

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

6:30pm

San Francisco LGBT Community Center

1800 Market Street

San Francisco, CA

DRAFT 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 Member Kelly Groth

Members present: Alysabeth Alexander, Angela Alioto, Keith Baraka, London Breed (proxy: Mawuli Tugbenyoh), David Campos, Jen Chan, Malia Cohen, Petra DeJesus (proxy: Lito Sandoval), Bevan Dufty, Sandra Lee Fewer, Peter Gallotta, Kelly Groth, Pratima Gupta, Frances Hsieh (proxy: Kitty Fong), Tom Hsieh, Jane Kim, Leah LaCroix, Meagan Levitan, Jen Low, Honey Mahogany, Rafael Mandelman, Sophie Maxwell, Rachel Norton (proxy: Keith Baraka).

Ex-Officio Members present: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy: Kathleen Dowling McDonough); 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/excused: U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi; U.S. House Representative Jackie Speier, Mary Jung

28 members present, 3 members absent, 2 members excused

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Chair Campos requested that the agenda be amended to reflect that item 8 is a discussion only item. *Member Groth* requested to adjourn the meeting in memory of Nia Wilson, killed on BART on Sunday. *Member Gallotta* requested to add item 11 to the agenda, a resolution opposing Assembly Bill 84.

Amendment(s): Change to item 8; in memoriam request, addition of item 11

1st Motion to amend: Member Campos; *Second:* Member Wiener

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

2nd Motion to amend: Member Groth; *Second:* Member Baraka

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

3rd Motion to amend: Member Gallotta; *Second:* Member DeJesus

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

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

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve: Member Levitan; *Second:* Member Mahogany

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

4. General Public Comment

Public Comment began at 6:46 pm

Chair Campos acknowledged and congratulated newest member of Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Vallie Brown, spoke about SF DCCC's commitment to importance of public comment and requested respect and reiterated ground rules; *Member LaCroix* (parliamentarian) reviewed rules of conduct for members and public during public comment; *Vivian Imperiale* stated that San Francisco needs to show compassion, remember where we came from as immigrants seeking sanctuary, outraged that Chair Campos received threats for placing agenda item, now is time to take pride as Sanctuary City and set example for the country; *Pedro Hernandez* (Fair Vote CA) invited folks to ranked choice voting training in partnership with Wellstone Action on Friday, July 27th for both new and experienced campaigners; *Ann Merrill* (Swing Left San Francisco) reported on week-long Resist-a-thon event, seven days of political activities, registered new citizens to vote and attended fundraisers, taught people to phone and text bank, had just under 600 people attend event; *Jesus Barragan* (Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club) stated we cannot let national rhetoric of hatred seep into San Francisco; *Susan Pfeiffer* (Democracy Action, Sister District) Resist-a-thon was a success, we did new citizen registration and registered 318 new citizens (a new record!), continue to hold weekend phone banks, thanked Member Mary Jung for loaning her office space, announced FDR Democratic Club August Longo Awards event on Monday, July 30th to honor anniversaries of ADA act and Medicare and Medicaid and honoring John Chiang; *Terrrie Frye* as lifelong Democrat, re-thinking being registered Democrat based on what has been coming out of SF DCCC members regarding immigration; *Trevor Martin* (SF Berniecrats) strongly opposed to local ballot measure Violent Felon Reporting Act, support for agenda items 9 and 10, thanked Member Gallotta for agenda item 11, asked members to stand against AB 84 which is a power grab and has been opposed by CA Dem Party; *Roxanne* democrat from Santa Clara County starting TransForm Foundation, to transform how we hold officeholders accountable for promises and stand for transgender rights; *Former Supervisor John Avalos* spoke on items 8 through 10, as Supervisor, worked twice to update sanctuary policy in face of enormous threats, policy founded on public safety built trusting relationships between communities of color and law enforcement, regardless of have pass, all people have a constitutional right to due process; *Rosario Cervantes* SF recently opened local voting to non-citizens, new registration forms warn non-citizens of providing information, weakening Sanctuary City status would threaten non-citizen parents, supports DeJesus resolution of decriminalization of immigration communities; *Paul Bellard* as candidate for Assessor-Recorder, wanted to bring attention to little known position, feels it is untapped resource that deals with housing, most underutilized

position in regards to housing, this position can create change within city; *Corey Smith* (President of UDC) passed out letter from Senator John Burton in regards to item 6 and donations from Veritas, included copy of mail piece in question, potential violation of SF DCCC Policy and Procedures Manual, UDC statement on support of letter, requested \$10,000 be donated, requested independent investigation; *Ellen DaSilva* encouraged people to stop talking about proposed cafeteria ban, this bill will push companies out of San Francisco, there are more important issues than a cafeteria ban; *Sharon Johnson* (President of Irish American Democratic Club) spoke about item #6, Board hearing about complaints from residents in districts 8, 6 and 4 on Veritas, worked with community on housing issues, when served as executive director to party in 70's was not allowed to accept corporate contributions that were hurting people; *Jordan Davis* spoke against ballot initiative undermining immigrants, No Ban No Wall Sanctuary for All; *Peter Lauterborn* (President of Richmond Democratic Club) yielded time to Kevin Ortiz; *Kevin Ortiz* spoke about proposed ballot measure that would weaken sanctuary law, black and brown folks are targeted and incarcerated more than white folks, our current sanctuary city status doesn't shield or protect felons, due process is a constitutionally guaranteed right, Sheriff already turns in convicted, services provided by cities show felons can turn their lives around, stated that language around felony in ballot measure is not clear, should not undermine due process for those suspected, but not convicted; *John Transvina* as candidate for School Board, thanked members for service to city and committee, we must be united as Democrats to end Trump's lies, felt sanctuary ordinance overcomes San Francisco's history of discrimination against immigrants, ordinance should be protected, must be united to support families; *Chair Campos* read a statement by *William Juarez* (President of D11 Democratic Club) spoke against loopholes that damage immigrant community, opposes initiative; *Xavier Aubuchon-Mendoza* (ADEM 19) spoke about erasure of Latino community and immigrant community when people can't report crimes to police, also when public commenter was shut down by member of committee; *Kay Walker* (member of SEIU) measure against violent felonies is not against immigrants, measure is against felons; *Paige Miller* (Richmond District Democratic Club) against Violent Felon Reporting Act, in support of agenda items 9 and 10; *Mike Hall* spoke in support of Violent Felon Reporting Act, sanctuary law is amazing creation but there is no need to change what was created by Member Alioto to make it safer for everyone; *Piotr Lahmar* spoke on item 8, creates ability for immigrants to feel safer, SF sanctuary law protects too many, many felonies go unreported; *Santiaga* - former policy, sanctuary city policy has been improved, rhetoric is creating violence against immigrant communities; *Mykel Farantino* spoke in favor of agenda item 8, including punishing against those with 3 violent felonies that state and city currently protects; *Janice Li* immigrants are here to stay, what kind of city is SF if we attack our own, rejected Alioto's and Trump's rhetoric; *Denise Dorey* (President of Central City Democrats) Democrats can't sound like a party of intolerance, spoke against ban, wall, and gang injunctions; *Sue Englander* most diverse DCCC she's seen, represents the community, proposed sanctuary city measure is one step back, this resolution is a foot in the door to many other abuses on various vulnerable communities; *Gilbert Canero* Apache tribe member, not recognized by U.S. government, we're all immigrants and need to respect one another; *Brad Chapin* (HMLGBTQDC) was disappointed in Alioto and how facts are being muddied, current sanctuary city policy already turns over felons to ICE; Member of public spoke about need to focus on productive conversations and set an example; *Laurel Muniz* (Latino Democratic Club)

in current environment where naturalized citizens are under investigation, we can't change current sanctuary city ordinance; *Tami Bryant* (Latino Democratic Club) spoke in opposition of proposed violent felon ballot measure, worried about daughter traveling to El Salvador because U.S. created dangerous circumstances in that country, criminalization of refugees is U.S.'s fault. Member of public asked people to read ordinance and not listen to rhetoric, spoke in favor of Alioto's ordinance, state has exempted 35 felonies versus SF, which has more; *Lila Carillo* (President of Latino Democratic Club) spoke against poking holes in current sanctuary city ordinance, spoke against targeting vulnerable communities; *Carlos Bocanegra* response to fear should not be to persecute marginalized communities, called for protections for communities threatened under Trump; *Edwin Cruz* coalition, abolish ICE movement now focused on current administration, urges committee to end ICE; *Jackie Miller* supported Violent Felons Ordinance, questioned what rights victims have; *Brigitte Davila* (Latino Democratic Club, D11 Democratic Club, CCSF Board of Trustees) proposed amendments to sanctuary adds nothing to protect immigrants, spoke about experience of her students are part of Rebound program and criminalization of black and brown people; *Javier Vigil* (D11 Democratic Club and D11 Youth Commissioner) spoke in support of item 10, disgusted by incorrect rhetoric voices of immigrants aren't being recognized; Malaya Idefonzo-Redondiez as student in SF, child of immigrants spoke against ballot initiative; Susan Horsfall in support of Angela Alioto, Sharon Johnson and Jackie Miller, spoke on agenda item 6 and wanted answers from DCCC in regards to slatecard and slate contributions; *Diane Shannon* spoke in support of violent felon act, and San Francisco should distinguish between good citizens and violent felons, wants city sanctuary law to mirror state law; *AJ Thomas* spoke in support of agenda item 9, Senators Kirsten Gillibrand, Elizabeth Warren, Kamala Harris have all called to abolish ICE and build humane immigration practices; *Nathaniel Owen* (Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club) spoke against violent felon measure and hold member of Democratic party accountable for Republican tactics and Trumpian hateful language; *Carolina Morales* (co-president of Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club) opposed any Democrat using xenophobic language and tactics to manipulate voters, Trumpian tactics and rhetoric are racist, spoke against hateful rhetoric from DCCC member, Democratic party has failed low income and communities of color, SF has been leading a progressive fight against federal government, spoke of her story as an undocumented low wage worker, not tension but people standing for justice, federal government is coming after all immigrants, even those naturalized, let's lead national fight against Trump; *Kitzia Esteva* spoke for self and undocumented family and experience of immigrants who are afraid of police, Trumpist rhetoric has emboldened hate; *Gabriela Lopez* (Latino Democratic Club) can't believe anti-immigrant rhetoric is coming from members of DCCC, condemned weakening protections for immigrant communities, spoke about experience with her immigrant students and families; *Reid Chalker* (President of SF for Democracy) works as paralegal in criminal law, spoke about how law does punish felons, spoke against violent felon law, wants to keep local sanctuary city as is; *Rafael Trujillo* (ADEM 17) as criminal defense lawyer has represented many young people who are undocumented, violent felon measure is a trick; *Li Lovett* (ADEM 19) spoke in favor of existing sanctuary law, has worked with undocumented students; *Gianpaolo Veronese* spoke in favor of violent felon act, supported Angela and her husband for helping undocumented folks get the correct paperwork; *Carlos Porras* union worker in SF, spoke about perspective of immigrant workers and protect members of our immigrant community.

Public Comment ended at 8:41 pm

5. Reports

Chair Campos moved item 5 to later in the agenda in order to address issues that members of the public were interested in.

6. Discussion of the San Francisco Democratic Party's Political Program and Financial Contributions for the June 5, 2018 Election (Campos, T. Hsieh)

Chair Campos provided background on SF DCCC political program for June 2018 election and slate card program, had copies of mailers - 3 slate cards were put out, including one in Spanish and all three were issued in accordance with policies and procedures Article 6, Section 7.6 and included Supervisor Jeff Sheehy, despite fact that he was asked to contribute to program but did not, in past practices candidates are excluded if they do not pay into program, described additional mailings in District 8 that focused on specific candidates; Spoke about Veritas contribution, record of tenants issues are reflected in work on members on the body and agrees in sending a clear message that we do not stand for evictions, made a motion to make contribution in same amount made by Veritas of \$10,000, once we have funds in budget, make equivalent contribution to Housing Rights Committee, which does work to prevent tenant evictions. *Member Alexander* reviewed state income documents, read out itemized donations that were received over \$1,000 since January 2018 - SF Firefighters PAC: \$3,000, BMWL Partners: \$3,000, SEIU-UHWW PAC: \$3,000, United Educators PAC: \$1,000, Phil Ting 2018: \$1,000, SF Baseball Associates: \$1500, SEIU 1021 PAC: \$10,000, Golden State Warriors: \$1,000, Mark Leno for Mayor: \$5,000, Living Wage for Educators: \$3,500, NUHW PAC: \$5,000, Retain Our Judges: \$15,000, Suresh Patel: \$1,000, Yerba Buena Commons Associates: \$10,000, 7 Hills: \$5,000, Jane Kim for Mayor: \$2,500, Rafael Mandelman: \$1,000, Yes on A: \$10,000, Yes on C: \$5,000, IFPTE 21: \$5,000, Veritas: \$10,000, Clint Reilly: \$10,000, Brown & Caldwell: \$2,500; reviewed documents for expenses; *Chair Campos* mentioned normally the DCCC does a slate card in November but due to Mayor's race in June, decision was made to have slate card made in June; *Member T. Hsieh* thanked Chair Campos for explanation of slate cards that went out that did not featuring #2 endorsed candidate for D8, Jeff Sheehy, mentioned slate cards normally featured endorsed candidates who did not contribute to slate, not pay to play organization, proposed including all candidates regardless of pay *Member Wiener* mentioned historically placing endorsed candidates who did not pay on the slate card, spoke against leaving off Assemblymembers Ting and Chiu on June slate; *Chair Campos* recalled that, as a candidate, it was communicated to him he needed to pay to be on slate card, but moving forward he can make policy to place endorsed candidates who don't pay on card; *Member Alexander* said we should check policy before pledging to change policy, particularly with filing requirements and in kind contribution reports; *Member Fewer* mentioned being told by SFDCCC

that she needed to pay to have picture on slate card for school board race; *Member Mandelman* thanked committee for putting together slate card, spoke about \$900,000 contribution that a Democratic club funneled in 2016; *Member Alioto* said we should have known about Veritas and their evictions, need tool in finance committee to oversee, we should have known; *Member Kim* wanted to acknowledge optics of slate card, wanted to set criteria or principles moving forward, wanted to see standard in mail or slate card program regardless of how much money they raise; *Sharon Johnson* (President, IADC) spoke about history as ED of SF DCCC in 70's and process and procedure when candidates were not asked to pay; *Corey Smith* (President, UDC) spoke about moving forward and even playing field; *Members Dufty, T. Hsieh, Low, Alexander, Gallotta, Wiener, Ma* volunteered for subcommittee to review contributions, *Member Dufty* volunteered to be chair of committee.

Motion to donate contribution: Member Campos; *Second:* Member Dufty

Vote Count: Ayes: 23, Nays: 0, Absent: 4; *Motion passes.*

Ayes: Alexander, Alioto, Baraka, Campos, Chan, DeJesus, Dufty, Fewer, Gallotta, Groth, Gupta, F. Hsieh, T. Hsieh, LaCroix, Levitan, Mahogany, Mandelman, Maxwell, Norton, Ma, Wiener, Ting, Chu

7. Review of Request for Proposals for Slate Mail Program for the November 6, 2018 General Election (Campos)

Chair Campos reviewed proposals received for November slate card program; *Member T. Hsieh* says if mail consultant violates laws they should not be able to bid; *Member Maxwell* mentioned this being a matter that can be discussed among the newly founded committee.

Motion to approve: Member Campos; *Second:* Member Dufty.

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

8. Discussion of the "Violent Felony Reporting Act," a Proposed Local Ballot Measure by SF DCCC Member Alioto (DeJesus)

Member DeJesus spoke on sanctuary city and due process ordinance history and work with community to bring forward and new proposal undermines this process, yielded floor to Saira Hussein, staff attorney from Asian Americans Advancing Justice Asian Law Caucus who gave a presentation on the existing law and concerns. *Member Alioto* wanted to speak out against misinformation against her ballot measure during public comment, wanted to change policy of body to speak first on item when item is called, clarified origins of sanctuary law; *Chair Campos* clarified about the confusion between two different ordinances - the Sanctuary City law and Due Process for All, there is misinformation and there is an atmosphere of fear; *Member Dufty* clarified purpose of public comment, opposed any vote or motion to interfere with public and being able to respond directly to public comment, which would interfere with public members'

right to speak to committee; *Member Ting* asked about five and seven year cutoff; *Member Alioto* responded that they were copying state law for dangerous felonies; *Member Alexander* spoke about concerns that give unclear parameters for city departments, called for protection for due process; *Member Alioto* reiterated that this only affects convicted felons; *Member Ma* asked for clarification on SB 54; *Saira Huissein* responded that it set a floor of how law enforcement should be acting with ICE; *Member Chan* echoed Member Dufty's concerns around being able to respond to public comment, should never interject when there is public comment; *Member Gallotta* echoed Member Dufty's comments, acknowledged members of public on how ballot measure will impact communities, opposes ballot measure; *Member T. Hsieh* asked members to keep debate on policy level instead of attacking members; *Member Mahogany* mentioned speaking on rhetoric, rather than ballot measure that will not be on November ballot, legislation would not be helping victims; *Member Low* doesn't believe immigration system should be embedded in criminal justice system; *Member Alioto* reiterated that the ordinance only pertains to people convicted of a violent felony, serial violent felons; *Saira Hussein* pointed out violent and serious felons, 50 offenses total not just the 3 Alioto has mentioned; *Kat Anderson* (President, City Democratic Club) spoke about respecting work of Member Angela Alioto and try to understand each other; *Member Maxwell* asked to postpone committee reports.

9. Resolution in Support of Abolishing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (Groth, Gallotta, F. Hsieh, Baraka, Lacroix)

Member Groth introduced resolution and spoke to personal history and experience with Japanese internment and tie to present day immigrants seeking refuge; *Member T. Hsieh* thinks this is a bad idea for our party, in focusing on flipping districts and feeds into Republicans in midterms, must be strategic; *Member Groth* pointed to resolution language that highlights 150 democrats that support this measure, including federal Senators and state Senator Scott Wiener, how ICE has changed since first founded; *Member Mandelman* asked a question about conflict between Board of Supervisors and SF DCCC actions; *Chair Campos* clarified that there was no conflict and broad mainstream support and this is an issue that mobilizes democratic base for midterm elections; *Member Alexander* this resolution does not need to address every issue and right next steps, let's start debate of how we want immigration to work in our country; *Member Baraka* requested to be added as cosponsor; *Member T. Hsieh* proposed amendment (failed)

Amendment(s): "in support of to call to abolish ice and to promote an alternative agency that will pursue immigration..."; Add Member Baraka as cosponsor

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

Vote Count: Ayes: 2, Nays: 15, Abstain: 4; *Motion fails.*

Ayes: T. Hsieh, Alioto *Nays:* Alexander, Baraka, Campos, Chan, DeJesus, Dufty, Fewer, Gallotta,

Groth, Gupta, F.Hsieh, LaCroix, Low, Mahogany, Mandelman *Abstentions*: Norton, Ma, Ting, Chiu

Motion to approve resolution: Member Groth; *Second*: Member Dufty

Vote Count: Ayes: 19, Nays: 2, Abstain: 1; *Motion passes*.

Ayes: Alexander, Baraka, Campos, Chan, DeJesus, Dufty, Gallotta, Groth, Gupta, F.Hsieh, LaCroix, Low, Mahogany, Mandelman, Norton, Ma, Wiener, Ting, Chiu; *Nayes*: Alioto, T. Hsieh; *Abstentions*: Fewer

10. Resolution Supporting the Decriminalization of Immigrant Communities and Condemning Any Action by San Francisco Democratic Party Leadership to Weaken Protections for the Immigrant Community (DeJesus, Campos, Alexander, Mahogany, Gallotta, Groth, Low, Chan, Dufty, Maxwell, Baraka)

Members requested to be added as cosponsors to the resolution.

Amendment(s): Requested to be added as cosponsors: Alexander, Low, Mahogany, Dufty, Maxwell, Baraka, Gupta

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

Vote Count: Ayes: 17, Nays: 2, Abstain: 2; *Motion passes*

Ayes: Alexander, Baraka, Campos, Chan, DeJesus, Dufty, Gallotta, Groth, Gupta, F.Hsieh, LaCroix, Low, Mahogany, Mandelman, Norton, Wiener, Ting; *Nayes*: Alioto, T. Hsieh; *Abstentions*: Ma, Chiu

11. Resolution Opposing California State Assembly Bill 84 (Gallotta)

Member Gallotta introduced measure and asked Regional Director Hene Kelly to speak to why it was bad and should be opposed; *Hene Kelly* gave background on Executive Board action and making Democratic Party more grassroots and problem with this bill - taking endorsements out of the hands of the caucuses and people of the party.

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

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation, *Abstentions*: T. Hsieh, Norton, Ma, Wiener, Ting, Chiu

12. New Business

Chair Campos will be bringing forth a resolution that deals with anti-LGBT measures in Congress and protections against discrimination; *Member DeJesus* will have amendments to bylaws/PPM to enforce \$500 contribution limits effort and will call for bylaws committee to discuss.

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:33 pm in memory of Nia Wilson.