

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

6:30pm

Tenderloin Community Elementary School

627 Turk Street

San Francisco, CA

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 6:45 pm by Chair, David Campos

Roll Call by Recording Secretary F. Hsieh

Members present: Alysabeth Alexander (proxy: Frances Hsieh), Angela Alioto, Keith Baraka, Tami Bryant, David Campos, Jen Chan, Petra DeJesus, Bevan Dufty (proxy: Rafael Mandelman), Peter Gallotta, Kelly Groth, Pratima Gupta (proxy: Adam Mehis), Frances Hsieh, Tom Hsieh, Mary Jung, Jane Kim, Leah LaCroix, Meagan Levitan, Jen Low, Honey Mahogany, Rafael Mandelman, Sophie Maxwell, Rachel Norton, Sarah Souza

Ex-Officio Members: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (proxy: Kathleen Dowling-McDonough); Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis (proxy: Kate Maeder); Board of Equalization Member Malia Cohen (proxy: Tyra Fennell); State Senator Scott Wiener (proxy: Matthew Rothschild); Assemblymember Phil Ting (proxy: Alex Walker); Assemblymember David Chiu (proxy: Katie MacKenzie)

Members absent/excused: Sandra Lee Fewer, Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi, U.S. House Representative Jackie Speier, State Treasurer Fiona Ma

29 members present, 4 members absent.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Chair Campos addressed rumors of potential agenda item regarding disciplinary action towards a specific member, instead there is an item for general discussion regarding code of conduct (item 7); *Chair Campos* also discussed request to add item 9 due to urgency of matter being considered at the upcoming U.C. Board of Regents meeting; *Member T. Hsieh* asked that item be delayed to next month, questioned urgency, felt it would still be timely on next month's agenda for discussion; *Member Jung* seconded T. Hsieh's motion; *Chair Campos* stated that, although this procedure is not common, he believed in discussion and adding things to agenda when warranted; *Member Alioto* asked for a point of clarification about whether an action would be taken

Amendment(s): Added item 9 (required a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote threshold) to the meeting agenda.

Motion to delay item: Member T. Hsieh; *Second:* Member Jung

Motion to amend agenda: Member Baraka; *Second:* Member Maxwell

Vote Count: Ayes: 22; Nays: 3; Abstentions: 2; Absent: 6

Ayes: Alexander, Baraka, Bryant, Campos, Chan, DeJesus, Dufty, Gallotta, Groth, Gupta, F. Hsieh, LaCroix, Levitan, Mahogany, Mandelman, Maxwell, Souza, Kounalakis, Cohen, Wiener, Ting, Chiu

Nays: Alioto, T. Hsieh, Jung,

Abstentions: Norton, Feinstein

Motion to approve agenda as amended: Member Souza; *Second:* Member LaCroix

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

3. Approval of April Meeting Minutes

Member Baraka requested an amendment to reflect request for public to give input on voter registration events and locations for the Democratic Party to participate, public can make requests by reaching out to Keith through Facebook or contacting Han.

Amendment(s): amending Member Baraka's report

Motion to approve as amended: Member LaCroix; *Second:* Member Bryant

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

4. General Public Comment

Public Comment began at 7:00 pm

Richard Knee freelance journalist, spoke about the case of journalis Carmody, violation of 1st amendment rights and shield law, asked for resolution to condemn action; *Susan Shain* SwingLeft SF, thanked body for working in collaboration, focusing on CD10 and CD21, spoke about upcoming work to phone bank into Fresno and Oakland, and plans for Resistance Bootcamp; *Maxine Doogan* (Erotic Service Providers Union) asked for support for CDP resolution to decriminalize sex workers and thanked for support for SB 237 and invited everyone to June 1st rally at noon outside of Convention; *Susan Pfeifer* (Democracy Action) invited people to Supervisor Gordon Mar Public Safety Townhall on Sunday, phone banking on May 25, 11 am, Richmond District, calling voters in Arizona to register to vote, more information at www.demaction.us, recommended expanding voter registration outside of graduation ceremonies at Civic Center, reminded people to remember times pre-Roe in 1973 and need to share stories; *Aimee Alden* (UCSF) UCSF shares democratic values and commitment to reproductive care and LGBTQ issues, spoke about people's lives and access to patient beds and more care, here to answer questions and asked for fuller conversation; *Gloria Berry* spoke in support of conversations on code of conduct, understood current lack of procedures in bylaws, felt that member has not given a remorseful, sincere apology that has not been qualified with justifications, supported Fewer's Office of Racial Equity legislation, wants DCCC to support Fewer's efforts and continue work on Black Agenda Committee to add endorsement questions about candidates' black agenda; *Li Miao Lovett* 15 years at City College, supported diversity for the breadth of classes at City College matters, spoke about students' experiences with LGBTQ, language, political classes, CCSF is lifeblood of the community, diversity of classes matter; *Lisa King* (Wealth and Disparities in the Black Community) shared thoughts about how to move forward, need to support each other, use of both explosive words and silence, cultural competency can help get through issues together, must model solidarity by showing up; *Dede Hewitt* (SHERO, Black Leadership Forum) urged body to take a step back, spoke about legacy of Angela Alioto in black community, matter of interpretation, compared to work of John Burton,

should not act in the moment and emotionally, use protocols and code of conduct and not alienate people who have empowered communities; *Ben Paul* supported call for DCCC to adopt black agenda and supported Phelicia Jones' work and efforts; *Andy Hlebakos* felt that outrage from last meeting was directed at the wrong place, outrage should be focused on what is happening everyday; *Twanda Bailey* addressed incident last month, use of N-word by Alioto did not offend her, it was a teachable moment what offended her was the lack of action by the City in her case when the epithet was directed at her by her coworker; *Member Maxwell* stated that it was never appropriate to use racial epithet was not acceptable, nor use of any word that would offend anybody; *Nati Ramirez* spoke in support of Twanda Bailey, spoke about experience going through City system and EEO, and need to join together to address the racism, harassment faced by City workers and help workers; *Phelicia Jones* (Wealth and Disparities in the Black Committee, Justice for Mario Woods, SEIU 1021) reminded people of 3 reports in 55 years and black people are still worse off, was offended by Member Alioto's use of N-word 6 times, asked why someone didn't say anything, word is offensive no matter who uses it, the status quo has to stop, cannot be window dressing, it is time for change; *Chair Campos* clarified that he did speak up last month that it was inappropriate to use racial epithet; *Ruthie Sakheim* felt use of N-word is off table for anyone white because of connotations, use of word re-traumatizes, need to reprogram ourselves; *Roxanne* looked forward to when derogatory words in the transgender community would receive as much attention, offended that banners were not allowed on City Hall steps for Harvey Milk march, supported rights of Carmody, please stand with transgender community and don't stand with Dignity; *Matthew Fox* (Wealth and Disparities in the Black Committee, Justice for Mario Woods) supported Phelicia Jones, appreciated efforts, but taskforce needs accountability and deadlines; *Supervisor Shaman Walton* asked for support for item 8 and legislation to close Juvenile Hall, spoke about the reality of Juvenile Hall, experience does not reverse pipeline to prison, instead prepares for incarceration, spoke about legislation details, change of use of funds, and establishment of taskforce; *Robert Jones* spoke in support of Member Alioto, urged to not fight among selves when under real attack by real racists, need to work together and move forward on the real fight; *Gian Paolo Veronese* spoke on behalf of his mother, that it was time to come together, she spoke from the heart; *Anonymous* there's a difference between talking about a word and using that word; *Carolyn Goodman* has known Member Alioto for 40 years, knows for a fact she is not a racist and is a good person; *h. Brown* stated that Member Alioto is a great person

Public Comment closed at 7:45 pm

5. Reports

a) Chair (Campos) - spoke about work around Convention and events, invited everyone to visit booth and Saturday night party, convention is an opportunity to showcase the SF Democratic Party, but also who we are as a City; save the date for fundraising dinner on August 21st with Nancy Pelosi; reviewed financial report, August dinner is main fundraiser federal account: \$6,400 state account: \$12,000, allows to maintain current costs until fundraiser; spoke briefly about recurring donor program

b) Finance (DeJesus) - spoke in more detail about small donor program, a small price to pay to make sure the party has the resources to get out the vote in November, every election has consequences, easy way to give, asked members to commit to each finding 2 donors to contribute

c) Voter Registration (Baraka) - spoke about conversations and plans with Vote.org, will be

dependent on fundraising dinner, spoke other side of voter registration, which is activation and turn out of those registered to actual vote, reiterated ask for public to submit community events either personally to Keith via Facebook or through Executive Director: zhihan_zou@sfdemocrats.org

d) Club Chartering (Gupta) - thanked people for all their work on democratic clubs and plugged women's caucus meeting on Saturday morning at 8:00 am and recommendation to get there early at 7:45 am to secure a seat

e) Outreach (LaCroix) - gave update on Black Agenda Committee; spoke about engagement event at upcoming Juneteenth activities, will be working with committee on an event

f) Treasurer (Alexander) - report given by *Chair Campos*; *Member Wiener* requested clarification on convention costs item

g) Partnerships (Maxwell) - thanked people for showing up with partner events, thrilled about turn out at pre-convention meeting, took back the House, next plans are to take back the Senate and Presidency, many upcoming events and activities

h) Committees

Convention Planning (Souza) - will be registering voters during Carnival weekend with Latino Democratic Club

Communications (Gallotta) - thanked for those who came out to pre-convention meeting on Saturday, will be following up with folks who attended, so much happening next weekend, will be sending out events list, for questions or events to flag, please email info@sfdemocrats.org, tag photos with #proudsfdemocrats

Internship (Gupta) - new intern class, agenda packet has one pager to introduce them, interns will be attending next meeting; if members have opportunities for interns, please contact her

i) Executive Director (Zou) - a lot is going on for convention as has already been stated, over 350 RSVPs for Saturday SF DCCC party, have over 60 volunteers for booth, will have t-shirts, water bottles, and buttons; date is set for fundraiser August 21st, honoring Speaker Nancy Pelosi; due to summer school schedule, next meeting will be at Mission Pool and Playground at 19th and Linda Streets

j) CDP Region 6 Update (Kelly) - absent

6. Presentation from AFT 2121 on Recent Cuts to City College Classes and Impacts to Faculty and Students (Gallotta)

Speaker: James Tracy, Political Director, AFT 2121 - in Sacramento for lobby day

Motion to postpone to June meeting: Member Gallotta; Second: Member Souza

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

7. Discussion about Establishing a Code of Conduct for Democratic County Central Committee Members (Campos)

Chair Campos clarified this policy would be directed towards members, not public, spoke about having engaged and open conversation and a process to be welcoming; proposed working committee to draft proposal and bring back to body, invited community members to be engaged, work should reflect values of Democratic Party, mostly internal and as guidelines for those who visit the meeting, SF can be a model, will start to meet after convention, goal is to

have a progress report for June meeting; *Member T. Hsieh* reminded committee about undertaking this effort in 2015, civil discourse was heated, public became agitated, people were assaulted, situation became dangerous and people were frightened, speech cannot be regulated, but he will send guidelines developed previously, cannot disparage each other, debate should be on issue not directed at each other; *Chair Campos* acknowledged that there is not a perfect policy, but have an obligation to do our best to make a recommendation to the body, asked for *Member T. Hsieh's* involvement due to experience and history; *Member Bryant* stated that what can be said in a courtroom is not appropriate in public, not said in malice, but certain words are not acceptable in a public space; *Member Norton* offered School Board perspective for governance standards, and asked for other samples; *Chair Campos* stated that it is not the absence of mistakes, but how we handle those mistakes that define who we are and what our values are

Members requesting to be added to working committee: Bryant, LaCroix, DeJesus, Souza, F. Hsieh, Gloria Berry, Robert Jones, Phelicia Jones

8. Resolution in Support of Closing Juvenile Hall (Souza, Gallotta)

Member Souza requested support for a measure to address racial disparities, stop criminalizing our most vulnerable youth; *Member LaCroix* spoke about her experience on youth commission; *Member F. Hsieh* introduced a friendly amendment to acknowledge impacted workers; *Member Ting* was supportive, working in the right direction

Members requesting to be added as co-sponsors: LaCroix, Bryant, Groth, Chan, Gupta, F. Hsieh, DeJesus, Campos, Low, Maxwell

Amendment(s): adding the following language to the end of first Resolved clause “and urges policy makers to insure a just transition for current city workers within that timeframe”

Motion to amend: Member F. Hsieh; *Second:* Member Mahogany

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

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

Vote Count: Approved by Acclamation

Absention(s): Feinstein, Kounalakis, Wiener

9. Resolution Calling Upon the University of California Board of Regents to Oppose Dignity Health and UCSF Affiliation (Gallotta, Campos, Groth, Low)

Member Gallotta spoke about broader political context, state of reproductive rights bans, context, 8 states this year alone, not just about republican legislators and states, but health care providers and systems play a role, Dignity health merger led to \$29 billion health system, approved by Catholic Church, merged entity called Common Spirit Health, 142 hospitals, across 21 states, Catholic hospitals require doctors to sign religious directives around prohibited care due to moral reasons, this is not a standard of care that is acceptable, although California policies maybe different, this is a troubling association and affiliation for a respected public institution that lends credence to Dignity Health, is a systematic problem of discrimination and

an attack on equal access to healthcare, must question these affiliations so that we may retain integrity of our public institutions that reflect our values, we must add our voice to NARAL, Equality CA, NCLR, Women and LGBTQ Legislative Caucus', and over 1500 faculty and doctors at UCSF; *Chair Campos* has done a lot in area of healthcare, including master plan legislation, appreciates UCSF came, what we do matters, UCSF's response is not good enough for these essential services; *Member Kounalakis* read her statement issued last week as member of U.S. Board of Regents, expressing extreme concern with affiliation and discrimination; *Member DeJesus* stated that public institution funded by public funds should not affiliate with Catholic institutions, should be a separation between church and public institutions; *Member Gupta* trained at UCSF, has seen patients turned away, troubled by merger with largest public hospital in SF; *Member Wiener* read statement from LGBTQ Caucus expressing concern about affiliation and oppose restriction to staff regarding gender affirming healthcare and end of life care, Dignity Health policies are at odds with California values; *Member Mahogany* requested a stronger statement from UCSF to stand with women's and transgender community, opportunity for UCSF to stand up to Dignity Health and Common Spirit Health and change policies

Members requesting to be added as co-sponsors: DeJesus, Dufty, Gupta, F. Hsieh

Motion to approve: Member Wiener; *Second:* Member DeJesus

Vote Count: Ayes: 24; Abstentions: 3; Absent: 6

Ayes: Alexander, Alioto, Baraka, Bryant, Campos, Chan, DeJesus, Dufty, Gallotta, Groth, Gupta, F. Hsieh, Kim, LaCroix, Levitan, Low, Mahogany, Maxwell, Norton, Souza, Kounalakis, Wiener, Ting, Chiu

Abstentions: Jung, Feinstein, Cohen

10. New Business

Chair Campos asked members not going to convention to let Executive Director know in order to appoint someone as proxy; *Member Gupta* asked to adjourn in member of 3 transgender people recently killed, Muhlaysia Booker, Claire Legato, Michelle Simone; *Member Bryant* requested to adjourn in memory of 1021 member and daughter of Leroy King: Rebecca King Morrow; *Member Wiener* requested adjournment for former City Attorney, Blake Loebes; *Member Maxwell* request resolution for next agenda to support legislation for Office of Racial Equity; *Member Baraka* reminded people about upcoming Pride activities and Alice breakfast with keynote speaker Nancy Pelosi

11. Adjournment in honor of Harvey Milk Day, Muhlaysia Booker, Claire Legato, Michelle Simone, Rebecca King Morrow, Blake Loebes

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.