

San Mateo County
Democratic Central Committee
General Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2020

Prior to Meeting

- Chair called the pre-meeting to order at 7:15pm.
- Chair handed the microphone to Speaker Series chair, Francesca Segre.
- She introduced Secretary of State Alex Padilla, who made the most pertinent point of the evening (GO NINERS!).
- He then described issues related to the upcoming election on March 3rd and general issues related to voting, voter registration, election law, and state & national politics.

Call to Order, Adoption of Agenda & Approval of Minutes

- The call to order occurred at 7:50pm by Committee Chair, Nicole Fernandez.
- The January, 2020 meeting agenda was adopted.
- The October, 2019 meeting minutes were approved.
- New visitors were asked to speak.
 - Chris Rasmussen, Redwood City, undecided
 - Chet Lexvold, District 2, ADEM, Bernie supporter
 - Tim Murphy, Warren
 - San Mateo resident, Warren
 - Victoria Sanchez De Alba, Pacifica, DCC District 3 candidate, undecided
 - Shikha Hamilton, running District 2, Barney the Dinosaur over trump
 - Rod Hsiao, SM BOE candidate, ADEM past delegate, proud of all the candidates in the race
 - Michael Smith, DCC District 4, RWC, Bernie supporter
 - Amanda Renteria, Interim Pres. Of Emerge America, any Dem for president
 - Chair: Good luck to all the candidates.
- Please check in on social media.

Executive Board Reports

Chair (Nicole Fernandez):

- Endorsements are on the agenda next. Chair handed microphone to Karen Maki to run the discussion.
- Karen Maki: She spoke about the committee who undertook the work of endorsements.
- We endorsed all ballot measures and the three supervisor candidates who submitted their application.
- We recommend the committee endorse on a consent calendar.
- Endorsements were adopted without discussion or debate, unanimously.
- Chair gave a lot of praise to the members of the endorsements committee. There was a lot of work doing endorsements. Karen Maki and Brigid O'Farrell were both named volunteers of the year at the December meeting.
- Chair reminded committee of our upcoming Cocktails and Candidates event on January 30.
- Under 21 allowed, but will be carded.
- Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis will be our special speaker.
- Please share the event with your social media feed.
- We have a lot of volunteer spots to fill.
- Chair asked Harini Krishnan to speak about the event and volunteers. She said we need people at registration desk, clean up, moving tables, serving food. We need trucks. We need people to make food. We seem low on that.
- Chair: please volunteer or at least buy a ticket. Or both.
- Sponsors: Josh Becker, Supervisor Canepa, Rep. Anna Eshoo, Sen. Jerry Hill, Asm. Kevin Mullin, Asm. Phil Ting, IBEW 617, Asm. Marc Berman, SMC Office of Education Candidate Chelsea Bonini, Michael Duncheon, Rod Hsiao, Harini Krishnan, Lisa Diaz-Nash, San Mateo Councilmember Diane Papan, Belmont Vice Mayor Charles Stone, Sen. Scott Wiener, Karen Maki—full list is on website.
- If you are one of the sponsors, please speak with Chelsea Bonini to arrange details and logistics for the event.
- Volunteers sign up will be posted on social media. Please sign up. Event is at 7, but we need volunteers at 5:30.
- Moving venues. Great relationship with TWU, but we're excited to move to IBEW in February. When the venue opens in August or September, we will have our meetings there. Public transit, on ECR is best. ADA and parking needs.

Northern Vice Chair (Cliff Robbins):

- Want to reiterate thanks to Karen Maki and Brigid O'Farrell for the hard work last year.

Southern Vice Chair (Karen Maki):

- No report.

Controller (Nancy Yarbrough):

- Thank you to TJ Glauthier for doing the finance report for the last few months. He helped us with budget. The finance committee is meeting soon to look at the two year cycle budget. You'll see that next month.
- Made a little money on the convention luncheon.
- Convinced retrieving our \$1,100 deposit from the venue we ended up not using.
- Dues are due soon.
- About \$95K.
- Chair, we are not having a picnic. We're doing the fundraiser in January and that's the only one. You could also give us a donation.

Recording Secretary (Mitchell Oster):

- No report.

Corresponding Secretary (Alexis Lewis):

- Chelsea Bonini: Thank you for everyone who helped with the holiday party. Those who cooked, cleaned up. Thank you to Sharrie for organizing. And that we were able to give left over food to local charities.
- Bay Area Border Relief had items donated to them. There were also items for LifeMoves and some toys.
- January 18, Foster City Assn of Black Residents, MLK event.

Standing Committee Reports

Finance:

- No report.

Endorsements:

- No report.

Events:

- Harini: We'll have a photo booth at the January event.
- Chair: Cutouts of Obama, and others.

Bylaws:

- No report.

Resolutions:

- David Burruto: Ashleigh Evans has a resolution to consider.
- Evans: I was approached by the California Clean Money Campaign to help with DISCLOSE Act. The latest one is the Ballot DISCLOSE Act. We get the packet before the election. With lots of arguments and rebuttals, etc. It's very

confusing. They have come up with the idea that each proposition would have some of the info to the ballot itself. 30 words. 15 for support and 15 opposed. A poll was done and 79% said they'd like this. The opposition is from the agency that is responsible for putting out the ballot. They never want to do anything to change the ballot. We're trying to drum up support. SMCDFA has endorsed and many others. It will come up in the legislature in March. I am asking for urgency consideration so we can speak with legislators in February.

- Burruto: 60% required to pass for urgency consideration. Unanimously passed with abstentions. Ting, Berman, abstain.

Election Integrity:

- Brent Turner: I wanted to be appropriately cordial to the secretary of state. We were very kind to him. We know that the voting systems are not the gold standard. We have paper ballots which is good. But we don't have what we need. We need true open source. I object to what he said. We should do better than what we have. We are in motion in SF and want to do more in San Mateo.
- Sam: Were you not pleased with his visit? On a scale of 1-100?
- Brent: 2. He's done nothing.
- John Woodell: I was please they do not certify unless they look at the source code. If you do an app, they must review the source code. That's good. But I support Brent pushing.

Voter Registration:

- April Vargas: Serramonte and Hillsdale events are planned. Yang campaign are going to attend, but aren't registering. They will direct people to our table.
- Chair: Voter reg is the backbone of our efforts.

Welcoming Committee:

- Sharrie Kriger: April is the most organized person. She asked me when we took the food from the holiday party to Safe Harbor if they'd be interested in doing a voter reg event. We made a link there. We might have an event soon.

Communication & Technology:

- No report.

Congressional Report:

- Greg Loew: What happened in the last two days only happened because we worked so hard in 2018 to take back the House. And it's not going to happen in the Senate because we don't have enough people there. Please pay attention and keep giving small donations. I'll send the list to Mitch to send out to everyone.

Leadership Development

- Chair: We had a great program last year and there will be more to do this year. Lining up speakers. Diana came last year. It was great. Brigid and Julie from Labor came. It was great. If you're interested in signing up, please keep an eye out. It's totally free.

Speaker Series

- Francesca Segre: Please let us know if you have anyone you'd like to see.

Outreach Subcommittee

- Eric Siegel: If you have someone who wants to volunteer, we'll work with you to connect you to our affiliated organizations. Blue Wave fusion calendar is up again. NorCalBlue.org. Spreadsheet with 50-60 groups we need to update with contact info. We also want to update with all elected officials.
- Action item for each month. So we're active doing stuff with these groups.
- Longer term, we want to connect with those groups so we know what they need from us and what we can offer to them.
- They sometimes have candidates with enthusiasm and we know how to get them elected. We should work together. Come see me to discuss.

Clubs Liaison

- Chelsea Bonini: Fundraiser on 30th. We offered tabling space to clubs. We have heard from our clubs. 4 of them. If any of the others are here, please let me know if you'd like a table. It's a great opportunity.

New Business

- None.

Regional Director, Legislative, and Clubs Reports

Region 6 Director:

- Hene Kelly: Yesterday, my husband and I spent the day at the Harry Potter play. It was a mistake. We bought them on the wrong day so we went. I made him watch all 8 HP movies before.
- We're going to have a very interesting Executive Board meeting in March in Visalia. Marriot hotel. Union. Convention Center is union. It is accessible. If you're interested in putting in any resolutions, please get them in. Legislation request, Feb. 19 by 5pm is the deadline. We worked hard on the platform. This year is a legislation year. Our region 6 meeting will be before Feb. 19 so we can look at the resolutions. I think it's going to be really nice. You should all come.

Please get a proxy if you can't make it. I'm looking forward to it. It's an interesting time to be a Dem.

Congresswoman Jackie Speier (CA-14):

- Brian Perkins: Town Hall a week from tonight. SSF HS. 7:00-8:30. Special Guest. You're all invited.
- Virginia became the 38th state. Cong. Speier is sponsoring a bill to remove the deadline. Pending legislation in the Senate to do the same. We'll do it the next time we control both the House and Senate.
- She did introduce 8 bills regarding airport noise. Curfews. Questions, please see me.
- Hene Kelly: Please thank the congresswoman for the time she's spent in the media explaining what the constitution, a trial, and impeachment is.
- Jon Levinson: She was on KGO this morning and she was excellent. There seemed to be a few times she almost swore.
- Perkins: She went to Mercy and doesn't swear.
- Eventbrite for our town hall next week.

Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (CA-18):

- No report.

State Senator Scott Wiener (SD-11):

- Jeff Sparks: Now that legislature is in session. SB 859, aids one. Planned blackouts bill would require pay an hourly fee when blackouts. SB 855 mental health legislation co-authored by Sen. Hill. Requires insurance to pay all bills not just if you're in an emergency.
- SB 50 was amended in January. The first bill amended this year. We've taken a lot of input. It delays implementation for 2 years and let's cities the opportunity to make different arrangements.
- Loew: Some are against because there isn't enough affordable housing.
- Sparks: Unfortunately we've implemented exclusionary housing zoning. This would allow more to happen.
- Papan: Is it still discriminatory against certain counties.
- Sparks: Yes, this still only applies to larger counties.

State Senator Jerry Hill (SD-13):

- Joan Dentler: \$220B budget came to us last week. Highlights for housing, homelessness, education, wildfire prevention.
- Legislators are back in session. They have an upcoming deadline. Some bills from last year.
- SB 793 is a carryover from last year. 30 co-authors as well as the Lt. Governor. Menthol, vaping, flavored cigars, hookah from stores.

- OBAL contest. Go on to our website. He has consistently chosen from there just about every year. JoJo's law came this way. Came from a constituent.
- Events. Nothing in SMC. 25th in Mt. View, Java with Jerry. And here in February.

Assemblymember Phil Ting (AD-19):

- Alex Walker: Mention we're back in session. More bills coming in 2020: Recycling, PG&E, etc.
- Governor sent us his budget.
- Events: Thursday, Feb. 6, 1-3 at the SF State bldg. on McAllister for Lunar New Year. Friday, March 13, noon to 2pm, SSF Philz coffee, joint town hall with Kevin Mullin. March 19 at 6pm, place TBD, budget town hall to hear about the process and other reports on how things are going.

Assemblymember Kevin Mullin (AD-22):

- No report.

Assemblymember Marc Berman (AD-24):

- No report.

Coastside Democratic Club:

- No report.

Hillsborough Democratic Club:

- No report.

North Peninsula Democratic Club:

- No report.

Pacifica-Daly City Democrats:

- No report.

Peninsula Democratic Coalition:

- No report.

Peninsula Young Democrats:

- Alex Melendrez: January 29th is next meeting. Officers selected. Our club endorsed SB 50, FYI.
- Jordan Grimes – DEMYimbys is a new club.

San Mateo County Democracy for America:

- Ashleigh Evans: January meeting we talk about our priorities. Health Care – Single Payer. Diana Reddy will head up our housing task force. 2020 Elections with Greg Loew is chair. Legislative Bills looks at state leg bills.

- Feb. 5 is our next meeting. Super Tuesday preview. One of our guests is Jim Irizari from SMC. We invite everyone to attend. Anyone who is on the ballot might want to come.

Lightning Round (one-minute announcements/remarks)

- Dan Stegnik: I've been working with Warren. Running for District 3. I am also running for Warren to the convention.
- Jon Levinson: Next Monday is MLK day. If you'd like to volunteer, please look us up on the website.
- HK: There are 8 seats up for the senate. I am also a co-host for a Kelly for Senate in AZ event. Please support my Christy Smith event. Katie Hill seat. Fund Her started by Valerie McGinty flipped 2 VA seats that lead to the ERA vote.
- Shikha: We were in Sacramento and passed a bill out of committee that would send a letter home to every parent about safe storage law. Reminding them of the law that they need to lock up their guns.
- April Northrup: Schools and Communities First signature gatherer. If you are a voter, please see me. Could mean \$12B for schools. I am also running for DCC in District 2.
- Sandra Lang; Shout out to TWU. I was a former member. Flight attendants could be women because TWU fought for that. Menlo Park event for climate change Senate candidates. Environmental justice and some practical solutions were presented. We should be proud of our Senate candidates.
- Chet Lexvold: I founded SMC chapter of Democratic Socialists. We endorsed Diana Reddy. We joined the UNITE HERE. I'm organizing canvasses for Bernie Sanders.
- Sam Manneh: On a serious note. I want to send prayers to the troops who were injured in Iraq. And thoughts to our veterans here in the room. God bless them.
- Francesca Segre: We had Amanda Renteria in the room. We have a fundraiser on Feb. 6th for women in politics. Please see me.
- Steven Booker: I want to let you know that our own Erin Chazer will be working for the Central Labor Council.
- Chair: Thank you to Steven Booker for letting us move our meetings to IBEW 617 starting next month.
- Please be careful with the water in the back of the room.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 9:12pm in prayer for our service members.