

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California
Milton Marks Auditorium
Wednesday, October 26th, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Draft Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order 7:07 p.m. Roll Call 7:07 p.m.

Present:

Elected members: Angela Alioto (proxy Joe Veronese), Tom Ammiano (proxy Alysabeth Alexander), Keith Baraka, London Breed (proxy Conor Johnston), David Campos (proxy DeJesus), Malia Cohen, Petra DeJesus, Bevan Dufty (proxy Leah LaCroix), Mark Farrell, Sandra Lee Fewer (proxy Kelly Groth), Pratima Gupta, Tom Hsieh, Mary Jung, Jane Kim (proxy Paulina Maldonado), Leah LaCroix, Sophie Maxwell, Rachel Norton, Aaron Peskin, Cindy Wu (proxy Pratima Gupta), and Norman Yee. Ex-Officio Members: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy Jessica Glass); State Senator Mark Leno (proxy Julius Turman); Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy Jason Wong) and Assemblymember David Chiu (proxy Judson True).

Absent: John Burton, Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar, Scott Wiener, U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi; U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier; Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Member Jung moved adjournment in memory of Agar Jaicks; passed by acclamation. Chair De Jesus asked that her resolution be held to the next meeting in January. Member LaCroix moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried by acclamation.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Member Maxwell asked for minutes to reflect her request that members of clubs be acknowledged and given time to update the body on their activities. Recording secretary Norton asked her to send something to be included in the final September 28, 2016 minutes.

Member Hsieh asked that later minutes reflect an interruption if a speaker has not been recognized.

Member Jung asked for a minor correction.

Approve minutes with stipulated corrections (M/S/C Maxwell, Hsieh). Approved by acclamation. Abstain: Yee.

4. General Public Comment

Sean Haines – on a new Democratic club San Francisco Black Community Matters.
Public comment closed 7:15 pm

5. Reports

- a. **Chair (Wu).** Slate card is out. Two mailings, one to absentees one to day of. Who is not participating in DSCC activities – is anyone opting out? Member Jung explained that some people can't travel to convention so they can give up their membership and avoid paying a fee. Saves the Chair time so she doesn't have to chase people to get fees and allows others to go. Question about whether former Executive Board members were still going to convention this year or whether new Executive Board members will go. Anyone who wants to opt out should let her know. Member Hsieh asked if there was an update from the slate card committee, including expenditures. I was added to the Committee with Member Jung but we haven't been notified. Who is on the slate card committee besides Chair Wu. Please let Chair Wu know that Member Hsieh would like to have an update and please send it to me or to Mary. Chair DeJesus said I don't have any information and my understanding is the slate card is out. Member Hsieh normally you would have a meeting of the slate card committee and there should be more eyes rather than less.
- b. **First Vice Chair (DeJesus)** I understand we were able to raise enough money to pay for the cards; potentially we should break even on slate card. We're still in dire straits on economics. There isn't any. We have been talking about having a dinner before the inauguration. But realizing that since we're going to be out November and December there isn't enough time to raise what we need. Member Baraka said I made my phone calls, but folks are tapped out. Chair DeJesus asked if anyone is willing to make phone calls to keep the lights on. Should we go forward on this dinner or move it later. Member Yee: I prefer February. Member Maxwell: even February sounds ambitious. I would be in favor of April. I get mailings all the time from the national party asking for money, that's an idea. We have 175,000 Democrats in San Francisco. Chair DeJesus: this is our committee and it's incumbent on us to keep the lights on and pay the operating expenses. Member Hsieh asked why there is no financial report this month. Chair DeJesus said the Treasurer didn't provide one. Member Hsieh asked if we still have Hank Levy and Associates on retainer? Yes. We should ask them to provide a report through Sept. 30 and provide it to all the members. Thank you.
- c. **Second Vice Chair (Baraka)** We had one voter registration event last week at the Fairmount and registered about 150 folks. To get clubs involved I sent an email to all the clubs asking them to make voter registration part of their outreach efforts. My club did voter registration for a few weekends.
- d. **Third Vice Chair (Gupta)** First issue is voting on chartering San Francisco Black Community Matters. President Haines is present and has submitted materials by the deadline. This club is dedicated to increasing the presence and participation in the community and combatting injustice. Their Parliamentarian is our Vice Chair Leah Lacroix. Move to charter San Francisco Black Community Matters (seconded by Alexander). Member Cohen: We have five chartered Democratic clubs serving the African American Community. What would be the distinction among the five chartered Black community Democratic club. Mr. Haines: Many of these clubs don't do much in our community. I just haven't seen much activity. I'm someone who really looks at the Internet to try to partner with those organizations but I haven't seen them. We are comprised of more than African Americans and we go to other communities experiencing the same disparities as our community like

the Latino and Asian communities. Member Cohen: I am affiliated with all the clubs. You presented the club as being aligned with the African American community so that's why I asked my question. My question to you is have you attempted to work within the existing structures of clubs and within a leadership role. Mr. Haines: Yes, I was a member of Willie B. Kennedy and the African American Democratic Club and the Black Leadership Forum. This has made me feel that they haven't been as active as I'd like to see them being. The goal behind this is to increase the amount of participation from our community. Member Cohen: What's the strategy to increase participation? Member Breed (Johnston): What's the discretionary role of this body in approving these clubs? Member Gupta: As long as they meet the requirements they can be chartered. Member Hsieh: The DCCC always approves charters as they come up but we can ask questions to make sure they will fulfill their obligations. I can remember one case where a Chinese American Democratic Club was de-chartered for endorsing non-Democrats. It was later re-chartered by the State party. Chair DeJesus called for a vote in favor by acclamation. Unanimous. Member Gupta announced a Democratic Club membership meeting on December 3. Notice will be posted on the Party web site. She also announced that all clubs will need to be re-chartered after the election and will need to submit Bylaws, leadership, membership and a re-chartering fee.

e. **Fourth Vice Chair (LaCroix)** Hillary Clinton campaign has asked us to help them boost calls into swing states the next two Thursdays at the SF campaign office. Asked for a show of hands to help make calls. Also asking if people are willing/able to travel to Nevada for GOTV in the next two weeks. Members will be given a draft outreach plan at the January meeting; essentially a list of goals to hold us accountable for reaching out to more Democrats over the rest of the four years.

6. **Resolution: Reaffirm Sanctuary City status regarding Proposition 215, Compassionate Use Act of 1996, implementation of safeguards and to Protect Patient Access to Cost-effective Medical Cannabis.** (De Jesus) Held for January meeting pending outcome of Prop. 64 on November 8 election (see item 2)

7. **Solicitation of members for a Bylaws subcommittee**
Members DeJesus and LaCroix volunteered to take part in the Bylaws Committee with Chair Wu. Member Hsieh asked if there are specific bylaws you are looking to change. Member DeJesus: we had a few discussions a few months ago on items we were concerned about. Member Hsieh: We did have a very lengthy Bylaws committee process chaired by Matt Dorsey and brought our bylaws up to date as of two years ago. I don't know which ones are out of date. Member DeJesus: I don't know of any that our out of date but there were concerns about conflict of interest and the \$500 contribution limit and what the penalty for violating it would be. Also there are concerns about clubs using SF Democratic Party name in their endorsement process. That is our name and shouldn't be used lightly. Member Hsieh I just want to caution committee. I recall the discussion we had around changing bylaws around conflict of interest. We are a political organization and not regulated by any body by

the FPPC. I recall that discussion became very slippery because some would be conflicted and others would not, based on their political affiliation. What the body decided to do was to leave it alone to allow free speech to occur on this body. I am concerned you're going to go down that slippery slope again to conflict out people based on their affiliations. Member Maxwell: If you have those concerns you should be part of the Bylaws committee. Member DeJesus: That's right. Join the Bylaws committee.

8. Discuss and possible action for a DCCC retreat in January

Chair DeJesus asked for volunteers to help plan a DCCC retreat to set priorities for 2017, as well as a Robert's Rules of Order training. We did this before at a union hall and there was lunch brought in. Member Jung: It was a full day, with a morning and afternoon session. Member LaCroix volunteered.

9. Discussion and possible action: Moving DCCC meetings start time to 6:00pm

Member Maxwell : Is there any reason why it's so late. 7 pm seems late and we always seem to be rushed getting out of here by 11 p.m. Member Jung: Back in the day, we used to have issues committee at 6 pm with public comment and make a recommendation, and then bring their decision to this board at 7 pm. Member DeJesus: in recent years we haven't had an issues committee. Member LaCroix: I like the idea of meeting a bit earlier, but I personally don't get off work till 6 p.m. and that's true of other folks. I would suggest 6:30. Member DeJesus: I'm certainly open to an earlier time. Meetings to start at 6:30 (M/S/C Ting/Yee) by acclamation. Voting no: Jung.

10. Discuss voter registration and efforts to focus on underrepresented areas

Member DeJesus: are there underrepresented areas we could target for voter registration. Member Baraka: As 2nd Vice Chair, I would be happy to help with this. The document doesn't have the right population totals as it's total population not population over age 18. I'm happy to work on this. Member DeJesus: any other member who is interested in this should contact Member Baraka and Chair Wu. Member Baraka: I did have an opportunity to discuss this with Member Cohen but there are some limitations around tracking people. If we do register people we can't use the information from their voter registration card. There are conversations around how we can do that. One way is texting. SMS and MMS are good ways to get information around so that's one way we could explore. Getting folks registered in different areas is a good way to do that too. If you have some ideas, let us hear them. Member DeJesus asked Member Jung if there can be a signup sheet for DCCC info if people want us to follow up. Member Jung: sure. Member Ammiano (Alexander) you need a box for people to check to allow us to text them. Member Maxwell: How does the outreach committee work with this. I'm not hearing synergy here. Member LaCroix: I agree. Outreach is a part of this. The outreach team can join with Member Baraka and Member Wu when we talk about how to reach parts of San Francisco with low voter registration. Member DeJesus: Do we want to start tabling at street fairs? Member Maxwell: The old things people used to do still work. It's not rocket science. You go places where people are and you can talk to them. I'm happy to volunteer for that. Member Peskin: We're seeing a surge related to the Presidential election.

11. New Business

Hene Kelly has a report from the California Democratic Party. Executive Committee meeting is November 18-20 in San Diego. CDP delegate elections will be in January. Election Night Watch Party at the Oasis – DCCC. Hillary Clinton, Aaron Peskin and Props C,D,L,M, and T will all be there.

11. Adjournment (Farrell/Alexander) approved by acclamation 8:10 p.m.

Member Jung. In memory of Agar Jaicks. Former Chair of the San Francisco Democratic Party who mentored many leaders. Always super kind and a really great guy. The other person is Tom Hayden who passed away this week. I met him in the 1970s when I was organizing office workers. He was an inspiration on how to organize and mobilize people.