

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

Milton Marks Auditorium
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA
Wednesday, August 23, 2017
6:30pm

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm by First Vice Chair, Petra DeJesus

Members present: Alysabeth Alexander, Angela Alioto, Keith Baraka, London Breed, David Campos, Malia Cohen, Petra DeJesus, Bevan Dufty, Sandra Lee Fewer, Peter Gallotta, Kelly Groth (proxy: Ian Fregosi), Pratima Gupta, Frances Hsieh, Tom Hsieh, Jane Kim, Leah LaCroix, Rafael Mandelman, Sophie Maxwell, Rachel Norton, Aaron Peskin (proxy: Lee Hepner), Cindy Wu (proxy: Jeremy Lee).

Ex-Officio Members: Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma (proxy: Kat Anderson); State Senator Scott Wiener (proxy: Matthew Rothschild); Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy: Alex Walker), Assemblymember David Chiu (proxy: Katie Mackenzie).

Members Absent: Mark Farrell

Members Excused: Senator Dianne Feinstein, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Mary Jung

25 members present, 5 members absent (4 excused)

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda (Discussion and possible action)

Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of this agenda.

Member Gupta spoke as to reason of urgency for adding item 8, since it is a matter being considered at state education committee right now. *Member DeJesus* spoke as to urgency for adding item 9 - that it was a recent occurrence, after the issuance of the regular agenda

Member Alexander spoke to need to make some amendments to the title of item 10 and the urgency for adding it to the agenda - that it was a recent occurrence, after the issuance of the regular agenda. *Members Alioto, DeJesus, and Breed* requested to be added as cosponsor to all three new items.

Amendments: Items 8, 9, 10 required a 2/3 vote in order to be added to agenda

Motion to amend agenda: Member Wiener; *Second:* Member Breed

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Motion to approve as amended: Member Alexander; *Second:* Member LaCroix

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Discussion and possible action)

Approval of the minutes of the DCCC's meeting of July 26, 2017.

Amendments: Correction that Alex Walker was proxy for Member Ting.

Motion to approve as amended: Member Alioto; *Second:* Member Gupta

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

4. General Public Comment (1 minute per speaker)

The DCCC will take public comment on all items on the agenda and, in addition, other matters germane to party business but not on the agenda.

Public Comment began at 6:48 pm

Chair Campos requested a moment of silence for the victims of Charlottesville. *Member Alioto* requested particular recognition of Heather Heyer.

Peter Pelavin (SCIF), spoke in support of effort to remove Trump; Susan Pfeiffer (Democracy Action) gave update on voter registration, upcoming phone banks, reminder about eBoard meeting this weekend, Rock the Congress event in Marin (volunteer training); Wendy Aragon (RDDC) spoke in support of Jen Low for AD19 vacancy; Susan Shain (Swing Left) announced upcoming activities and trainings, meetings are on 2nd Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8 pm, Tracy canvass on the 17th (CD10); Brandon Harami (RDDC) just started classes at City College, yay FREE City College!!, spoke in support of Jen Low for AD19 vacancy; Queena Chen (RPDC) support for language access bylaws amendment and Jen Low for AD 19 vacancy

Public Comment closed at 6:57 pm

5. Proposed Bylaws Amendment on Language and Disability Access Policy for the San Francisco Democratic Party (F. Hsieh, Gupta) (Discussion and possible action) (Bylaws amendment, needing 2/3 vote)

Items 5 and 6 were taken together for discussion.

Member F. Hsieh spoke regarding the amendments addressed since the last iteration, spoke to need for Policy and Procedures Manual amendment to address all concerns raised, including timelines for request, requirements for SFDCCC versus chartered clubs, criteria for determining required languages, cost to clubs, additional compliance resources provided by SFDCCC, and budget support. *Member Gupta* spoke of commitment of SFDCCC to work with clubs that experience recurring need so that resources are distributed equitably. *Chair Campos* spoke about importance of committing financial resources from SFDCCC to help comply with this new mandate. *Member T. Hsieh* had questions about who would be review applications for funding support to make sure that resources are equitably distributed. *Member F. Hsieh* acknowledged that priority for support are smaller, less resourced club. Discussions have already happened with Executive Director and SFDCCC accountants to determine a process and mechanism for requests and reviews to ensure that resources go to those that need them most. *Member Gupta* stated that club support is a task of the SFDCCC and clarified the different criteria for SFDCCC versus chartered clubs. *Hene Kelly (Region 6)* spoke regarding the importance of this change to open up participation in our democratic process to everyone who wants to participate.

Member F. Hsieh spoke to minor amendment requested from Hene Kelly in Item 6, Section 2.0

to strike the word “regardless of ability.” *Motion to amend:* Member F. Hsieh; *Second:* Member Gupta *Hene Kelly (Region 6)* spoke in support of amendment to reflect all people’s abilities. *Jonathan Lyens (FDR Democratic Club)* thanked members for prioritizing this policy and making access substantive and leveling the playing field for access to democratic clubs and collaborative process to improve legislation.

Member Cohen raised a question about use of Filipino vs. Tagalog. *Member F. Hsieh* clarified increased use of “Filipino” to reflect all Filipino dialects. *Member Alioto* spoke about availability of accessible locations and volunteered to help organization with accessible spaces. *Member Ting* point of information in section 1.0 whether “language ability” had the same connotation as disability.

Motion to approve: Member F. Hsieh; *Second:* Member Gupta
Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

6. Proposed Update to Policies & Procedures Manual on Language and Disability Access Policy for the San Francisco Democratic Party (F. Hsieh, Gupta) (Discussion and possible action)

Discussed concurrently with Item 5.

Amendments: Strike language in Section 2.0; replace “language ability” with “english language proficiency”

Motion to approve as amended: Member F. Hsieh; *Second:* Member Gupta
Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

11a. Chair Report

Chair Campos took item, “Ratification of DCCC appointment to current vacancy in AD19” out of order. Received resignation from Member Norman Yee, proposed appointment of Jen Low for vacancy. *Chair Campos* spoke to Jen Low’s background and experience. Jen Low spoke on her own behalf.

Motioned to appoint: Member Alioto; *Second:* Member DeJesus.
Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Jen Low was sworn in by Member Kim.

7. Resolution Calling on the Democratic Party to Stand Firm in Support of Our Reproductive Rights Platform (F. Hsieh, Gallotta, Groth, Gupta) (Discussion and possible action)

Member Gupta spoke to the background for resolution, including Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee chair declaration of non-use of abortion rights as litmus test for support for Democratic candidates, abortion is a non-negotiable issue, but a core priority, spoke about 2016 platform and inclusion of Hyde and Helms Amendments, undermines Democratic values; *Member F. Hsieh* recognized support of Senator Feinstein and urged other representatives to support spoke about national polling supporting access to abortion, job of party to educate not

only voters, but our own members; *Member Ma* asked about Catholics reconciling personal beliefs with policy work; *Member F. Hsieh* spoke about need to separate personal from democratic politics; *Member Gupta* made a distinction between personal beliefs, democratic party core values, distinguishes advocating for policies that restrict the rights of women and access to abortion; *Chair Campos* spoke about how restricting access disproportionately impacts low income women of color, in addition personal beliefs cannot limit access for women and those who vote to limit access should not get Democratic party endorsement and financial support

Motion to approve: Member Gupta; *Second:* Member F. Hsieh

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

8. Resolution Urging Compliance of Fair, Accurate, Inclusive, and Respectful Act in California Textbooks and Curricula (Gupta, F. Hsieh, Gallotta) (Discussion and possible action)

Member Gupta gave background on FAIR Act, by Senator Mark Leno and the reason for resolution at this point, because curriculum and materials are being considered for approval by IQC ; *Member Ting* point of information about background of evaluators for currently proposed materials; *Member F. Hsieh* Coalition behind passing FAIR Act have reviewed these materials and oppose these texts; *Member Gallotta* asked about work of SFUSD and whether it should be referenced in resolution; *Member Norton* spoke about SFUSD's work in this area and resolutions in support of FAIR Act; *Member Fewer* stated that San Francisco leads the nation in incorporating this type of curriculum and ethnic studies in our high schools.

Motion to approve; Member Gallotta; *Second:* Member Gupta

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

9. Resolution Denouncing White Supremacy and President Trump's Statements (Gupta, F. Hsieh, Gallotta) (Discussion and possible action)

Chair Campos spoke about Executive Committee statement in response to recent statements by President in response to events in Charlottesville in order to have a timely response and wanted party to be at forefront of issue; *Member Gallotta* read resolution for the record and recognized efforts by Board President and Mayor; *Member Maxwell* spoke in support and inquired about possible actions to support statement; *Chair Campos* recommended taking comments for items 9 & 10 together; *Member Kim* requested amendment to replace "most vulnerable" with "diverse"; *Member Alioto* pointed out that white supremacist actions were already illegal, criminal acts and wanted to add language to make that clear; *Member Peskin* requested calling out corporations as institutions that perpetuate white supremacy, through concentration of wealth by white people; *Member Baraka* asked to add language to specifically call out the murder of Heather Heyer and others injured in Charlottesville, and spoke about history of KKK as domestic terrorists; *Member Alexander* spoke to item 10, announced details for Berkeley action and people supporting them. In these times of escalating actions, cannot guarantee total safety, but as much was done as possible to protect the participants; *Member Breed* spoke about Friday rally as event to give people a space to express themselves and

counter hate, focus on positive and direct people away from Crissy Field; *Member Alexander* announced details for Castro district event on Saturday and march to Civic Center; *Member Gupta* read statement from Alicia Garza; *Member Ma* invited people to Friday night dog walk at Crissy Field; *Member Peskin* requested amendment to add ILWU event to resolution, but withdrew after question of safety concerns; *Member Ting* raised concerns about efforts to move Berkeley event for greater safety; *Member Alexander* responded about the lack of alternate Berkeley locations, and the late date offering challenges for the coalition to cancel or change location of event; *Member Maxwell* again stressed the need to include an action plan with resolution; *Member Alexander* suggested that support was attending the Friday and Saturday rallies and bring banner, and showing support and encouraging attendance for Sunday event; *Member LaCroix* suggested taking names of those who would show up and inviting people on Facebook; *Member Gallotta* suggested a call to action to the SFDCCC email list

Requested to be added as cosponsor: Alioto, Baraka, LaCroix

Amendments: Add "murdering Heather Heyer and injuring 19 others" (Moved by Member Baraka; Second: Member Wiener); replace "most vulnerable" with "diverse" (Moved by Member Kim; Second: Member Gupta); add "Dismantling White Supremacy and Systems of Oppression" to title (Moved by Member Low; Second by Member LaCroix)

Motion to approve as amended: Member Gallotta *Second:* Member Gupta

Vote Count: Passed by Acclamation

10. Motion to Support a "Rally Against Hate" Organized by SEIU Local 21 on Sunday, August 27th (Alexander) (Discussion and possible action)

Discussed concurrently with Item 9. *Member Ting* requested to divide the question; Second: *Member DeJesus*.

Amendments: Replacing "Organized by SEIU Local 21 on Sunday, August 27th" with "on Sunday 27th in Berkeley, the 26th rally in Civic Center and "SF United Against Hate" Rally on Friday."

Motion to approve divided resolution with Berkeley event only and as amended: Member Alexander; *Second:* Member Breed

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

Abstentions: Member Wiener, Ting, Chiu

Motion to approve divided resolution with San Francisco events only and as amended: Member Alexander; *Second:* Member Breed

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

11. Reports (Discussion and possible action)

DCCC member reports, including discussion and possible actions, to offer updates on work assignments and discuss ongoing objectives.

a) **Chair** (Campos) Ratification of DCCC appointment to current vacancy in AD19: moved

up before item 7; reported on breakfast with Congresswoman Pelosi; previewed proposed revisions to annual budget and fundraising events for additional tools, outreach efforts, supporting national effort to elect more democrats in swing districts, create social media presence; spoke about a small dollar fundraising event in late September or early October and expectations of members in fundraising and voter engagement; upcoming retreat planning; announced that next meeting will be at a different venue, Mission Campus of City College at 1125 Valencia, and would like to consider this as location for a permanent change. *Member Breed* supported SFDCCC doing a better job of fundraising and volunteered to host a fun reception as a fundraiser for the new Chair, with potential dates of September 28, and October 4

b) Finance (DeJesus) Need funds to support federal efforts, fundraising important; reminded people of September 9 bylaws committee meeting at 9:30 am at Muddy Waters on Valencia and 24th Street. Current members of committee include Chair Campos, Members Breed, DeJesus, Gallotta, F. Hsieh, T. Hsieh, LaCroix, Ma

c) Voter Registration (Baraka) Appointed to Executive Committee and as Co-Chair of Voter Services for CDP; spoke about D10 outreach project; promoted Paramount voter registration event; *Member Fewer* spoke about pending resolution regarding voter registration for undocumented parents and encouraging undocumented parents to not register, and September 12 press conference about ordinance to warn people about confidentiality issues.

d) Club Chartering (Gupta) Next leadership Circle date has changed to September 30, from 10 am - noon, location TBD; Topics to include endorsement-palooza, Ethics filing education, recently passed bylaws and policy and procedures manual amendments; *Member Baraka* offered to give information about upcoming canvassing effort; reminded clubs of September 15 deadline for updated bylaws to reflect language for pre-endorsement representation; financial filings disclosure deadline was July 31st, United Democratic Club, SF Latino Democratic Club, Bernal Heights Democratic Club, FDR Democratic Club, and Asian Pacific Democratic Club timely filed, SF Black Community Matters and Potrero Hill Democratic Club verified that they did not meet threshold filing; *Member Maxwell* suggested that club liaisons reach out to assigned clubs, requested bylaws committee to look into compliance measures for reporting requirements; *Member Gupta* asked for feedback on issues survey for democratic voters; reported back on summer internship program success and thanked everyone for supporting fund to pay interns

e) Outreach (LaCroix) Requested sign ups to be present at upcoming actions. Attendees for Friday: Members Alexander, Breed, Gallotta, proxy for Groth (Ian Fregosi), Gupta, F. Hsieh, LaCroix, Low, Wiener, Ting; Attendees for Saturday: Alexander, Campos, Fewer, Gallotta, proxy for Groth (Ian Fregosi), Gupta, F. Hsieh, LaCroix, Low, proxy for Peskin (Lee Hepner), proxy for Wu (Jeremy Lee), Ting; will send out a email with details on upcoming events

f) Treasurer (Alexander) Passed out copies of proposed new budget, was last passed in April and revised to reflect new priorities, goal is to have \$80,000 in federal account which can only accept from individual donors, and \$180,000 in state account, which can take organizational donations, all expenses must be split between two accounts, as calculated by accountants, changed items are indicated in gold, went through details on changes, including putting resources towards communications, increased staffing and healthcare for staff; *Chair Campos* spoke about thinking around budget changes to cover our priorities and fundraising goals that we can accomplish, additions are an investment in people; *Member Baraka* asked about resources for voter registration; *ED Mehis* said it was covered under bounty program and part time worker is for voter registration; *Member LaCroix* asked about moving more money to food for volunteers; *Member Breed* requested to research use of City services for language access; amendment to increase amount for food for volunteers to \$5000 and volunteered to raise money to cover; Reported back about divestment from Wells Fargo, unfortunately our limits are too high and could not open with a credit union, but moved accounts to First Republic Bank that is vetted and not invested in objectionable sources

Motion to amend and approve budget: Member DeJesus; Second: Member Alexander
Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

Chiu, Wiener, Ting, Breed, F. Hsieh, Gupta, Campos, DeJesus, Alexander, Groth, Fewer, Wu, Gallotta, Peskin, LaCroix, Maxwell, Low, Baraka

g) Executive Director (Mehis) Gave update on conclusion of internship program, Bahlam continues to volunteer; Thanked Dan Bernal for sponsoring interns at Pelosi breakfast “rainbow in someone’s cloud”; headquarters have changed to 100 Broadway; invited everyone to Executive Board retreat on Saturday, September 23 at 1pm; reminded people about new location for September meeting; Invited members to join Communications Committee; Keep you eye out for a doodle to find a date for a SFCCC retreat before the end of the year

h) CDP Region 6 Update (Kelly) Reminder for Executive Board meeting is this weekend in Anaheim and will have a report next month; Womens, Labor, Disability Caucus Chairs are all from San Francisco, and the Voter Services Committee; spoke about pre-endorsement meeting planning and will be working with ED Mehis and Member Gupta to make sure that all chartered clubs get all the delegates they are eligible for; asked for forgiveness as a Yom Kippur tradition

12. New Business (Discussion and possible action)

The DCCC is unable to discuss or take action on items not on this agenda when those discussions pertain to matters within the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. The limited exception is to discuss and take action in deciding whether to calendar such items for a future meeting.

Member Breed requested that Bylaws Committee consider expanding the number of allotted

proxies from 10 to 20 to reflect the shift from 2-year to 4-year terms; reminded people to support upcoming low-dollar fundraiser

13. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm