

San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee
GENERAL MEETING AGENDA
May 20, 2021

6:45 PM - Log in Time

7:00 PM - Speaker - Nicole Restmeyer, Asm David Chiu's transit staffer, discusses the Seamless Bay Area legislative proposal, AB629.

7:30 PM - Call to Order

Adoption of May General Meeting agenda

- Motioned by Jon Levinson, seconded by Nick Ackers; 22 votes in favor.

Approval of April General Meeting minutes

- Motioned by Andrea Reyna, seconded by April Vargas with her amendment; 22 votes in favor.

7:35 PM - Executive Board Reports

- Chair Maki reports to members the following:
 - DSCC members should have received an invitation to apply for State Standing committees. Applications are due on 6/4. Members should contact the chair if they would like a recommendation.
 - The San Mateo County Democratic Party is working with the Peninsula Democratic Club and others to put on a rally opposing the recall of the governor. They are hoping that Gov. Newsom will attend.
 - The Democratic Party of 5 Counties are putting on a fundraiser on May 27th from 7-8:30 PM. The participating counties are Santa Clara, Kings County, Stanislaus County, San Joaquin County, Contra Costa County and Santa Clara County. Register at Tickets: bit.ly/valleyblue22
 - The Kings County Get Out the Vaccine Phonebank <https://www.mobilize.us/cadems/event/384857/> that will be held this coming Sunday at 1PM as a part of an effort to help people get Covid vaccine information and at the same time clean up the list of phone numbers that will be used in the next CA21 campaign.
 - Please remember to submit information about Club meetings and legislator events to calendar@smcdems.org so we post them on our website.

- Controller Nancy Yarborough shares that the San Mateo County Democratic Party will be hosting a FPPC training entitled “Campaign and Club Finance 101 - Do's and Dont’s” on Monday, June 21, 2021 at 7 PM.

7:45 PM - Election of State E-Board Representatives

The Central Committee is required to name new E-Board Reps after CADEM Convention. The bylaws name the chair as one of the representatives, but the other two members are selected from DSCC members.

- David Burruto nominates Nick Akers, and Nicole Fernandez nominates Erin Chazer. With 24 votes in support, both nominations are approved.

7:50 PM - Equity Pledge Resolution

- Committee Co-Chairs David Burruto and Karen Tuzman outline the Resolution Committee’s review of the proposed pledge resolution (https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ttmeJEsVjY6sfmkG3dPdhZujek1DQMSdM8afbh_V5cc/edit).
- Rudy Espinoza, author of the resolution, presents on the Equity Pledge’s background and what its program would entail for current elected officials.
- With 14 votes in support, 11 in opposition, and 4 abstentions, the motion passes. Final language listed below:

Equity Endorsement Pledge (EEP) Encouraging San Mateo County Elected Officials and Influential Endorsers to help dismantle White Supremacy, systemic racism, sexism, and ableism.

WHEREAS non-male identifying people, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) are underrepresented at all elected leadership levels in San Mateo County; When our leaders endorse candidates far in advance of their elections based on preexisting relationships, candidates with disabilities, those who identify as non-male or LGBTQ+, and BIPOC candidates are less likely to run for and win elected office; and

WHEREAS San Mateo County suffers from systemic underrepresentation in our elected positions; San Mateo County’s population is 62% BIPOC; in contrast, our Board of Supervisors is 100% white; APIs and Latinos, who make up half of the region’s population, hold just 13% of top elected positions; and people who identify as male are overrepresented in elected positions; and

WHEREAS the Equity Endorsement Pledge follows a diverse-slate approach, which requires the consideration of a diverse slate of qualified candidates for open positions to

help mitigate similarity bias, the tendency people have to surround themselves with others who share similar interests, experiences, and backgrounds;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee calls upon elected officials and influential individuals to take the [Equity Endorsement Pledge](#) and to commit to the provisions therein for candidates who are registered Democrats.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee will transmit this resolution to all its chartered clubs, elected officials, unions, and influential people.

8:10 PM - Resolution in Support of Medicare for All Act of 2021, H.R. 1976

- Ashleigh Evans, author of the proposed resolution, performs a first reading of the drafted language (listed below). The resolution will be considered by members at the June meeting.

San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee Resolution in Support of the Medicare for All Act of 2021, H.R. 1976

WHEREAS the United States, the wealthiest country in the world, has worse health outcomes than the other 36 industrialized nations (according to the World Health Organization), with higher infant mortality, higher maternal mortality, and more avoidable deaths, yet costs more than twice as much per capita as in those other countries which provide every member of their population with healthcare; and

WHEREAS physician groups attribute high burnout rates to the administrative time/cost burden of fighting with thousands of private insurance companies for care their patients need, and more than 40% of personal bankruptcies are due to medical costs, with a third of patients not filling prescriptions due to cost, and businesses describing healthcare costs as the single most inefficient line item in their cost structure damaging their ability to compete internationally; and

WHEREAS employer-based insurance amplifies egregious health inequities in the United States (as Martin Luther King, Jr. noted, “Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane.”), leaving nearly 100 million Americans un-insured or under-insured;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee supports H.R. 1976, calling upon Congress to rectify this untenable patchwork of absurd, immoral, expensive healthcare by adopting a single payer universal healthcare system, to improve care, save costs, and increase access; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be provided to Congresswoman Anna G. Eshoo, Congresswoman Jackie Speier (thanking her for co-sponsoring H.R. 1976), Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Alex Padilla, HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra, Vice President Kamala Harris and President Joseph Biden.

8:15 PM - Summer Picnic

- Controller Nancy Yabrough shares the committee's desire to host an in-person Summer Picnic, and expresses the need for volunteers.
- 10 members volunteer to help at the event, and 13 people raise their hands to express interest in attending such an event.

8:25 PM - Standing Committee Plans

- Chair Maki asks members to consider these committee plans and think about:
 - Whether the mission statement matches the Central Committee's Democratic values
 - Whether the goals are doable and whether they are something members want accomplished on behalf of the Central Committee.

Leadership Development Committee

- Robert Bernardo, Committee Co-Chair, outlines the group's mission and goals on growing the organization's diversity and preparing members to run for elected office in the future.
- With 15 votes in support, the committee's proposed goals and vision statements pass.

Bylaws Committee

- With 20 votes in support, the committee's proposed goals and vision statements pass.

Voter Integrity Committee

- Brent Turner, Committee Co-Chair, shares the group's proposed goals and vision statements aimed to educate the state and national party regarding election system security.
- With 15 votes in support, the committee's proposed goals and vision statements pass.

Climate Committee

- Nicole Kemeny, Committee Co-Chair, shares the group's proposed goals and vision to educate and lobby city & county officials to reduce greenhouse emissions and plan for impacts of climate change.

- Three Central Committee members had questions about the goals. Chair Maki tables the discussion to the June meeting to allow committee members to make final edits.

8:45 PM 2021 Goal Plans

See plans [here](#)

Housing Task Force

- Alex Melendrez, Task Force Co-Chair, lists the group's primary goals for the remainder of the year, included but not limited to: promote economic relief efforts, provide educational opportunities, and present a resolution to the Central Committee.
- With 17 votes in support, the committee's proposed goals statement passes.

Free Junior College Task Force

- John Pimentel, Task Force Co-Chair, describes the committee's goals to educate, advocate and organize for free community college in San Mateo County, and then statewide.
- With 19 votes in support, the committee's proposed goals statement passes.

Diversity Task Force

- Alexis Lewis, Task Force Co-Chair, summarizes the members' goals to identify potential candidates and develop new endorsement protocols for the 2022 elections.
- With 19 votes in support, the committee's proposed goals statement passes.

Police Reform Task Force

- The Task Force asked to defer their presentation until June. Chair Maki tables the discussion to the June meeting.

9:10 PM Standing Committee Reports - Please send reports to Recording Secretary Elmer Martinez at elmermartinez17@yahoo.com. We will ask for volunteers for 1-minute reports.

- Brigid O'Farrell (Programming Committee) announces that Daniel Herriges, founding member of StrongTowns, will be the June meeting guest speaker.

9:15 PM Regional Director and Legislative Reports -

- No reports.

9:25 PM Club Reports - Please send reports to Recording Secretary Elmer Martinez at elmermartinez17@yahoo.com. We will ask for volunteers for 1-minute reports. Please provide information about meetings to calendar@smcdems.org.

- Ashleigh Evans (Democracy for America) shares that the next DFA meeting will be on June 2nd at 7pm. Aaron Frank, founder of Focus for Democracy and professor at the University of San Francisco, will be the guest speaker.

9:30 PM Lightning Round One-minute announcements

- Rudy Espinoza (SMC Latinx Democrats) shares that the club will be celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. State Controller and CDP Vice-Chair Betty Yee, Jefferson School District Trustee Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i, and Harbor Board President and Director of the Menlo Park Fire District, Virginia Chang Kiraly will be featured speakers on May 25 at 7 pm.
- Juslyn Manalo (Filipino-American Democratic Club) announces that the club will be supporting a virtual campaign kick-off in support of Gov. Gavin Newsom. Additionally, the club will be supporting wellness and self-defense training in Daly City; proceeds will go to the creation of community watch programs to patrol. Interested members should contact her for more details.
- Chris Sturken (SMC Stonewall Democrats) will be hosting a Sexual Orientation Gender Identity Expression (SOGIE) training for elected officials and interested members. Event details will be finalized and shared very soon.
- Alexis Lewis comments on the police shootings of people of color throughout the country and locally in the Bay Area. She urges members to invite people of different backgrounds for coffee or a meal to expand one's perspective.
- Denton Murphy is collaborating with Peninsula DSA on a Medi-Care for All resolution to be considered by the South San Francisco City Council in the coming weeks. He welcomes interested members to contact him to learn how to get involved.
- Diana Reddy (Democracy for America) will be writing to Gov. Newsom and requesting that he extend the Statewide eviction moratorium. She suggests that clubs consider submitting their own letters and can provide templates if needed.
- April Vargas comments on the death of Roger Allen, the SF resident recently killed by Daly City police. She shares that more than 100 community members attended his vigil, and she's grateful that the council voted in support of officer body cameras and have now requested the State's support in investigating Mr. Allen's death.
- Dan Stegink thanks members supporting Gov. Gavin Newsom's campaign, and he refers to a local poll conducted by San Mateo Daily Journal that suggested 55% of the paper's readership are in support of recalling the governor.

- Alex Melendrez highlights that May is “Affordable Housing Month”, so the Housing Leadership Council will be celebrating with informational events in the coming weeks. More information could be found at <http://hlcsmc.org/>
- John Woodell mentions that Broadmoor’s police officers do not currently wear body cameras, and calls for the creation of a resolution to urge the county’s police departments who have not already implemented the tool to do so.

9:40 PM Adjournment

- Motion by Andrea Reyna, seconded by Diana Reddy.