

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

City College of San Francisco - Mission Campus

1125 Valencia Street

Margaret Cruz Room (107 & 108)

San Francisco, CA

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

6:30pm

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 6:36 pm by Chair Campos

Roll Call by Recording Secretary F. Hsieh

Members present: Alysabeth Alexander (proxy: Kim Alvarenga), Angela Alioto, Keith Baraka, London Breed, David Campos, Petra DeJesus, Bevan Dufty, Mark Farrell, Sandra Lee Fewer, Peter Gallotta, Kelly Groth, Pratima Gupta, Frances Hsieh, Tom Hsieh, Mary Jung, Leah LaCroix, Jen Low, Sophie Maxwell, Aaron Peskin (proxy: Lee Hepner), Cindy Wu

Ex-Officio Members present: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy: Meagan Levitan), U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (proxy: Dan Bernal), U.S. House Representative Jackie Speier (proxy: Brian Perkins), Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma (proxy: Lou Fischer), State Senator Scott Wiener (proxy: Matthew Rothschild), Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy: Alex Walker), Assemblymember David Chiu (proxy: Jen Kwart)

Members absent/excused: Malia Cohen, Jane Kim, Rafael Mandelman, Rachel Norton

27 members present, 4 members absent (4 excused)

Chair Campos announced that the SFDFCC was exploring alternate future meeting locations and that, in addition to tonight's meeting, the October meeting would also be held at CCSF - Mission Campus.

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

Member DeJesus requested the addition of an emergency resolution about relief for Puerto Rico (requires 2/3 vote to add to agenda). Chair Campos requested an amendment to Item 3 to reflect the correct date of August 23, 2017.

Amendment: Add DeJesus resolution

Motion to amend agenda: Member DeJesus ; *Second:* Member Alioto

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Amendment: Correct date in Item 3

Motion to amend agenda: Chair Campos ; *Second:* Member LaCroix

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Motion to approve (as amended): Member LaCroix; *Second:* Member Gupta

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

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

Approval of the minutes of the DCCC's meeting of August 23, 2017.

Member Baraka requested that minutes be amended to reflect his statement requesting amended language to acknowledge the "murder of Heather Heyer." Member Jung asked that her attendance be corrected to reflect her excused absence.

Amendment: Member Baraka for Item 9 comments

Motion to amend: Member Baraka; *Second:* Chair Campos

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Amendment: Correct attendance record for Jung

Motion to amend: Member Jung; *Second:* Chair Campos

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Motion to approve (as amended): Member LaCroix; *Second:* Member DeJesus

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

4. General Public Comment (1 minute per speaker)

Public Comment began at 6:43 pm

Chair Campos welcomed everyone to CCSF Mission Campus.

Trevor Martin (SF Democracy, D11 Democratic Club, SF Berniecrats) in support of divestment resolution; Curtis Woo in support of divestment resolution and requested supports show up at SFERS meeting in support; Rick Hauptman (as former member of SFDCCC) working on forming a renters caucus at CDP and hope to be confirmed at next EBoard meeting and support for AB 1506, Costa-Hawkins repeal; Mia Serrata, SF resident wanted to get to know more about the SFDCCC, urged body for forums and acts to connect residents to each other as human beings; Bahlam Vigil spoke in support of divestment resolution and his perspective as a youth with hopes for the future; Laura Munoz (SFLDC and BHDC) in support of Puerto Rico resolution and her personal connection to the suffering and tragedy; Jed Holtzman (350 Bay Area) gave background on support for divestment effort at SFERS, has worked across 5 Bay Area counties and found that SFERS is the worst actor and needs intervention; Hene Kelly (Region 6 Director) spoke about Sacramento CAIR convention and the support of CAIR for SFDCCC efforts and engagement with seniors to take back the House.

Public Comment closed at 6:54 pm

5. Legislative Update from San Francisco's House Congressional delegation (Campos)

(Discussion and possible action)

Speakers: Dan Bernal, Office of Democratic Leader & Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi

Brian Perkins, Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier

Chair Campos introduced speakers by stating it was critical time in DC and thanked representatives for attending and their work.

Dan Bernal spoke about Graham-Cassidy going down in flames. Next time healthcare reform can be attempted is in February/March. Credited every advocate that phone banked, made

visits, told public stories for success. CA was faced with losing \$17B in most recent iteration of repeal/replace of ACA; efforts for Medicare for all and House measure to put in first of 4 steps, expansion of Medicare, where those 64 and older can buy into Medicare; AB 562 could not happen if ACA is appealed because it would provide half (\$200B/year) of funds needed through Medicaid expansion. Gave greater detail about Clean Dream Act bill which currently has 199 co-sponsors and has 190 signatures on a discharge petition to force a floor vote with no committee hearing (need 218 signatures or a majority), critical to get everyone to push for signing discharge petition or co-sponsor bill. Described Ryan-McConnel tax package as same trickle down economics and clearly demonstrated the difference between Republican/Democratic approach to taxation, progressive tax reform: 400 households pay enough taxes to cover 800,000 people. Spoke about A Better Deal - Democratic agenda keeps evolving - plan focuses on raising wages of American workers, creating jobs, more resources for job training (such as CityBuild program locally); lowering cost of prescription drugs and requiring hearings for increases to prescription drug prices, Medicare power to negotiate lower drug prices; more regulatory power over monopolies; access to healthcare, paying no more than 7% of income for child care. Brian Perkins echoed Mr. Bernal's comments, also spoke about upcoming Congressional testimony about Russian influence in elections and breaking news about Russian influence in NFL issue. Also spoke about lack of military base in Congresswoman Speier's district and focus on cutting off \$400M in wasted military spending, highlighted by a recent jet fighter and combat ship design fiascos. Has also been focused on sexual harassment in military and military academies and fighting rule change on the standard of proof for campus sexual assault cases; voiced support for SB 169 is on Governor's desk to codify Obama regulations in California. Invited people to Congresswoman Speier's "adopt a district" canvas on October 21st in the Central Valley, bus leave from Peninsula at 7:00 am. *Chair Campos* stated that Executive Committee would love to host a SFDCCC forum featuring Congresswomen Pelosi and Speier, open to all SF residents. *Member Maxwell* spoke in support of Healthcare for All, that it would take courage to pass, but can be done. *Perkins* responded that administration has cut 90% budget for advertising for healthcare exchanges and has narrowed the window of time for open enrollment in the states where exchanges are run by federal government; in California, outreach has been successful and there is a balanced coverage pool that makes it feasible. *Member Gallotta* stated that this was the time for Democrats to define what they stand for, rather than just opposition and asked how to translate Better Deal into 2018 and the future, hoped that legislators will propose big ideas whether the votes are there or not; *Bernal* responded Better Deal was designed to be tailored to individual districts and changed/adapted over time. *Perkins* added that Democratic Party has more good candidates than ever and robust fundraising; *Bernal* DCCC has just expanded number of seats being targeted for wins; *Perkins* noted that there is a dedicated organizer for the Central Valley; *Chair Campos* made a commitment for SFDCCC to drive volunteers to those efforts.

6. Informational Update on Documentation for Language and Disability Access Policy for the San Francisco Democratic Party (F. Hsieh, Gupta) (Discussion)

Member Hsieh spoke about documents and tools produced to roll out new policy and support for clubs, including lists of language and access vendors, list of free/low cost meeting spaces, financial support request form for chartered clubs, and template language for agendas to describe new policy and requested feedback; *Member Gupta* spoke about roll out plan for documents and tools, including training at Leadership Circle and special tab on SFDCCC website; *Member Jung* complemented the lists and worked and asked for clarification about use of private homes; *Member Gupta* distinguished differences between SFDCCC and Chartered Club requirements; *Chair Campos* explained that these changes would require a new way of thinking and ensure the party's actions reflect our values, stated that SFDCCC was committed to not just requiring changes, but helping Clubs comply; *Members Speier and Ting* stated that these lists can be used as a resources for all our communities if it was available on our website; *Member Speier* had question about cost of headsets for interpretation services; *Member Gupta* replied about hardship funds request as a way to help clubs and about additional tools, including sound system that SFDCCC has purchased for Charter Club use, also stated that no action was needed by body needed and this was an informational item.

7. Presentation on 2017 San Francisco Democratic Party Community Survey (Gupta, Gallotta) (Discussion)

Member Gupta introduced survey, intent and purpose, and the process for distribution, similar to a "customer satisfaction" survey, and stated success metric of 500 responses; *Member Gallotta* spoke about the opportunity to raise the profile of SFDCCC and our work, introducing ourselves and getting people excited about our work, getting feedback and input on how and what we are doing; *Member Alioto* asked for definition of "nonbinary"; *Member Gupta* responded that nonbinary refers to non-dichotomous gender identification, and that respondents were not required to answer every question; spoke about outreach plan over a two month period and posting on website; distribute through email blasts; and reviewed questions; *Member Speier* spoke about their experience on surveys and recommended that questions be front loaded with demographic questions last for higher response rate; also recommended researching Survey Monkey's feature to disseminate surveys; *Member Alexander* asked about producing survey in different languages; *Member Maxwell* suggested using survey as an opportunity to broadcast information about the SFDCCC and better reflect our current work; *Member Speier* asked to add slate cards to list; *Member Pelosi* requested adding a question about what activities a respondent would be most likely to participate in, and suggested dissemination options, such as using SF Department of Elections' Voter File; *Chair Campos* stated he would work with Members Gupta and Gallotta to incorporate these ideas, but also stated desire to get survey out in a timely fashion; *Member Gallotta* stated that this first survey would be learning experience and opportunity for more robust version in the future; *Luis Zamora* asked if there would be general comments section; *Member Gupta* responded that there was an open ended question at the end of the survey.

8. Resolution Opposing "Extreme Vetting" Permanent Backdoor Muslim Ban and Urging Residents to Submit Comments Condemning Such Actions to the U.S. Department of State (Low, F. Hsieh, Gupta) (Discussion and possible action)

Member Low spoke to background of resolution and current state of federal immigration actions, there was a small window of time to comment on proposed change; urged SFDFCC could both actively oppose policy as an organization and as individuals; stated that this current proposed policy was a pattern by the administration to bait and switch; and importance for SFDFCC to make a strong statement; time is of the essence as currently only 50 comments have been submitted. *Member Low* committed to sending out link for people to submit comments and sample language.

All members requested to be added as cosponsors.

Motion to approve: Member DeJesus; *Second:* Member Wu

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

9. Resolution Urging the San Francisco Employees' Retirement System (SFERS) to Divest from Fossil Fuels (Baraka, Gallotta) (Discussion and possible action)

Member Baraka gave background on issue, which was brought to his attention by Trevor Martin; spoke about five basics to climate science from 350.org, handed out additional information that was also available on bit.ly/2wxebfu; stated that there was history of support and work on this issue by the SF Board of Supervisors, although unsigned by Mayor Lee; *Member Peskin* gave special thanks to those who had worked on this issue, including former Supervisor John Avalos; stated that fossil fuels have been a costly investment; introduced minor friendly amendments, correcting grammar and spelling; acknowledged lawsuit by City Attorney Dennis Herrera; stated opportunity to place change of SFERS composition on ballot; saluted Member Cohen as a member and Chair of SFERS and her support of issue. *Member Groth* suggested adding after first sentence in first clause, "California and San Francisco have signed Governor Brown's under 2 MOU which commits signatories to upholding the Paris Accord." *Member Peskin* requested that once the resolution was approved that the Executive Director hand deliver a letter to the upcoming SFERS meeting.

All members requested to be added as cosponsors.

Amendments: Corrections by Member Peskin

Motion to amend: Member Peskin; *Second:* Member Wiener

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

Amendments: Language from Member Groth

Motion to amend: Member Groth; *Second:* Member Fewer

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

Motion to approve (as amended): Member Baraka; *Second:* Member Gallotta

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Abstention: Member Feinstein

10. Resolution Denouncing President Trump's Decision to End the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program (Campos, Gallotta) (Discussion and possible action)

Chair Campos gave background on the resolution and Executive Committee statement that was

issued earlier in the month; shared his personal story and experiences and the need for an immediate response; *Member Pelosi* spoke about her past support of DREAM Act support and the need for a democratic majority in order to pass comprehensive immigration reform; *Member DeJesus* passed around copies of new copy with proposed amendments, including addition of a third whereas clause and additional sentence to resolved clause, stated interest in bringing undocumented youth to come and speak to SFDCCC. *Member Low* requested friendly amendment to replace “DACA recipients” with “undocumented youth” to recognize all young immigrant voices. Amendment was accepted by resolution sponsors. *Member Low* requested that people respect youth request to stop using the term “Dreamers” which sets up a false dichotomy between DACA recipients youth and their families.

Amendments: New resolution by DeJesus and Gallotta, including Member Low’s amendment

Motion to amend: Member DeJesus; *Second:* Member LaCroix, acclamation

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Motion to approve (as amended): Member DeJesus; *Second:* Member Gallotta

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

11. Resolution to Support an Emergency Relief Package for Puerto Rico (DeJesus)

Member DeJesus reviewed previous comments on emergency need for resolution, minor amendments in final resolved clause to expand to all Congress, not just California delegation, addressed concerns raised about Jones amendment; *Member Speier* referenced the letter signed by 145 members requesting military be sent in; *Member Alioto* requested including Virgin Islands as exempted.

Members requested to be added as cosponsors: Alioto, Baraka, Jung.

Amendments: Removing California delegation

Motion to amend: Member DeJesus; *Second* Member Baraka

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Amendments: To add Virgin Islands

Motion to amend: Member DeJesus; *Second:* Member Breed

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Motion to approve (as amended): Member Dufty; *Second:* Member Gupta

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Abstentions: Members Alexander, Pelosi, Speier, Ma

12. Reports (Discussion and possible action)

a) Chair (Campos) - Gave an update about future meeting locations, the progress on equipment purchases to assist with sound and recording equipment, member communications, and social media plans; Reminded people about the 10/23 event Chair’s Reception hosted by Member Breed as a low dollar event and opportunity to raise money, requested a \$1000 give or get goal for members; *Member Speier* requested more information; *Member Alioto* pledged \$1000; Announced that Unity Breakfast date has not been finalized but already have fundraising commitments, encouraged everyone to help raise money, only personal contributions can go to federal account; gave update on executive committee retreat and reminder for DCCC retreat with facilitator in November; raised idea of SFDCCC to sponsoring a forum for gubernatorial candidates next year; communication and issuing of statements, and opportunity for people to

be able to add themselves; Pelosi hopes that things like discharge statements would have statements issued also, and will work with Chair Campos to make sure that there is communication about positive as well as negative issues; urgent issues versus those that can take more time

b) Finance (DeJesus) - Reiterated push for fundraiser, make sure to submit payment online or bring a check, our accountants don't like to take cash; At retreat, list of all committees was updated and will be sent out for people to change committees or join; Gave update on bylaws committee, just held first meeting to review ideas and doing more research on what parts to tackle, next meeting will get into the meat of changes and will be on Saturday, October 14th at 9:30 am at 100 Broadway.

c) Voter Registration (Baraka) - Yesterday was National Voter Registration Day, at Paramount citizenship ceremony in the morning, there were 20 volunteers that registered 197 people total and 100 democrats and did outreach at Glen Park BART Station from 4-6 pm; Asked all members to come out to a voter registration event or participate in door knocking program; All outreach and voter registration events will be put in online calendar with dates, times, and locations; noncitizen voting and non-firewall with federal government.

d) Club Chartering (Gupta) - Next Leadership Circle meeting will be on Saturday, October 14th, 10 am - noon at Western Addition Library, topics to include Ethics filings 101, update on the convention and pre-endorsement meeting from Hene Kelly, and potential endorsementpalooza event.

e) Outreach (LaCroix) - Last Sunday Streets voter registration/outreach event will be on Sunday, October 1st with the D11 Democratic Club, on Mission between Avalon and Geneva; Encouraged members to participate in November and December dates for voter registration since there are no meetings those months; Asked members to be aware of "isms" and respectful towards young people in actions and words during meetings.

f) Treasurer (Alexander) None

g) Executive Director (Mehis) - Went over updates from ED notes previously sent out. Newsom has not been finalized for a date to appear before SFDCCC; Thanked volunteers Bahlam and Conor for ongoing support since end of internship program; Thanked to Member Groth for remit envelope design; Gave update on divestment from Wells Fargo; Clubs that complied to financial filings; and more details to come about retreat; Reminder about CDP convention from February 23-25 in San Diego; first check from Matthew Rothschild; live streaming equipment and sound system will be ready to use next month ; Member LaCroix was appointed to Executive Board to fill Baraka's vacancy

h) CDP Region 6 Update (Kelly) Next Executive Board meeting is November 17-19, San Francisco Airport Westin in Millbrae; Region 6 Pre-Endorsement Conference will be on January 28, no proxies are allowed, but can mail, email, or hand in ballots ahead of time to Hene Kelly

12. New Business (Discussion and possible action)

Lou Fischer asked about a list of qualified voters for the pre-endorsement meeting; *Hene Kelly*

stated she is still reviewing the names lists, but hopes to issue the list before end of September; *Member Gupta* presented Chair Campos with a Diet Coke cake for his birthday.

13. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm