

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, October 25, 2017

6:30pm

Meeting Minutes

A recording of the meeting can be found online at:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/SFDemocrats/videos/?ref=page_internal

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 6:42 pm by Chair Campos

Roll Call by Recording Secretary F. Hsieh

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

Ex-Officio Members present: U.S. House Representative Jackie Speier (proxy: Brian Perkins), Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma (proxy: Chris Corgas), State Senator Scott Wiener (proxy: Matthew Rothschild), Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy: Alex Walker), Assemblymember David Chiu (proxy: Katie Mackenzie)

Members absent/excused: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein; U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi; Mark Farrell

28 members present, 3 members excused

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Chair welcomed everyone, announced that November and December meetings would be cancelled, promised that January meeting would be in a larger space, and apologized for the lack of air conditioning.

Members Baraka and T. Hsieh requested addition of resolution honoring first responders to California wildfires and need for urgency due to timeliness. Gave background about current situation and the bravery and immediate action of first responders.

Member Gallotta requested addition of a 3 minute presentation by Lt. Governor candidate Eleni Kounalakis after item 5.

Amendment: Adding resolution honoring first responders

Motion to amend: Member T. Hsieh; *Second:* Member Baraka

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Amendment: Adding opportunity for Lt. Governor candidate to speak

Motion to amend: Member Gallotta; *Second:* Member T. Hsieh

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Motion to approve (as amended): Member Fewer; *Second:* Member Wu

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Member Baraka requested double check of spelling of “Heather Heyer.”

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

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

4. General Public Comment

Chair Campos explained public comment process and process for members of public to submit questions for guest speaker (item 5). Announced that the meeting was being live streamed and offered greetings to guests online.

Public Comment began at 6:49 pm

Brandon Harami (RDDC) spoke in support of Medicare for All resolution that was sponsored by Richmond District Democratic Club and thanked to members for introducing it; Izzy Malouf (UDC) spoke in opposition to bylaws amendments that are vague and asked that item be rejected or sent back to committee; Susan Pfeiffer (Democracy Action) was applauded and recruited volunteers for phone banks, tech banks, and actions to flip states and districts; Frank Noto (Democracy Action) spoke about gerrymandering concerns and spoke in support of volunteer opportunities; Alec Bash (Democracy Action) spoke about democratic activism and how inspiring it is, hoped that SFDCCC be more active part of resistance in SF; Xavier Aubuchon-Mendoza (LDC, SEIU 1021) spoke in support of Medicare for All resolution; Derek Remski (UDC) asked to reject or send bylaws amendments back to committee due to vague and subjective nature, questioned whether conflict of interest portions were legal; Sascha Bittner (disability rights activist) asked about submitting a question for Delaine Easton; Michael Adams spoke about his concern around access to education at CCSF, in particular student housing and parking concerns and development on SFPUC lands; Stephen Jaffe (D6SBDC) invited members to November 14th meeting featuring speaker, Jon Golinger, and spoke about waiving Democratic party practice of automatic endorsements of incumbents; Trevor Martin (SF Berniecrats) thanked members for September resolution on divestment, spoke in support of SB 562 and encouraging elected leaders to support Medicare for All resolution, spoke in support of Save Midtown situation for residents; Tomasita Medal spoke in support of building the voter approved performing arts education center at CCSF rather than giving land to private developers for profit; Hene Kelly (Regional Director) spoke in support of conflict of interest amendment that mirrors CDP policy, San Francisco should be in compliance with CDP, also stated that CDP is working on a disclosure form that SF could use.

Public Comment closed at 7:08 pm

5. Presentation from Delaine Eastin, Candidate for Governor of California, and Q&A (Campos)
Chair Campos announced that SFDCCC will be holding a forum/debate for Governor candidates in February 2018 and invited all to attend. Gave information about format for presentation and introduced California gubernatorial candidate, Delaine Easton.

Delaine Easton spoke about her deep roots and connection to San Francisco and family's labor background; Started San Miguel's, fought for reduced class, background in education; has a brass backbone; California needs big vision, affordable health care, supports SB 562; clean environment platform and commitment to ban fracking; California needs long range plans, like 1960's plan for higher education; need water plan for retention and efficiency rather than twin tunnels; education key to success, wants great education for all children at all levels, California per pupil spending went from 5th in nation to 41st, kindergarten should be mandatory and full day, universal preschool; affordable childcare - child development funds restoration in CA budget, 600,000 kids are on waiting list; need more affordable housing and redevelopment funds to support more transit oriented development; investment in education, bring back nurses, librarians, and counselors to schools, teaching is the most important profession; since 1965, California has built 1 UC campus, 2 CSUs, 1 community college (6 colleges), but 23 prisons - budgets are statements of values and should reflect our values, her values include investment in education, care for children, affordable housing and transportation, affordable health care, preserve and protect our environment, does and will stand up to Washington DC; democracy is democracy by the people; dare to dream about the most qualified candidate running and first woman; ended with 20 pencil analogy.

Question and Answer: *Sasha Bittner* asked what DE would do as governor to make home care more affordable, currently people have to be at poverty level to access Medicaid funded home care; *DE*: Currently have a crisis in home care, and services for seniors and those with special needs, she is committed to putting Californians to work, having a compassionate and caring budget, budget is a statement of values; *Member Norton* asked about her position on special education funding and services; *DE*: education in general needs more funding, committed to reviewing Prop 13 in order to get more funding to schools, not enough resources, and educators make the difference in people's lives; *Member Alioto* asked about her plan for homelessness; *DE* stated that poverty is a multi-solution problem, requiring a multi-prong approach, solution must address opioid epidemic, PTSD, more affordable housing, support for seniors and single mothers; *Member Alioto* followed up to ask if she would commit to put someone in charge of this issue and fund this program and resources for mental health; *DE*: yes and spoke about experience as Superintendent; *Member Gallotta* asked about housing affordability crisis, expanding rent control, and Costa-Hawkins; *DE*: she would repeal Costa-Hawkins, bring back Redevelopment Agency, amend Prop 13 and commercial property

taxes; *Member DeJesus* asked about what she would do to protect DACA students; *DE*: stands proudly with DACA and our friends and neighbors, will use 10th Amendment to protect California's rights; *Member Alexander* asked about union and environment/clean energy intersection and her support to make climate jobs good jobs; *DE*: will fight to expand union footprint in new industries like clean energy, is a lifetime member of Sierra Club, felt that the decline of middle class jobs means a decline of labor, can create better labor jobs; *Member Baraka* moved to extend Q&A portion by an additional 5 minutes, seconded by *Member Gallotta*, and approved acclamation; *Chair Campos* reminded members that, in the future, all gubernatorial candidates will be given 20 minutes for their question and answer portion; *Member Baraka* reiterated that since 1965, California has built 6 colleges and 23 prisons, what is her plan to combat decades of institutional racism; *DE*: investment in education, it is in the constitution of the U.S. - local control funding formula (LCFF); *Member Breed* asked about her position on the legalization of cannabis; *DE*: supported the measure, but it could have been written better, industry could have been taxed higher, etc; values discussion and money discussion, build more colleges and universities

6. Presentation from Eleni Kounalakis, Candidate for Lieutenant Governor of California (Campos)

Need to elect more women, gave background on experience, Ambassador to Hungary under Obama, worked in housing development, helped turn California blue, served on CA Central Committee; California must lead the way to a better future, platform includes more affordable housing, supports Medicare for All and single payer, will never vote to raise tuition; visit www.eleniforca.com for more information.

7. Proposed By-Law Amendments Regarding Use of San Francisco Democratic Party Name (Article 1, Section 1; Article 9, Section 1) and Conflict of Interest Disclosure (Article 4, Section 9) (DeJesus, By-Laws Committee)

Chair Campos called items 7 & 8 together.

Chair Campos spoke to questions about items, critical to have a robust discussion, working group has worked hard on a long time on these issues, important to have a standard, despite vagueness, supports further discussion and will be sending item back to committee, stressed that today's discussion should be focused on raising questions that should be addressed further in committee, turned discussion over to Committee Chair. *Member DeJesus*, gave background including recommendations from SFDCCC attorney; started with a list of over 20 issue, moved these two items forward because endorsements process coming up; Passed around copies of proposed logo for endorsements candidates, thanks Member Groth for design; Reviewed both items: By-Laws amendment Article 1, Section 1 additions are recommended from attorney, good public policy, good trademarking for logo and name to protect our brand and endorsement process; for By-laws amendment Article 9, Section 1 was suggested by our

attorney, conflict of interest policies comes directly from California Democratic Party (CDP) policy, with minor tweaks to adapt to local needs, conflict of interest does not preclude voting, but requires disclosure; *Member T. Hsieh* thanked Member DeJesus from chairing, supports trademarking, apologizes for missing by-laws committee meeting, worried about current language's subjectivity, what defines misleading, should not enshrine in by-laws subjective language that targets chartered clubs, supports conflict of interest and different standards for elected officials and members of SFDCCC, supports disclosure; *Member F. Hsieh* requested clarification from Member T. Hsieh about specific targeting of chartered clubs; in order to amend; *Member Peskin* supported recusal requirement as a higher standard than disclosure since perception can be seen as fact, asked about discrepancy between bylaws and policy and procedures manual; *Member Wiener* echoed questions by Member T. Hsieh, supports disclosure, not recusal, should not take away anyone's right to vote; *Member Alexander* stated that it seems clear that intent of this section is to prevent misleading, did not support having mailers for approval to full body, asked for clarification whether groups are prohibited from using name of party if used accurately, would like to be explicit that can only use logo for the race you are endorsed for, not in perpetuity; *Member DeJesus* stated that third parties are not prohibited, just need to ask permission, and will enumerate that process; *Member Speier* worried about chilling political free speech, suggested providing library of safe harbor designs and materials; *Member Ting* echoed thanks for committee's work, point of information about Article 9, Section 1 and expand who may seek to use party name to include candidates, other third parties, and ex-officios, not just chartered clubs, will there be a form created to authorize use and how will it be administrated; *Member Alioto* stated that conflict of interest is ambiguous term, asked about enforcement, stressed need to be clear and careful, free speech is important, and disclosures are good, should mirror CDP policy; *Member Norton* questioned use of name and logo, trademarking is great, but is concerned about reasonable person standard being subjective, supported safe harbor of materials, although should clarify who is determining body so that standards are as objective and clear as possible, doesn't support reasonable person standard; *Member DeJesus* stated that 'reasonable person' is a legal standard, supports using legal standards so not subjective; *Member Baraka* asked about timeline for the process of approval for use of name and logo, since campaigns can be on very tight timelines; *Member Breed* questioned distinguishing between name/logo misuse in endorsements and use in general and whether it addresses candidates seeking endorsement; *Member DeJesus* agreed that Article IV and PPM need to be addressed, and vagaries to use of name; *Member Gupta* asked about consequences of violations of policies; *Chair Campos* spoke about having rules and criteria that are fair, transparent, and clear irrespective of who controls the SFDCCC, reiterated that there would not be a vote until questions are resolved in committee, supported conflict of interest definitions be consistent with CDP, supported disclosure not recusal - there is a difference between legislative bodies and this is about transparency to the public, agreed there needs to be clarity on policy of use of name in general

versus for endorsements, supported safe harbor examples as appropriate, felt Executive Committee should not make decision but implements committee's policies misuse of name and logo, the full committee should make decision within thresholds, if you feel strongly about any element, bring up in committee; *Member LaCroix* urged those with comments who cannot committee to email comments and thoughts so that they may be considered.

Sent back to Bylaws Committee, next meeting on November 5th at 9:30 am at 100 Broadway.

8. Proposed Update to the Policy & Procedure Manual Regarding the Use of the San Francisco Democratic Party Name (Article 7, Sections 1.1-1.3) and Conflict of Interest Disclosure (new Article 14) (DeJesus, By-Laws Committee)

Chair Campos called this together with previous item.

9. Resolution Supporting Protections for Kidney Dialysis Patients and Clinic Workers (Campos, Groth, Low, Gallotta, F. Hsieh, Alysabeth, Gupta)

Chair Campos introduced item and gave background on the need for standards to protect both patients and workers. *Member Groth* requested to continue item until the next meeting since the author, Allan Wong, has been deployed as part of the National Guard in Napa and cannot attend meeting to speak.

Amendments: Member Alioto requested to be added as cosponsor.

Motion to continue item: Member Groth; *Second:* Member Breed

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

10. Resolution Condemning the Rollback of the Affordable Care Act Contraceptive Mandate (Gupta, F. Hsieh, Jung)

Member Gupta gave background on October 6th action by administration, spoke on experience as an OBGYN and the welfare of patients, CA Attorney General Becerra has filed lawsuit to protect access for women in California; *Member Speier* spoke in support and history of carrying healthcare legislation in Congress for multiple years, addressed issues of bigotry, patriarchy, and Viagra.

Amendments: Add all members present as cosponsors.

Motion to approve: Member Low; *Second:* Member Alexander

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

11. Resolution Urging Senator Feinstein and Leader Pelosi to Support Medicare for All (Gallotta, Gupta, F. Hsieh, Groth, DeJesus)

Member Gallotta thanked Brandon Harami and Richmond District Democratic Club for bringing forth issue, thanked SF delegation for protecting and defending the Affordable Care Act, and

spoke about expanding access being the next step, that it is rapidly becoming a core issue for Democratic party with 80% of democrats nationally supporting, in California with SB 562, now bills have also been introduced in Congress by Senator Sanders with Senator Harris in support and a House bill with a majority of house democrats in support, including Congresswoman Speier, this is an ask to sign on to both bills, sends a strong signal if they sign on; *Member Alioto* wanted to know, as a courtesy, if members had been asked prior to resolution; *Member T. Hsieh* felt uncomfortable passing resolution without proxies present, asked to reach out to them more respectfully; *Member Wiener* asked for friendly amendment to extend to all democrats, felt it was disrespectful; *Member Maxwell* would like to invite members to come and speak on this matter; *Member Speier* asked about plan to invite members to come speak and address this issue; *Member Ting* open to friendly amendments, supports SB 562; *Member Baraka* loves Nancy Pelosi, felt this document is a formal request, and is not disrespectful; *Member Alioto* said Nancy Pelosi is working herself to death, supported expanding resolution to apply to all democrats, infers they are not for it; *Member Alexander* stated that this body is elected to represent SF democrats who are looking for us to take leadership on this issue, important to clarify our commitment, single payer needs to happen at the federal level in order for it to really work; *Member Wiener* worried about being disrespectful; *Member Baraka* disagreed with expansion to all democrats because that doesn't acknowledge those who have already taken a position; *Member Breed* stated that Board of Supervisors urges all sorts of people all sorts of thing and people urge the Board to take action on many issues, did not have a problem with this very respectful resolution; *Member Gallotta* reiterated that SFDCCC makes asks all the time in our resolved clauses, open to expanding the title to be broader, but keep resolved clauses the way they are, intent is to make this ask of our representatives, not as a referendum; *Chair Campos* felt this language was respectful, decisions are being made now and San Francisco has an obligation to push the rest of the party forward, that is one of the roles that San Francisco plays on a national level, we should go on the record of saying what we want, and neither has come out in support yet; *Member Ting* agreed with comment, these kinds of asks can be made, unfortunate that proxies are not here to respond; *Member Wiener* proposed amendment to replace "Senator Feinstein and Leader Pelosi" in title and resolved clauses with "all democrats." *Member Breed* recommended dividing the question and voting on an amended version and original version separately; *Member Kim* called the matter to question.

Amendment: Replacing names in title and final resolved with "all democrats"

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

Vote Count: Nays: 19, Ayes: 8, Abstentions: 1; *Ayes:* Members Alioto, T. Hsieh, Jung, Norton, Ma, Wiener, Ting, Chiu; *Nays:* Members Alexander, Baraka, Breed, Campos, Cohen, DeJesus, Dufty, Fewer, Gallotta, Groth, Gupta, Kim, LaCroix, Low, Mandelman, Maxwell, Peskin, Wu;

Abstention: Member Speier

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

Vote Count: Ayes: 19, Nays: 2, Abstentions: 7; *Ayes:* Members Alexander, Baraka, Breed, Campos, Cohen, DeJesus, Dufty, Fewer, Gallotta, Groth, Gupta, Kim, LaCroix, Low, Mandelman, Maxwell, Peskin, Wu; *Nayes:* Members Alioto, T. Hsieh; *Abstentions:* Members Jung, Norton, Speier, Ma, Wiener, Ting, Chiu

12. Resolution Supporting the Bravery and Selfless Action of Fire, Police, Medical and all First Responders to the Historic California Wildfires of 2017 (T. Hsieh, Baraka, Jung, Alioto, Cohen, Farrell)

Member T. Hsieh reiterated background on need for resolution and support for first responders; *Member Baraka* felt honored to support, spoke in respect and thanked SFDC for putting this forward and the experience of firefighters and all first responders, acknowledged 42 who lost their lives in wildfires; *Member Alioto* shared her experience at family property in Napa, people, horses, goats were dying, recognized and thanked firefighters and spoke to the experience of what they go through in the face of horror; *Member DeJesus* and *Member Breed* asked to be added as cosponsors; *Member Speier* asked for conversation about housing and the role of public safety in that; *Member Groth* requested adding in third whereas clause “in addition to incarcerated men and women who were only paid one dollar an hour”; *Member Alioto* asked to send a copy of resolution to all 44 firehouses in San Francisco, with Member Baraka’s help.

Amendments: small typo, Groth amendment, and adding all members as cosponsors

Motion to approve: Member T. Hsieh; *Second:* Member Alioto

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

13. Reports (Discussion and possible action)

a) Chair (Campos) Apologized for insensitive comments earlier. Thanked everyone for their support, in particularly President Breed, Executive Director Mehis, and volunteers. Raised over \$12,000 for federal account; Unity Breakfast will now move to December; spoke about governor candidate forum in February, and other races for SF democrats to hear from all candidates; would like to create VP position as liaison to resistance groups to follow up on broader strategy to inject our efforts into swing districts, those interested in position should submit names; communications committee has been active, you will start seeing party in social media, submit names of SF democrats who can be featured in ads

Member Breed thanked everyone who attended, helped promoted, donated, and came together and fundraiser.

b) Finance (DeJesus) ED Mehis will send out an email to convene fundraising committee that can focus on December breakfast, must have money in account 90 days before election, after which no more money can be accepted until election has passed.

c) Voter Registration (Baraka) Small donations are as important as big donors and having a monthly campaign; has been getting buy-in on his outreach & voter registration project, has spoken at clubs, leadership circle; spoke about conditional voter registration; would like

regularly scheduled webinar trainings from PDI; committee will be reconvened over the next few months, you can see hard data about implementation in the field, and that will come back in January; looking into bounty program, and an all day event for voter registration

d) Club Chartering (Gupta) Held leadership circle on October 14th; Nicholas Perski spoke about ethics requirements and filings; voter registration presentation by Keith Baraka; pros/cons of endorsementpalooza, general sentiment was opposed, survey monkey to get feedback from greater number of clubs; Next leadership circle will be in January/February, date TBD; Moving forward, newsletter will have a "Club Corner" and clubs signed up at leadership circle

e) Outreach (LaCroix) Reminded liaisons to attend club meetings and share information; will convene voter registration committee for more ideas on outreach

f) Treasurer (Alexander) Reviewed files, does not reflect recent deposits (from 9/30), will take questions rather than running through each item, PEX reflects recurring costs; *Member T. Hsieh* asked for a monthly income statement in addition

g) Committees

By-Laws (DeJesus) Next meeting Sunday, November 5th at 9:30 am, likely at 100 Broadway, but TBD

Communications (Gallotta) Is meeting and making improvements, live streaming tonight, had first monthly newsletter, will be asking all members to write something; growing social media presence and campaign, and community survey will be going live soon, asking all members to share it out, available in English, Chinese, and Spanish, will provide hard copies as requested, open until December 31st; next meeting is Tuesday, November 7th at 7:00 pm at 100 Broadway; did not look into broader distribution as Member Speier raised since this is a pilot survey, and will look at investing more funds in a future/more scientific survey

Endorsements (Low) Endorsement season is coming up, would like to update questionnaire to reflect current policies and issues and make separate questionnaires for various offices; First meeting on Friday, November 10th, 5:30 pm, Muddys Coffeehouse on Valencia and 24th Street; Committee will also propose calendar and schedule and will review requested items from bylaws committee

h) Executive Director (Mehis) Will create targeted listserves for committees, thanked Member Groth for live streaming; thanked Member F. Hsieh for equipment set up

i) CDP Region 6 Update (Kelly) Asked for report time to be moved up on agenda; announced pre-endorsement meeting on Sunday, January 28th, location TBA, no proxies, but can vote by mail; gave history lesson on social security act and making our representatives do things and demand stuff of our elected leaders to be the best we can be; reminder of CDP eBoard meeting in Millbrae weekend of November 17th

14. New Business

Member Gupta thanked other members for job security and wished Members Low, Alexander, and Wu good luck and presented baby gifts; *Chair Campos* announced that the November retreat was being rescheduled.

15. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:11 pm