

San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee

General Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2019

Call to Order: Adoption of Agenda & Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:32pm, by Chair Nicole Fernandez.

Chair — asks for motion to approve October minutes. [Burruto, room]: **PASSED**.

Chair — asks for motion to approve November agenda. [room, room]: **PASSED**.

INTRODUCTIONS

Elsa Schafer — I'm running for ADEM in AD24.

Roll Call: Sandra Lang, David Burruto, Alex Melendrez (for Evans), Nick Akers, Ginny Stewart, Nancy Yarbrough, Cliff Robbins, Chelsea Boninni (for Lewis), Nicole Fernandez, Brigid O'Farrell, Greg Loew, Jon Levinson, April Vargas, Steve Booker, Brent Turner (for Brennan), John Woodell, Karen Maki, Sharrie Kriger, Joe Little (for Reddy), Judith Christensen, Annette Hipona, Dana Smith, Brian Perkins (for Speier), Absent, Jeff Sparks (for Wiener), Joan Dentler (for Hill), Alex Walker (for Ting), Carol Ong (for Mullin), Mitch Oster (for Berman)

E-BOARD ELECTIONS

Chair — We'll open nominations in case of a contested race. We'll break up into two caucuses. Alex Melendrez will run the Northern caucus and Jon Levinson will run the Southern Caucus.

Cliff Robbins — Do we have nominations for Chair?

Nancy Yarbrough — Nominates Nicole Fernandez.

Annette Hipona — Calls the question, seconded by David Burruto.

Cliff Robbins — Asks for a vote: **PASSED** — unanimous, none opposed, no abstentions.

Chair — I love San Mateo County and I love Democrats. Do we have a report from the caucuses?

Alex Melendrez — Cliff Robbins was chosen.

Jon Levinson — Karen Maki was chosen.

INTRODUCTIONS, CON'T

Chair — Let's introduce new folks.

Mark Olbert — Mayor of San Carlos and new associate member.

Ron P — From San Carlos.

Francesca Segre — Looking to get more involved.

E-BOARD ELECTIONS (cont)

Chair — Do we have nominations for Controller?

Jon Levinson — Nominates Nancy Yarbrough.

Chair — Asks for a vote: **PASSED** — unanimous, none opposed, no abstentions.

Chair— Do we have nominations for Recording Secretary?

Steve Booker — Nominates Mitch Oster

John Woodell — Nominates April Vargas

Chair— Asks candidates to speak.

April Vargas — I've been involved with the DCC since 1997. We need leadership and structure. I'm running to make sure the work of this committee of recorded. I believe the executive board can do more: formal fund-raising guidelines, better defined goals for voter registration team and standing committees, creation of minutes for the e-board so we can understand the decision's being made. In 2020, we'll be back in campaign mode.

Mitch Oster — I was recording secretary a few years ago. I've been active and was asked to be communications chair. As a member of the executive board, I'll be someone the chair can rely on to support the chair but can still sometimes disagree.

Chair — With either of these two, the e-board will be lucky. Thanks again to John for his hard work.

Woodell — Was there a motion?

Burruto — We take them one at a time.

Woodell — Please support April.

Yarbrough — The job of secretary, taking notes, is better don by an alternate. Mitch was easy to work with, and the minutes were always on time.

Burruto — Calls the question, seconded by Steve Booker.

Chair — Roll call vote: D1: N, Y, N, Y, D2: N, Y, Y, N, Y, D3: Y, N, Y, N, Y, N, D4: N, N, N, N, D5: Y, Y, Y, EX: ABSTAIN, ABSENT, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y — 16 to 11: **PASSED**

Chair— Do we have nominations for Correspondence Secretary?

Burruto — Nominates Kalimah Salahuddin.

Chair — Makes alternate motion to nominate Alexis Lewis, seconded by Nick Akers.

Burruto — Withdraws motion.

Chair— Asks for a vote: **PASSED** — unanimous, none opposed, no abstentions.

CDP CONVENTION & E-BOARD REPS

Chair — Every two years we allocate folks; we have 25 slots and 22 members.

Hene Kelly — You have spots for the number of Democrats in the county.

Chair — Motion to select our members to fill 22 of 25 slots, seconded by Burruto.

Chair— Asks for a vote: **PASSED** — unanimous.

Kelly — The convention is May 21st to June 2nd.

Yarbrough — Nominates Alex Melendrez, we need young blood.

Woodell —vNominates Brent Turner.

April Vargas — Nominates Erin Chazer.

Burruto — Calls the question, seconded by Steve Booker.

Chair — We also need State e-board reps, we were represented by Nick and Brigid.

Burruto — The chair stays.

Judith Christensen — how many other spots?

Burruto — Brigid and Nick have been doing it.

Sandra Lang — Nominates Nick. I did this years ago.

Woodell — Nominates Brigid, we get so much great information from both of them.

Cliff Robbins — Motion to support Nick and Brigid, seconded by the room: **PASSED**

HOLIDAY PARTY REPORT

Chelsea Bonini — We had 85 guests at the door, over 100 guests total. We had donations, gift cards, etc. Thanks to Jackie for stopping by.

Chair — Thanks to also to Alexis.

ADEM ELECTIONS & CONVENTION

Chair — AD22 ADEM elections are at San Mateo City Hall.

Hene Kelly — Doors open at 9:00am, at 9:30am there will be speeches. At 10am you'll start registration. At noon, anyone in line can vote. You need to be in line by noon. AD24 ADEM elections are at Hillview Community Center. Doors open at 10:00am. At 10:45am the voting starts.

Chair — Also, the CDP convention... first time in decades in SF.

Brigid — Are we looking for volunteers?

Chair — It would come through Hene.

Sandra Lang — What time should we be there to volunteer?

Chair — Show up at 8am and stay until after the last vote is counted.

E-BOARD UPDATE

Chair — The e-board has been working at creating meeting norms. We have had discussions.

STATE EBOARD

Brigid O'Farrell — I'm delighted to be a rep. It took the first year to figure what's going on. Last e-board was in long beach. Brent and others were there. It was overshadowed by the chair's resignation. A longer report I will give to the reporting secretary. There was an update call from Alex Rooker. She explained the legal investigation. No one else is being investigated. E-board members are not liable. The new chair will be elected at the convention. A number of staff members brought in by Bauman were let go. Chair Meyers brought in an executive director. Officers thought bringing in a new chair would be expensive. Rooker and Ellis have declared. Mark Leno and Kevin DeLeon may jump in. Back to e-board meeting, two pages of numbers. This is an interesting document. How many pieces of mail, people connect with, etc. It's the first time the state coordinated with the DCCC. Harder and Cox could not have been more enthusiastic about help from San Mateo County. There was talk about the DeLeon/Feinstein endorsement process. They thanked me for raising it. That's how it works in the bylaws committee. We can work on the bylaws, so primary results are given more weight. 3,000 voted for no endorsement, but 70% could not overturn. Feinstein won every county, 300 people voted to endorse DeLeon. Many of the people we represent, voted to endorse Feinstein.

Nick Akers — Nick concurred with Bridget O'Farrell's update regarding E-Board. He also attended a briefing, provided by Vice-Chair Larimore- Hall and Treasurer Weitzman regarding the CDP committee established by the former chair that is examining the state party's campaign finance policies. The meeting also included useful briefings regarding state party finance and operations, reflecting greater transparency than we have seen at past meetings. It is important that these efforts continue under the new chair... once one is elected. Nick also noted that there were discussions about the relationship between the CDP and county DCCs, including services that the state party can provide to or contract for on behalf of the DCCs, as well as the relationship between the CDP and legislative Democrats, particularly in the wake of AB 84 of 2018.

E-BOARD REPORTS

Chair — Thanks for great reports. We'll be restructuring our committees. You should receive the survey. Committees will be out by the February meeting.

Northern Vice Chair — No report.

Southern Vice Chair

Karen Maki — The clubs sheet needs corrections.

John Woodell — Each club must have dues paying members.

Controller

Nancy Yarbrough — Federal: \$85,147.39, State: \$9,825.52, Segregated: \$562.34.

We received a \$6,000 deposit. We have created a finance committee. TJ, I'd like to introduce him.

TJ — I'll be brief. Our goal is to be transparent. Where is our budget? Where are we going? Hopefully, we'll have a proposed budget. I do have financial experience. I was part of the shutdown in '96, part of the Clinton Whitehouse, Agriculture, Department of interior. We'll work on this and improve the process.

Sandra Lang — That's great. I wanted to clarify, is this ad-hock?

Chair — We're still evaluating the structure.

Lang — It's nice to have someone with your experience.

Recording Secretary

John Woodell — Thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve the committee in this role.

Fund Development Committee — No report.

Endorsement Committee — No report.

Resolutions Committee — No report.

Bylaws Committee — No report.

Elections Integrity Committee

Brent Turner — We're all in the know. Something funny with the 2016 election with Manafort. HR1 is coming out of the Party. We're requesting paper ballots and audits, but not supporting the "tech" part. We're making sure that OS is in the bill.

Chair — On technology and management, we're making some changes.

Ad Hock Committees

Brigid O'Farrell — We're looking for immigration and border education in March.

April Vargas — In April, we should get Wiener to talk about housing.

Resolutions Committee — No Report

Welcoming Committee — No Report.

Federal Candidate Watch

Greg Loew — We helped 7 out of 10 to win, major help to Nancy Pelosi. We have to keep going.

DIRECTOR and LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Regional Director Report

Hene Kelly — Nothing to add.

Congresswoman Jackie Speier's Office

Brian Perkins — We have 500,000 working without being paid. The Congresswoman went out and delivered trash to the Whitehouse. Tomorrow, we have a listening session with workers. The Trump administration is causing damage to the economy.

Mitch Oster — Please congratulate the Congresswoman. I will assist her in collecting trash.

Sandra Lang — Please thank Jackie for her email.

Congresswoman Anna Eshoo's Office

Helen Wolter — No report.

State Senator Jerry Hill's Office

Joan Dentler — We're early in the legislative session. Hill introduced 20 bills: e-cigarettes and tobacco state wide, flavored tobacco, online ordering by youth. Also, a senate constitutional amendment, aired to properly give property to grandchildren, utilizing tax basis for profit, would need to be passed by 2/3 of voters. Monday morning, we had a PG&E press conference. Jerry is not chair of the newly combined, labor and PERS. We have no event coming up.

State Senator Scott Wiener's Office

Jeff Sparks — On the 21th, I'll give you a better update. Three bills on the housing crisis. The repeal of article 32 has to go to voters. Hopefully, it will be on the ballot in 2020. Right to shelter, homeless shelters 365 days. Density around transit, much more broad coalition.

Assemblymember Kevin Mullin's Office

Carol Ong — The ADEM election coming up in San Mateo. Rick Bonilla is one of our candidates. Kudos to Chelsea for working on the slate.

Assemblymember Phil Ting's Office

Alex Walker — Ting will be in Daly City for a town hall. Also, last Sunday was our ADEM election. Our entire slate won, Kalema was the top vote getter. Only Unity Slate members were elected in AD 67 & 69. We're also working on granny units, ADUs.

LIGHTNING ROUND

Joe Little — Thank you everyone, I'm running for AD22 ADEM. I'm on the Peninsula Progressive slate. We believe in the environment, medical coverage for all, law enforcement oversight. Please show up Jan 26 to vote for our slate.

Sam Manneh — The convention is in SF this year, I'm so excited. I'm excited to work with Nicole. Let's show them SMC is going to kick butt.

Noelia Corzo — I'm so proud to have been endorsed by this group. I completed my first year, we've done good work for equity.

Elsa Schafer — I'm running for AD24 ADEM. I ran two years ago in AD22 and won. I sold my home, now I'm in Berman's territory. I'd love to have those of you coming vote for me. We let you show up later than AD22. Just be there by 12:45pm. I'm on the environmental/social slate.

Hari Krishnan — I'd decided to become a delegate for the first time. I'm part of Indivisible. I've also done things independently. I've promoted equity in education. I went to the Texas border; visited detention camps. It was an eye-opening experience.

Hene Kelly — I'd like to read a letter from the President, "Dear madam Pelosi, due to the shutdown, we'll reschedule your 7-day excursion later..."

ADJOURNMENT

Chelsea Bonini — Alexis asked that we adjourn tonight's meeting in memory of Robert Peagler. Robert was an active member of the San Mateo County Democrats, the NAACP, a founding member of the Foster City Black Residents Association and a loyal Giants' fan. Robert was my very first Central Committee Alternate and participated in the committee's meetings and fundraising events. Words cannot express how much Robert's friendship meant to me or how much I will miss him.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08pm.