Community College Board.**

For Community College Board, incumbent Alex Randolph received the endorsement from the DCCC. The following is the vote: Randolph 21, No Endorsement 6, Wendy Aragon 1 and Abstain 2.

The following was the vote:

Randolph: Anderson, Arce, Cohen, Dufty, Dunning, Engardio, Fazio, Hsieh, Jung, Levitan, McNeil, Philhour, Pimentel, Prozan, Rosenthal, Tsang, Wiener, Feinstein, Ma, Leno and Chiu.

Aragon: Ting.

No endorsement: Campos, DeJesus, Dorsey, Kelly, Mar and Migden.

Abstain: Mandelman and Harris.

**c) Board of Supervisors, District 3.**

Dorsey commented that he admires candidate Peskin, but in the interest of party unity, will vote “no endorsement.” Mandelman, Kelly and Campos associated themselves with that statement. Campos opined we need to consider the direction of the City as we consider this vote. He disagrees with the Mayor’s values.

Bill Fazio commented that he does not like the abstention vote, but he will in this instance, because of commitment issues.

Joel Engardio suggested we be bold and courageous and take a stand.

Eric Mar wants to come out against “dirty money.”

Kat Anderson commented that Christensen stands on her own two feet. On the issue of contributions, we all do our best to vet the money stream, but it would be hypocritical for any of us to start pointing fingers at some sources of funds and not others. That accusation of “dirty money” has also been leveled at a qualified woman candidate. It’s typical to try to marginalize a woman. All things being equal, I choose to support a qualified woman candidate. We need more women in elected office.

Cohen shared struggled to come to a conclusion on this race. As a woman, she understands that the establishment manufactures fake arguments against women. Be clear that Julie Christensen is a woman who has run a successful business, and she is now the incumbent. Beware of a misogynistic tone and nature—status quo has been attributed to a woman—when has a woman ever been the status quo?

Kelly stated that if she lived in D3, she would vote for Peskin. She judges by how people treat the old, the very young, the people who need your help – not gender. She will vote “no endorsement,” but she will work for Peskin.

Rosenthal stated that she feels good about both candidates for various reasons. She has spent most of her career supporting and advancing women. Christensen supporters have been transparent and honest brokers. Certain others for Peskin have published details about her life to pressure her.

Mandelman commented about campaign finance from well-monied interests affecting our system.

Pimentel commented that women make up 51% of the population but we do not have that same percentage of representation. We benefit from having women in office.

DeJesus commented that it is not a “woman” issue. She will vote for Peskin.

For District 3 Supervisor, Julie Christensen received the sole endorsement from the DCCC. The following is the first vote: Christensen 15, No Endorsement 11, and Abstain 4.

The following was the vote:

Christensen: Anderson, Arce, Cohen, Dufty, Dunning, Engardio, Hsieh, Jung, McNeil, Philhour, Pimentel, Prozan, Rosenthal, Tsang, and Wiener.

No Endorsement: Campos, DeJesus, Dorsey, Kelly, Levitan, Mandelman, Mar, Migden, Ma, Leno and Ting.

Abstain: Fazio, Feinstein, Harris and Chiu.

M/S/C (Cohen/Pimentel) Motion to solely endorse Christensen was passed by a voice vote.

Of 30 members present, there were 7 no’s and 6 abstentions.

On voice vote, the “ayes” prevailed.

No: Campos, DeJesus, Dorsey, Mandelman, Mar, Migden, and Levitan;

Abstain: Fazio, Feinstein, Harris, Leno, Ting, and Chiu.

d) **Local Ballot Measures.** Discussion and action to endorse positions for or against local ballot measures.

i. **A - General Obligation Bond: Affordable Housing**

M/S/C (Hsieh/Anderson) Motion made to endorse Prop A.

Passed by acclamation.



- ii. **B - Enhancement of Paid Parental Leave for City Employees**  
M/S/C (Kelly/Anderson) Motion made to endorse Prop B.  
Passed by acclamation.

- iii. **C - Expenditure Lobbyists Ordinance**  
M/S/C (DeJesus/Campos). Motion made to endorse Prop C.

Mandelman commented that he usually supports measures such as this, but is troubled by potential impacts on very small non-profits that might find themselves running afoul of this law. He will abstain because no one has assured him this will not be a problem for the non-profits.

Campos appreciates the comments from Mandelman and he shares such concerns for non-profits and labor partners. He wants to see more transparency. Cohen and Hsieh associate with those remarks. Hsieh is a registered campaign consultant himself.

Prozan is abstaining as Dufty's proxy because she did not receive direction on this ballot measure.

Prop C passed by acclamation. 4 members abstained: Dufty, Mandelman, Migden and Harris.

- iv. **D - Mission Rock**  
M/S/C (Prozan/Josh Arce) Motion made to endorse Prop D.  
Passed by acclamation. Migden voted "nay" and Harris abstained.

- v. **E - Requirements for Public Meetings of Local Policy Bodies**  
M/S/C (Mandelman/Kelly) Motion made to oppose Prop E.

Kelly commented that there is no budget to support this measure and it is too expensive.

Engardio supports this. We should use technology to connect our citizens to City Hall. Access and convenience are important.

Campos opposes this. By supporting this, we would create another loophole. Influential people like Ron Conway could abuse this. There is no verification on the digital participation.

Dunning, Cohen, Hsieh, Anderson and Rosenthal oppose this as too onerous.

There was a roll call vote. Proposition E failed with the following vote: No 22, Yes 1, No Endorsement 5, Abstain 1.

No: Anderson, Arce, Campos, Cohen, DeJesus, Dorsey, Dufty, Dunning, Fazio, Hsieh, Jung, Kelly, Levitan, Mandelman, Mar, McNeil, Migden, Philhour, Pimentel, Rosenthal, Wiener and Feinstein.

Yes: Engardio.

No Endorsement: Prozan, Tsang, Ma, Ting and Chiu. *(Recording secretary's note: Member Leno's proxy asked after the meeting to add his vote for "no endorsement," but the vote was not cast during the meeting; therefore the number of "no endorsement" votes remains at "5.")*

Abstain: Harris.

vi. **F - Short-Term Residential Rentals**

M/S (Meagan Levitan/Dorsey) Motion made to endorse Prop F.

Campos thanked those who came out to speak about this. Prop F is about fixing and closing loopholes where the Board of Supervisors failed to act. Commercial interests are taking this process over.

Engardio commented about homeowner support for this measure. He opposes it.

Levitan associates with Campos. She commented about "red herrings." If people want to rent more than 75 days, they can if they get a bed and breakfast license. The private right of action is the only way to get City Hall to enforce the laws. Look at the

list of supporters of Prop. F. The Republican Party opposes Prop F.

Dorsey said San Francisco has been a destination city throughout its history, and that city leaders always responded to tourism's market pressure on housing by protecting residents instead of tourists. But that changed last year, when city policymakers legislated home-sharing for tourists into lawful existence. He defended Measure F's private right of action by noting that all home-sharers broke the law before February 1, and that the enforcement tool reflects reasonable skepticism that they would comply voluntarily. He would favor more restrictive policies, but supports Measure F as an improvement over current law.

Proposition F failed with the following vote: No 16, Yes 13, Abstain 1. The following are the votes:

No: Anderson, Arce, Cohen, Dunning, Engardio, Hsieh, Jung, McNeil, Philhour, Pimentel, Prozan, Rosenthal, Tsang, Wiener, Ma and Chiu.

Yes: Campos, DeJesus, Dorsey, Dufty, Fazio, Kelly, Levitan, Mandelman, Mar, Migden, Feinstein, Leno and Ting.

Abstain: Harris.

- vii. **G - Disclosures Regarding Renewable Energy**  
M/S/C (DeJesus/Kelly) Motion made that DCCC not endorse Measure G. This motion passed by acclamation. Fiona Ma abstained.
- viii. **H - Clean Energy Right to Know Act**  
M/S/C (Dunning/Pimentel) Motion made to endorse Prop H. Passed by acclamation.
- ix. **I - Mission District Housing Moratorium**  
M/S (Campos/DeJesus) Motion made to endorse Prop I.

Campos commented that the community came together in an unprecedented way. The party should support the community.

Cohen commented on the decreasing African American community – only 4% in the City. We are in a housing and cultural crisis. We need to be smart and we need to triage. Prop I is the right direction.

DeJesus associated her comments with Campos and Cohen. Give the community the right to self-determination. Vote for it or for “no endorsement.”

Hsieh commented that he has watched friends and family members priced out of the City for decades due to years of deferred decision-making by City Hall. Let’s not panic – let’s think it through. We need more housing, for all markets.

Mandelman commented that plenty of tall buildings have been built and most of it is luxury housing. If it is true that we need 100,000 units to meet the needs of our population, we must do it through counter-market regulation.

Proxy Vince Courtney, Jr. (for Joshua Arce) commented that the Building Trades Council opposes this measure. SF Labor Council supports this measure. Arce lives in the Mission and is Latino. Worried about a policy that is not really a solution; it’s a reaction to a crisis. We want to support organizing folks, good Democrats. Arce is going to stand with his community despite what his union says.

Proxy Bill Barnes explained Fiona Ma’s vote. She will oppose this measure. There are ways to appeal.

Prop I failed with the following vote: No 17, Yes 10, No Endorsement 1, and Abstain 2.

No: Anderson, Dufty, Dunning, Engardio, Fazio, Hsieh, Jung, Levitan, McNeil, Philhour, Pimentel, Prozan, Tsang, Wiener, Feinstein, Ma and Chiu.

Yes: Arce, Campos, Cohen, DeJesus, Dorsey, Kelly, Mandelman, Mar, Migden and Rosenthal.

No Endorsement: Leno.

Abstain: Harris and Ting.

- x. **J - Establishing the Legacy Business Historic Preservation Fund**  
M/S/C (DeJesus/Cohen) Motion made to endorse Prop J. Passed by acclamation.

This passed by acclamation with Engardio and Tsang voting “No Endorsement” and Harris abstaining.

- xi. **K - Surplus City Property Ordinance**  
M/S/C (Rosenthal/Campos) Motion made to endorse Prop K. Passed by acclamation.

#### **8. General Public Comment**

Jung asked for any additional public comment. There was none.

#### **9. New Business**

There was none.

#### **10. M/S/C (Anderson/Cohen) Adjourned at 10:27 p.m.**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Kat Anderson  
Recording Secretary*