

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

6:30pm

Tenderloin Community Elementary School

627 Turk Street

San Francisco, CA

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 6:49 pm by Vice-Chair DeJesus

Roll Call by Recording Secretary F. Hsieh

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

Ex-Officio Members present: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy: Dale Carlson); U.S. House Representative Jackie Speier (proxy: Brian Perkins), Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma (proxy: Izzy Maloof), State Senator Scott Wiener (proxy: Matthew Rothschild), Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy: Alex Walker), Assemblymember David Chiu (proxy: Katie MacKenzie)

Members absent/excused: U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, David Campos

29 members present, 1 member absent, 1 member excused

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

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

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve: Member Maxwell; *Second:* Member Baraka

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

4. General Public Comment (1 minute per speaker)

Public Comment began at 6:52 pm

Susan Pfeiffer (Democracy Action) reported on April 19 new citizen registration, 245 new voters, Swing Left is bring lots of volunteers, next event is May 3rd, weekly phone bank; Hunter Cutting spoke about Saving Clipper Cove effort; Paul Monge (U.C. Regents) spoke in support of

item 10 as student representative regarding cost and tuition for UCs, reduced support for housing, health services, focus on reinvesting some of California's \$6B budget surplus in adequately funding public higher education; Soli Alpert (UC Berkeley student/Cal Berkeley Democrats) supported item 10, underfunding UCs exacerbates housing crisis, drives out core residents around campus; Neil McClintock (Cal Dems) in support of item 10, schools are falling apart, poor infrastructure; Fares Alharazy (UCB, CalDems, ASUC) transfer student advocating for support for Item 10; Kylie Murdock (UCB) Fully fund the UCs, \$342 tuition increase plan would be wiped out with budget supplement; Sarah Abdeslahian (UCB) speaking in support of item 10 ask for \$142 M budget increase, 7 to 1 return rate; Trevor Martin (SF Berniecrats, Public Bank Coalition) in support of Item 11 to divest money in private banks for a municipal, public bank to support issues of social and environmental equity; Kurtis Wu (Public Bank Coalition) broad coalition to divest our \$10 B in private banks to public bank, support of task force to create a pathway; Susan Solomon (UESF) support for item 12, lot of pressure from corporate charter schools, need accountability like public schools and keep them out of elections such as Innovate public schools that target certain students in struggling public schools, support community schools, don't need co-location; Ken Tray (UESF) in support of item 12, corporate charter schools bring a market sentiment to the most social institution - public education, and spoke about Mary Booker Charter School; Gabriela Lopez (SFUSD) in support of item 12 as immigrant youth is now an educator has never seen meaningful cooperation with public schools, cannot afford to divide communities; Arienne Adamcikova (SF Families Union) newcomer student teacher, horrified that charter schools are excluding our most needed students, private money bringing right wing ideology and targeting immigrant and communities of color, need experienced, credentialed teachers, not charter schools, fully fund schools in SF and California, creates division; Alison Collins (AA Parent Advisory Council) is a parent and 20 year educator, more local control in funding, serve special needs students equally, seeing Innovate come in and targeting black and brown families, not accountable to communities they purport to serve, two attacks at SFUSD in Bayview, looking for prime real estate; Julie Roberts-Phung (SF Families Union) worked on tech workers supporting schools in their communities, 2 out of 3 dollars go to private schools rather than public schools, charter school networks hurt our schools serving our communities of color, no charter money in local politics; Alida Fisher (SF Families Union) Chair of Community Advisory Committee on Special Education, only 4 local charters participate locally, no collaboration; *Member Maxwell*, why targeting black and brown students, what are they telling parents; Alison Collins these schools appear under enrolled, Kipp and Innovate are misrepresenting their own data and success rates - they present as if they are doing better for black and brown students, but they are not in addition to not serving students with special needs, newcomers, or low-income students; Alida Fisher addressed that SFUSD does acknowledge achievement gap and SFUSD has a new plan to improve performance, including African American Achievement and Leadership Initiative, wrap around services, African American Parent Advisory Committee, forums for African American parents to engage, and hiring culturally sensitive staff; Derek Remski (UDC) provided update on activities over last four months, 6 educational panels, 8 days of action, 3 fundraisers for local nonprofits, fundraiser for Judge Dallet in Wisconsin, Politics 101, Dance for a Cause, annual benefit is next Thursday; Corey Smith (UDC) apologized for not coming sooner, spoke about responsibility of educating new voters and engaging them; Alec Bash (CA Clean Money Campaign) Open Source Paper Ballot Voting System is coming up for a hearing in Sacramento, May 6th Campaign Kickoff

Public Comment closed at 7:39 pm

5. Updates from Organizations Involved in Resistance Activities (Maxwell)

Member Maxwell spoke about SFLC and Working America partnership to talk to voters in Congressional District 10 in Modesto, thanked other members for helping to publicize and draw volunteers, had 7 volunteers, people in Modesto were very receptive to the issues, important to remember that we are involved, that we are the blue and need to rock the vote, please join the May 5th Day of Action, introduced Beatrice.

Beatrice Von Schultis (Co-Lead, Swingleft San Francisco) started after 2016 election to harness energy of places like SF to flip their closest red district, harness volunteer energy, raise money to the selected primary candidates in 60 targeted districts; in California 9 targeted, 7 held by Republicans in districts that Clinton won, 2 district where Democrats won by a small margin, considered defense districts; focus in San Francisco is on CD10, which is closest, although CD21 is also a local target, with all the democratic enthusiasm, there are now 5 Democrats and 2 Republicans running, need to make sure that Democrats that are registered vote turn out, increase voter registration of democrats, need boots on the ground, next action is May 5th Day of Action because of top two primary system in California. SFDCCC will help promote May 5th actions, including canvassing in Modesto from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm with carpooling, local phone banking for those who cannot drive; *Member Maxwell* we can take the Senate with action; *Member LaCroix* circulated a sign-in sheet for May 5th Day of Action sign up; *Member Baraka* asked about deep canvassing; *Beatrice Von Schultis* deep canvassing is talking with people about issues, especially local issues with open ended questions and getting people talking about what they care about, take notes and reach back to them about what they want to hear about, establishing contact on issue basis; *Alec Bash* historic amount of engagement right now, challenges with Republican gerrymandering, swing district targeting nationwide is huge effort, need to focus and devote some resources on midterm campaigns, hope SFDCCC raises money after the primaries to open a headquarters in SF as a resource and place for people to volunteer; *Member Maxwell* made a pitch for everyone to take action, she will be calling everyone

6. Reports

a) Chair (Campos) - will give report on slate card when he is back

b) Finance (DeJesus) - no one showed up for finance committee and Petra will be following up on everyone

c) Voter Registration (Baraka) - thanks to Susan Pfeiffer, more updates on text-to-vote program to come

d) Club Chartering (Gupta)

Arab American Democratic Club (New charter) - *Member Pratima* read mission statement, Joseph Sweiss and Miriam Zouzounis, co-chairs, talked about motivation to be a voice for a group that is underrepresented and reactionary to recent legislation that goes after Arab community, want positive action, next meeting on May 12, 3 pm at Arab Community Center.

Motion to approve charter: Member Gupta; *Second:* Member Speier

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

Next Leadership Circle will in the summer after the election is over, topics include understanding how pre-election works, clubs working with DCCC, and how to use Nationbuilder

e) Outreach (LaCroix) - Participated in Rock the Congress, March for Our Lives, thanked all the people who participated and sold t-shirts, got great information, encouraged everyone, including members of public to join in on days of action and outreach events, next event is Sunday Streets Tenderloin on May 6th, followed by outreach events for endorsed candidates and measures in the June elections; *Members Jung/Cohen* would like to see a draft of slate card before it is printed, *Acting Chair DeJesus* stated that Chair Campos worked on it exclusively and will pass request to him

f) Treasurer (Alexander) - reviewed financial documents and report, will resend information so that figures that were cut out will be visible

g) Partnerships (Maxwell) - already reported as part of item #5

h) Committees

Internship (Gupta) - received 19 applications, members will be reviewing and interviewing in the coming weeks and have cohort finalized by May 10; internships will run from June 18th through August 22nd; plan is for 2 high school, 4 college aged students, also solicited members for ideas for activities for interns.

i) Executive Director (Mehis) - will have a venue change over the summer, likely July and August, maybe LGBT Center

j) CDP Region 6 Update (Kelly) - recognized Beatrice Von Schultis, who was awarded as Region 6 "Volunteer of the Year" at the convention since she was not able to make it to convention; Susan Pfeiffer gave some background on Beatrice's work as office manager for Hillary Clinton office and work with Swing Left, Hene presented with some gifts in recognition of honor

Acting Chair DeJesus requested taking items 10-12 out of order in consideration of audience members who had attended for resolutions.

10. Resolution in Support of Fully Funding the University of California and California State University Systems (Gallotta)

Member Gallotta thanked Paul Monge as student representative on Board of Regents, who brought issue forward, introduced resolution, spoke about right to access higher education, budget as reflection of values, California has a \$6.1 B budget surplus, should invest in education, higher education costs are increasing with more than 9,000 additional students and no new funding from the state since 2000, tuition has tripled during this time and additional increases are planned, costs being borne by students who are least equipped to shoulder burden, debt takes decades to pay off, cost of living issues to high, you shouldn't have to choose between housing and schools or food and books, really need this increased funding, resolution is timely because of consideration of tuition increase in May, stands with students of CSU and UCs; *Member Speier* stated that Congress has a part to play in terms of budget cuts currently being proposed and May budget revise may change needed amount, suggested friendly amendments: in first resolved clause "That the San Francisco Democratic Party fully supports increasing state funding for the University of California so as to fully avoid increases in student fees and costs in addition to the Governor's proposal, and supports increasing funding for the California State University so as to fully avoid increases in student fees and costs above

the Governor’s proposal”, adding additional language in second Resolved clause and taking out specific amount allowed ex-officios to vote on resolution; *Member Gallotta* was open to considering amendments and that the point of the money was in response to current proposed increase; Paul Monge clarified need for amount from a campaign perspective; *Member Ting* asked for clarification on funding numbers, there have been increases in state support and funding, since 2012-13 general fund has gone from \$2.3B to \$3.5B, funding to CalGrant program has gone from \$702 M to \$970M and increases in other scholarship support, commissioned audit to hold governing bodies accountable to spending; Paul Monge clarified that level state funding has remained despite increase in students, and difference between operating vs. direct student dollars and offset currently considered tuition increases; *Member Gallotta* wanted whatever language was most helpful to advocates in statewide campaign, if budget numbers are more powerful, want to honor students that brought resolution forward, open to discussion of second amendment to expand to beyond San Francisco delegation at the end of the second Resolved clause so that it reads, “FURTHER RESOLVED That the San Francisco Democratic Party urges Assembly Budget Chair Phil Ting and San Francisco’s state delegation to support fully funding the UC and CSU systems in the 2018-2019 budget and also urges Congress to increase federal financial aid and to make necessary changes to the tax code so as to once again make a college education affordable to all Americans.”

Amendments: Additional language to second Resolved clause

Members that requested to be added as co sponsors: Alexander, Maxwell, Groth, Gupta, F. Hsieh, Low, LaCroix, Baraka, Mahogany, Mandelman, Fewer

Motion to amend and approve: Member Gallotta; *Second:* Member Baraka

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

Abstentions: Members T. Hsieh, Speier, Ma, Ting

11. Resolution Calling for the Implementation of a Municipal Bank in San Francisco (Baraka)

Member Baraka thanked Member Cohen for work and Supervisors Fewer, Sheehy for cosponsoring, spoke about background of resolution, resistance of banking industry for transparency, public effect of investment policies, potential revenue from cannabis industry at \$6.6B, working group around safe cannabis banking, support for a multi-state consortium to remove barriers around cannabis banking, thanked Trevor Martin and Kurtis Wu for bringing issue forward and *Member Gallotta* and *E.D. Mehis* for editing help; *Member Ting* generally abstains on these types of measures but will support since this program has already been approved locally.

Amendments: Members that requested to be added as cosponsors: Low, Groth, Gallotta, Alexander, Fewer, Maxwell, Mahogany, Mandelman, DeJesus, Gupta, F. Hsieh

Motion to approve: Member Baraka; *Second:* Member Cohen

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

12. Resolution on Charter Schools in San Francisco County (Low, F. Hsieh)

Member Low thanked UESF and parents for bringing resolution forward and acknowledged that LA DCCC already passed this resolution, spoke to rationale behind resolution, CDF platform states commitment to keeping private interests out public education, public dollars should not go into a system without same level of public accountability and transparency, read through amendments: changing as a first first whereas clause, “WHEREAS, the San Francisco Unified School District states in Vision 2025 plan, their “strong commitment to equity and social justice across all of its communities and all of its schools enables not just some students but all students to realize their potential. Every school and every student is part of a District-wide system of supports designed to ensure that all students and families-of every race, language and ethnicity, learning level and ability-have the support and the resources they need to thrive.”; adding additional language in second whereas clause to read, “WHEREAS, charter schools with privately appointed boards do not represent the public nor share San Francisco’s vision for our students, yet make decisions about how public tax dollars are spent and in 2016 collectively spent over \$17 million across California to influence local and state elections; the California Democratic Party’s 2018 Platform states “Charter schools should be subject to the most rigorous oversight of public funds so that no tax dollars are used for personal gain and no public school property is transferred to private ownership”; adding in third whereas clause to read, “WHEREAS, the Democratic National Committee’s 2016 Platform states that “Democrats oppose for-profit charter schools focused on making a profit off of public resources” and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) passed a resolution in 2016 calling for a national moratorium on the expansion of charter schools at least until such time as “(1) Charter schools are subject to the same transparency and accountability standards as public schools (2) Public funds are not diverted to charter schools at the expense of the public school system (3) Charter schools cease expelling students that public schools have a duty to educate and (4) Cease to perpetuate de facto segregation of the highest performing children from those whose aspirations may be high but whose talents are not yet as obvious.”; adding in the first resolved clause to read, “THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Democratic Party 1) adopts the principle that every student should have access to fully funded, equitable public education that is not threatened by market-based reforms such as vouchers or charter schools that divert public funds to private enterprise; 2) calls for legislation that all schools utilizing public funding must be democratically governed and subject to local school district authorization and control; 3) joins the NAACP’s support for a moratorium on charter schools until criteria are met by opposing charter school expansion, and private charter management; 4) supports expanding community school models in public schools by providing adequate resources to ensure that every student and family is equipped with what they need to be successful; 5) supports charters schools following the same public information, transparency, and conflict-of-interest laws as public schools; 6) urges San Francisco candidates to refuse direct corporate charter contributions and to publicly rebuke corporate charter contributions made to independent expenditures on their behalf.”; and adding a final resolved clause “BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be sent to the San Francisco Board of Education.”; *Member Kim* asked for clarification over whether this resolution applied

to new or existing or expansion of charter schools and asked for additional clarifying language, *Member Low* suggested adding “new” in two instances in the first resolved clause; *Member Ting* was unable support since did not have time to check in on amendments, however noted that *Member Ting* supported AB 406 and 478 in support of public schools and legislation to govern charter schools.

Amendments: Additional language, including friendly amendment by *Member Gallotta*

Members that requested to be added as cosponsors: *DeJesus, Gupta*

Motion to amend and approve: *Member Low*; *Second:* *Member F. Hsieh*

Vote Count: Approved by acclamation

Abstentions: *Alioto, T. Hsieh, Wiener, Ting*

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) (Bylaws Committee)

Member DeJesus requested to take items 7-9 together and later in the agenda since most audience members were waiting for later items. *Member DeJesus* reviewed past process on items 7-9 and reviewed proposed amendments and asked for questions. *Member Speier* proposed additional language for item 9 for benefit of ex-officio members who are subject to greater disclosure requirements and add a checkbox and additional language at the top of page 2 of disclosure form to read: “I am currently an elected member of _____ my statement of financial interests is available at _____ and campaign financial is available at _____.” *Member Baraka* shared *Member T. Hsieh’s* compliments to *Member DeJesus* for her hard work on these amendments.

Amendments: Checkbox and language for item 9

Motion to amend and approve all three items: *Member Wiener*; *Second:* *Member Jung*

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

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) (Bylaws Committee)

9. Adoption of Financial Disclosure Form for SFCCC Members (Bylaws Committee)

13. New Business

No new business.

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm