

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California
Milton Marks Auditorium
Wednesday, February 24, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting Minutes—Draft

1. Call to Order – Roll Call 7:06 pm

Chair: Mary Jung. Members: Kat Anderson, Joshua Arce (proxy Bill Barnes), David Campos (arrived 8:10 pm), Malia Cohen, Matt Dorsey, Bevan Dufty (proxy Christopher Vasquez), Zoe Dunning, Joel Engardio, Tom Hsieh, Hene Kelly, Meagan Levitan (arrived 7:38 pm), Rafael Mandelman, Eric Mar (7:21 pm), Trevor McNeil, Marjan Philhour, Leah Pimentel, Rebecca Prozan, Alix Rosenthal, Francis Tsang, and Scott Wiener (proxy Tom Hsieh).

Ex-Officio Members: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy Jessica Glass); U.S. Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma (proxy Ben Matranga); State Senator Mark Leno (proxy Keith Baraka); Assemblymembers Phil Ting (proxy Alex Walker) and David Chiu (proxy Jen Kwart).

Absent excused: Petra DeJesus (work), Bill Fazio (personal), and House Democratic Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier.

Absent: Carole Migden.

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

M/S/C (Hene Kelly/Malia Cohen) to approve DCCC February 24, 2016 meeting agenda.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

M/S/C (Rebecca Prozan/Kelly) to approve DCCC January 27, 2016 meeting minutes.

4. Public Comment

Michael Kapp – announced his candidacy for DNC. Undergrad Berkeley, UC Davis law school. He would be the only Young Democrat on the DNC if elected. Interested in increasing diversity.

Arlo Hale Smith (former DCCC elected member who will run this June) – commented that he has 35 years experience serving on the DCCC. He has worked with 10 chairs and Mary Jung is by far the best. He supports her continued leadership, and urges people to consider during endorsement discussions.

Mary Jung commented thanks really belongs to all the hard-working Democrats.

Irene Su (translator: Kelly Dugan/AFSCME 3299) - She works as a subcontractor custodian at UCSF, side by side with UC employees. One day UCSF cut the wages to minimum wage. Worker organizing quickly followed. UC fired the custodians, citing language barriers. Unemployment benefits have run out. Urged support for item 7.

Patrick Valentino – President of the board of Community Housing Partnership spoke in support of the Affordable Housing Bonus Program (AHBP). This program helps to keep families in SF. The program focuses on vacant lots for housing. Jason Pham - Spoke in support of JROTC. It's about citizenship and being disciplined.

Matthew Wong – Sophomore at George Washington High School spoke in support of JROTC. Not a lot of classes teach you how to be a leader.

Gerry Partore – from SFUSD and spoke in support of JROTC. In 2014, JROTC was recognized as eligible for PE credit.

Eric Tam – Abraham Lincoln High School student spoke in support of JROTC. This helped him to become a better leader and learn how to get along with other people.

Sonja Trauss spoke in favor of AHBP, which enables middle income housing. Will Hanley, with a background in planning, spoke in support of the AHBP.

The program provides important housing for middle class and increases compatibility with other structures. It's better than the state default program. Austin Hunter of GrowSF spoke in support of the AHBP.

Jill Wynns, Board of Education member for 24 years. Spoke in support of the JROTC resolution. BOE clarifies that JROTC can get PE credit and is eligible for funding. Listen to the students (most are students of color and half are girls). They want this program.

Margaret Chiu – retiree from SFUSD/former principal at Galileo. She has worked with thousands of young people, and many of them were at-risk and found stability through JROTC. We need to provide students with choices, including JROTC. They find a sense of purpose serving their communities through their work with the JROTC.

Marc Bruno – spoke in support of chartering new District 3 Democratic Club (next month).

Steven Kight – associates with Marc Bruno. Decided to tighten up the language of their bylaws. Asked to defer until next meeting.

Jasper Tan – After joining JROTC, he realized there was a welcoming community there. Originally he joined for Drum Corps, but discovered many other benefits such as career path mentoring and how to tie a tie.

Wilson Cao – from Lincoln High in support of JROTC. Only class where life skills and leadership are taught.

Crystal Chung – spoke in support of JROTC. Learned many things like financial literacy.

Jana Quan – in Lowell JROTC battalion. She was trained to lead in Physical Training (PT). Great bonding opportunity as well. A transformative experience.

Michelle Marcaida – spoke in support of JROTC, as a graduate. She is now a 22-year old student at SFSU. She was proud to participate in JROTC, which was a spring board for many ways of volunteering, including on the Ma Squad.

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Tracy Tran – homeowner, resident, Democrat who supports the AHBP. This is the only program she knows that is for middle class and seniors.

Daniel Camp – SFBARF, spoke in support of AHBP. It provides housing for middle income residents. It's also helpful to the environment. Folks are driving in from Tracy and Stockton, which is horrible. More units at more density will allow more people to live near their work.

Donald Dewsnup from GrowSF. Spoke in support of the AHBP. Don't follow the Nimby agenda.

Mick Del Rosario – supports JROTC program. Is an alumni. Went on to UCSC where he was involved in student government, thanks – in part – to his experience in JROTC.

Rachel Norton, school board member, spoke about voting. Thanked member Prozan and her co-sponsors. Students as young as 16 are allowed to pre-register to vote, a little known California law. If they pre-register, they are ready to go when they turn 18.

Tim Colen spoke in support of the AHBP. This is the City's first attempt to begin building middle-income housing. It does not apply to rent controlled or existing housing.

Meghan H – spoke in support of AHBP.

Rafael Solari - spoke in support of AHBP. This supports our land use program moving forward. We need to do this for the next generation.

Laura Clark – GrowSF. We talk a lot about adding affordable housing. Here is a way to add to housing stock in a real way. We need to add density, which is good for this City, families, the environment. This program fills the donut hole a little bit when we talk about increasing housing.

Brian Hanlon, CA Renters Legal Advocacy and Education Fund – lives in the Mission and urges support for the AHBP. We need to be angry at so-called leaders for failing to support the building of more housing.

Katherine Hons Van Rotes Schilltitle spoke in support AHBP. We can't keep saying no to more housing. Let's get it done.

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Jay Cheng – Asian Pacific Democratic Club. Recently returned to the City to live in a 120 sq ft room. AHBP is critical to providing housing for young Democrats like him. Every development will have to go through conditional use requirements and more neighborhood review – with amendments from the Planning Commission.

Jillian Wu – current vice chair of SF Youth Commission. Spoke in support of Vote16 as well as supporting young people to prepare for voting.

Oliver York – a 16 year old youth advocate who spoke in support of Vote16. Offers political strength to young people. Has endorsements of Board of Education, Assemblyman David Chiu, State Senator Mark Leno and other Democratic clubs.

Justin Jones – spoke in support of AHBP which rectifies failing of past development practices. He is in the grey zone where he cannot afford housing with his income, but the income is too high to allow eligibility for low- income housing.

Starchild of SFBARF/SFHAC/Libertarian Party of SF – echoed his friends and colleagues about the AHBP. Either we build more housing in the cities or we have more sprawl in the suburbs or we have more homeless. The plan has protections against eviction.

Leah LaCroix from SF Youth Commission spoke about pre-registering young people to vote and to lower the voting age to 16.

Serena Hy – she is the brigade representative from Galileo JROTC. She is a senior who is going to study to be a pediatric nurse; not a soldier. JROTC provides her

family, community. The more support you give us, the more support we give back.

Public comment closed at 8:07 pm.

5. Reports

- a) **Chair** (Jung). We do not have proxy Matthew Rothschild today because Attorney General Kamala Harris will no longer serve as an ex officio with the DCCC. Harris is moving to So. Cal. We will now have 31; not 32 votes.

Next month, there will be a resolution to honor Harris and Rothschild. Let us know if you are not attending the CDP Convention that proxies can attend. We have a primary coming up that requires we work on endorsements, work on slate card (candidates and ballot measures excluding the DCCC). Alix Rosenthal commented that we will endorse judicial candidates and at least 5 ballot measures: sugared beverages, transportation 30, housing measure, inclusionary affordable housing, clean water/habitat restoration. March 12 meeting to hear from candidates and pro/con on measures. Endorsement vote on March 16 (moved up the DCCC meeting from March 23).

- b) **Voter Registration** (Trevor McNeil). Voter registration has been excellent. Higher numbers than previous DCCC. Because of efforts of the Chair, Ally and other people who actually work with him and actually register people to vote. All those running for DCCC should join the Challenge 100.
- c) **Club Chartering** (Leah Pimentel). Two clubs have submitted paper work. The District 3 club will delay chartering to next month.

M/S/C (Pimentel/Tom Hsieh) by acclamation to charter the Robert F. Kennedy Democratic Club. President is Justin Jones and VP is Laura Clark.

- c) **Finance** (Zoe Dunning). We are having a mini friend-raiser and debate watch on March 9.
- e) **Treasurer** (Hsieh). Cash on hand is \$65,000. We are doing well.
- f) **Labor Committee** (Josh Arce). CJung read a brief report from Arce. *Friedrichs* resolution will be considered by the Board of Supervisors. Since death of Justice Scalia, the fate of *Friedrichs* is in question, but likely the lower ruling will stand.
- g) **Bylaws** (Matt Dorsey). Has not yet scheduled the bylaws committee meeting.

h) **Website**(Dorsey).Before we return the website over to the next DCCC committee, he wants to update it completely. He's updated all the resolutions and he is next working on the minutes. He wants us to look at the website and send him comments.

Kelly asked if clubs have to be fully chartered to be on the website. Proxy Barnes suggested that we give a heads up to any clubs in danger of being taken off the website.

i) **Executive Director** (Ally Medina). We need more volunteers for the voter registration drives outside the Naturalization Ceremonies. We have registered over 1,000 already. March 9 is our March Madness event at Laborers Local 261 Hall. Please help co-host. Bring your friends and supporters. Only \$20. Delegate mixer was a really fun event.

j) **CDP Region 6 Update** (Kelly). We are all getting ready for the convention. Hope to see you there. If you want to be a proxy, see Jung at the end of the meeting.

6. Resolution: Encouraging Students to Exercise Their Voting Rights.

M/S/C (Prozan/Rosenthal).

This resolution urges the S.F. Board of Education and S.F. Unified School District to adopt policies to encourage student voting, in light of proposed Charter Amendment to lower the voting age to 16 for San Francisco municipal elections; and to endorse a proposed SF Board of Education resolution by Commissioners Rachel Norton and Sandra Lee Fewer to accomplish similar aims.

Prozan thanked BOE member Norton for bringing the resolution to her attention. Under the CA Education Code, students will be trained on voting. Keeping us a big "D" Democratic town. She was president of the Democratic Club in San Mateo High. This is a great opportunity for youth to do this. It is exciting to see the youth testify. BOE supported this unanimously last night.

Passed by acclamation. State Senator Mark Leno will abstain only b/c he does not want to direct other departments how to budget their finances. Cohen also abstained.

Proxy Chris Vasquez speaking for Bevan Dufty commented as follows:

"Voting at 16 is something that Bevan Dufty has supported and championed. He asked me to note that last night at the School Board meeting, Vote 16 passed unanimously and Bevan wants to acknowledge Rachel Norton, Matt Haney and specifically Sandra Lee Fewer for their incredible advocacy and leadership.

Over 100 youth came out to testify and show their support -- from all over San Francisco and all over the Bay Area.

These young people shared their desire to have a voice in the democratic process. one young person faces a potentially life-threatening illness, but more than anything he wants the right to vote to help set the course for a City, state and nation.

A 17-year old testified that his father is incarcerated and he was consequently evicted and became homeless, He is staying with friends just to finish school and he wants the right to vote. Bevan strongly supports Member Prozan's resolution that encourages SFUSD's active involvement in voter registration as part of educating young people about civics and democracy.

Sandra Lee Fewer is talking about the fact that our low voter turnout is shown by statistics showing that the average SF voter age is 45 and expected to rise to 47 unless we change course. Research has shown that an early voter is a lifelong voter -- so important when you consider that 18-29 year olds are the least represented when you look at current data.

Bevan wants to acknowledge Sandy Fewer for her leadership and activism to make this happen. Thank you."

Kelly has seen that students really come through when given the chance to vote. If you vote in your first 4 elections, you will vote in every election thereafter.

Dunning reflected on the experience of registering new voters outside today's Naturalization Ceremony involving a 17-year old who turns 18 in May, and she did not know she could register now for the June primary. She was thrilled to be able to do so.

7. Resolution: Urging UCSF to Rectify Breaches of Worker Rights.

M/S/C (Rafael Mandelman/Rosenthal) Passed by acclamation.

This resolution urges the University of California, San Francisco, to rectify breaches of workers' rights by working with AFSCME Local 3299 to rehire the former IMPEC custodians as full-time employees with union representation.

Mandelman commented. We love UCSF but sometimes big institutions need a kick in the pants.

Proxy Alex Walker commented that Assemblyman Phil Ting's office was researching the possibility of language discrimination. Will abstain pending further investigation by the office.

Add co-sponsors Kelly, Arce, Pimentel, Kat Anderson, Prozan, Kelly, Dunning, Francis Tsang, Dorsey, and Jung)

Abstaining: Ting, Leno, and U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein.

8. Resolution: Increasing Opportunities for Students to Serve in JROTC.

M/S/C (Hsieh/Dunning)

This resolution urges the San Francisco Board of Education to adopt a proposed change in policy to increase opportunities to participate in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) in order to provide training and leadership opportunities for students.

Hsieh is hopeful this will pass by acclamation as well. This discussion has been going on for 20 years. Appreciate the students' heartfelt comments, very articulate, committed. Congratulations. The JROTC program has been kicked around by the BOE for some time. JROTC program managers had to get certified. They did this on their own time and paying with their personal funds, upwards to \$10,000. Even though this program has been kicked and pulled for 20 years, the program remains. 1,000 students participate in 6 JROTC programs at the High School level. Currently, they do not get PE credit due to the credentialing issue. Now, the managers are credentialed. The BOE is asking that students in the program now get PE credit.

Mandelman recommends that DCCC not move on this, but defers to the experience of the BOE.

David Campos associates with Mandelman's comments. He sees the value in JROTC.

Anderson shared that she has come around 180 degrees since her peacenik days as a Hastings Law student when she protested the Persian Gulf war and did not think JROTC should be in our schools. She now sees that JROTC is a fine mentorship program and honors the choices that young people want to make in participating in this important program that serves their communities. She will support this resolution.

Proxy Ben Matranga for Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma expressed her support to make sure that the right thing is done.

Dunning thanked the students for their commitment. She is the only one here who has served in uniform. She has been in JROTC classrooms and everyone should see how valuable it is. If it had any name other than JROTC, it would be a fully funded leadership program.

Pimentel visited a JROTC classroom and saw how it builds community. She was a military wife for about 4 years.

Philhour sees this as an important plan for youth and leadership development.
Add co-sponsors: Philhour, Pimentel, Cohen, Meagan Levitan, Tsang, Joel Engardio, Jung, McNeil, Ma and Anderson.

Votes in favor: Anderson, Dorsey, Dunning, Engardio, Hsieh, Jung, McNeil, Philhour, Pimentel, Prozan, Rosenthal, Tsang, Feinstein, Ma, Ting, Arce (proxy), Cohen (proxy), and Wiener (proxy Hsieh).

Votes against: Campos, Dufty, and Mandelman.

Abstentions: Kelly, Leno and Assemblyman David Chiu.

9. Resolution: Affordable Housing Bonus Programs and Construction

(Hsieh/Anderson) *This resolution was sent to committee for further consideration.*

This resolution encourages San Francisco to adopt the Affordable Housing Bonus Programs and encourage construction of 4,100 new affordable housing units; and to urge City leaders to recognize the importance of affordable housing production for economic diversity and other benefits.

Hsieh commented that there has been a tremendous amount of misinformation about this issue. We all know we are in a crisis. It has the ability to produce 4,100 new units of housing, 50% low income and 50% middle-income targeted. 241 lots. It's already state law to build 2 stories higher if they participate in state density program. Developers cannot remove rent-controlled housing. People say it will do an end-run around public review. Will require conditional use review – highest levels of review. Why are people peddling misinformation and half-truths? It's a selfish reason – this attitude of let's not build in this part of town, don't want density, don't want parking. This is not progressive. We have not built enough affordable housing because of this misinformation and scare tactics. It's shameful and irresponsible. When Rome seems to be burning, they fiddle on. We can watch people continue to be evicted, continue to have to move out of SF. Natives forced out of the city they were born and raised in. Gentrification is not new.

\$100,000 is a police officer, firefighter, 1 1/2 teachers, 2 gardeners, etc. 4,100 units x 2 is 8,200 who get to live in the City.

Please don't peddle misinformation.

Arce has not heard from building trades so he will be voting no.

Mandelman discussed thoughtful building along transit corridors. He believes that the eviction protections have been worked into the legislation since public meetings. Thanks to the work of the activists. There is a concern that SF is not making good deals with public access. San Franciscans are concerned.

Campos says he respects the points made by Member Hsieh. He thinks that up zoning is something that we need to do. That is a fact of life. The problem he has with this legislation is that the City should be getting more than what we have gotten. He praised the Mayor for Prop C, which was successful b/c all sides were brought to the table to come up with a plan. He thinks that up- zoning is so important to the City and that you have to do it right and ONCE. In the Mission, to maintain the level of diversity, we have to build 2500 units in five years. We will have to up-zone. He thinks 50% is a failure. Have to figure out how to maximize.

Engardio strongly advocates for building more housing and even reasonable housing on the westside. He has conversations with his neighbors about the win-win in building more housing. They won't go with one-size fits all.

APDC president Jay Cheng shared the passion his club feels around this. This is the same DCCC that voted unanimously to take policy positions around issues before the BOS. He shares Mandelman's frustrations between policy and process. The roll-out has not been handled well. A resolution should be written about that. To take the procedure and criticize the policy is wrong. Neighbor concerns have been taken carefully into consideration. Every project must come before the BOS. Small Businesses will get first right of refusal and get payment. Neighbors discussed fear about losing rental control units. And, planning said no existing rentals would be removed. He agrees that up-zoning can only happen once. The state density bonus program has already done the up-zoning for us.

Jung asked what happens next?

Cheng replied that the Planning Commission hears it, then it will be sent to the Board of Supervisors.

Jung about the timeline? Cheng replied he didn't know. Jung stated the measure sounded like it was still in flux.

Dunning remarked that following the formation of the Labor Committee at the last meeting, she suggested that a Housing Committee be formed.

Hsieh commented that he is no expert on this and is for getting more information. We need to get our facts figured out. Delaying this by three weeks, he is in favor of doing that.

M/S/C (Dunning/Pimentel) to create an affordable housing committee to consider this issue. Abstaining: Arce, Ma and Kelly.

Jung assigned the following committee members: Kelly, Campos, Hsieh, Pimentel and Arce.

10. New Business – there was no new business.

11. Adjournment 9:21

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

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Recording Secretary
Kat Anderson*