

LAKE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
PO Box 1151, Lakeport, CA 95453
Phone: 707-533-4885; www.lakecountymocrats.org
FPPC#961174/FEC#C00389189

MINUTES

Meeting of Thursday February 5, 2015
Lakeport Senior Center Conference Room, 527 Konocti Blvd., Lakeport

6:30 pm

Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair Curry. Roll call was taken by Secretary Rubin.

Voting Members Present:

D 1: R. Green, A. Rubin D 2: S. Howland, D. Smith D 3: J. Evans, L. Rigod, J. Sheehy
D 4: V. Cerenio, M. Harris, T. Jordan, N. Strasser D 5: B. Curry, H. Luia, A. Esutoki
Ex Officio Alternates: J. Swetnam (Garamendi), J. Conard (Dodd), W. Holbrook (Thompson)

Voting Members Absent:

D 2: L. Baron (x), E. Coons (x), W. Manners (u), H. Riley (u) D 3: W. Quitquit (u)

Alternate Members Present

D 2: C. Giumelli (Howland) D 3: W. White (Evans)

Associate Members Present:

D 1: W. Harris; D 5: G. Parrillo

Approval of Agenda:

Agenda was approved, with the correction of a typo on the date of Congressman Thompson's Annual Ravioli Feed, which should read April 10. Motion to approve the agenda: W. Holbrook / 2nd: T. Jordan.

Approval of Jan.8, 2015 Minutes:

B. Curry: add two Associate Members (L. Acosta and W. Harris) to the list of those present at the January 8 meeting. W. Harris: Wording on the slate of officers for the new term corrected. Approved as amended. (M: T. Jordan / 2nd: H. Luia).

Public Comment:

None.

Committee Appointments:

Judy Conard has been appointed as the voting alternate for ex officio member Assemblyman Dodd.

Wally Holbrook has been appointed as the voting alternate for ex officio Congressman Thompson.

Approval of appointment of Wanda Harris open seat Distr.1:

Discussion and comments by members.

Close of debate: M: A. Esutoki / 2nd: J. Swetnam. Motion was voted on and approved.

Vote to approve W. Harris for open seat in Distr. 1 was conducted by roll call, per request by the nominee. Yes votes 4: M. Harris, S. Howland, L. Rigod, A. Rubin. No votes 10: V. Cerenio, J. Conard, A. Esutoki, J. Evans, R. Green, T. Jordan, H. Luia, J. Sheehy, N. Strasser, J. Swetnam. Abstentions 2: W. Holbrook, D. Smith.

Adjourn meeting: M: J. Swetnam / 2nd: H. Luia.

Withdraw motion to adjourn: J. Swetnam / 2nd: H. Luia.

It was determine we had a quorum of seven voting members present. Meeting was resumed.

Legislator's Reports:

Congress Member Mike Thompson

Alternate Holbrook read highlights of the Congressman's monthly report:

Congressman Thompson expressed his appreciation to Barbara Boxer for her fine work over the years and having had the opportunity to work with her.

He is working on the gun violence prevention task force. There are 11 new Vice Chairs for that.

He was appointed to the House Committee of Ways & Means.

There is a bipartisan group put together with his leadership; HR394 aka the Pegasus (prevention of escapement of genetically altered salmon in the US) project to prevent release into the wild of genetically altered salmon.

HR393: requiring the labeling of all GMO fish sold.

HR461 aka the Wild Game Donation Act: A coalition to encourage hunters to donate game to food banks for a charitable tax deduction.

HR641 and Senate 330: Another bi-partisan coalition incentivizing conservation of agricultural land and open spaces. Permanent enhanced tax incentive to encourage family farmers not to develop their land and preserve their property for conservation.

Full report available on the website, www.lakecountymocrats.org.

Congress Member John Garamendi

Alternate Joy Swetnam reported that she had not received a communiqué from his office. The meet-and-greet event held on Fri. January 23 for LCDCC by the Congressman's team was a huge success and a very well attended event; over 50 people showed up.

A Q&A was held with many questions received around the military and veterans' affairs, even though it was advertised a senior citizen event.

Joy has received four phone calls from people at that meeting asking for her assistance in helping them communicate with the Garamendi office, two of them were veterans. This is an indication of the viability and standing of our organization within our County.

State Senator Mike McGuire:

No alternate appointed to date.

Chair Becky reported that California Democratic Party Rural Caucus is working on: The Payment in lieu of Taxes Fund. California Dept of Fish & Wildlife purchased land in rural areas removing property from local tax rolls since the state is exempt from property taxes. As of 2002 those payments have not been made to the counties. Lake County is owed \$216,482 by the state of California.

Lois Wolk has co-authored a bill to request that money be put back into the budget. Jason Lyles, Mike McGuire's Chief of Staff, stated that he is co-sponsoring this bill.

Assembly Member Dodd:

Alternate Conard reported that Assembly Member Dodd did not provide a report since this is only his second month in office and he has been very busy.

She reported that he intends to spend much time in Lake County as possible.

His priorities are specifically with the Cash-for-College program, Covered California, education in general, as well as the Beryessa Snow Mountain National Monument proposal, of which he is a proponent and collaborator with Congressman Thompson.

Full report will be on the website.

Brief discussion ensued about Supervisor Jim Steele trying to impress on Representative Garamendi the importance of including Clear Lake in the proposed National Monument. The question was posed whether Assemblyman Dodd is aware of this and how does Congressman Thompson feel about it? Victoria Brandon will be contacted, since she is very knowledgeable on the topic of the National Monument, as well as trying to get the staffers of the involved officials to talk between themselves and hopefully collaborate.

Club Reports:

Lake County Democratic Club:

No report at this time as Club Representative Dave Smith did not attend the last club meeting. Vice Chair Esutoki reported that:

Supervisor Anthony Farrington was the guest speaker at the last Club meeting and he was talking about the State of Jefferson. Supervisor Farrington urged everyone to attend the Board of Supervisors' meeting on Tuesday 2/17 at 9:00 am to show opposition to the State of Jefferson movement.

Supervisor Jeff Smith, who appears to be pro-State of Jefferson, will be the guest at the next Club meeting on 2/10/15 at 6:30 pm at the Methodist Church in Lower Lake.

An ad hoc committee, consisting of Joy, Shirley and Becky, was appointed at the Club meeting to research the State of Jefferson.

Next Club meeting will be on Tuesday January 13 at 6:00 pm at the United Methodist Church in Lower Lake. Guest speaker will be Supervisor Anthony Farrington, and he will talk about the State of Jefferson's overtures toward the Lake County Board of Supervisors.

Stonewall Club:

No report available. The Stonewall Club is in disarray at this time and has no leadership. Chair Curry reported that:

A Stonewall meeting is planned for Mon. 2/9 potluck at 6:30, meeting at 7:00 at Jeri Spitler's house on Lakeshore Dr. in Clearlake to discuss the future of the Club.

It appears that the Chair of the Club, as well as the Treasurer, has resigned and the Vice Chair is not able to run the Club.

The membership of the club has to decide what to do about the future of the club.

Officer's Reports:

Chair:

On Saturday January 24 Chair Curry attended the CDC training in Sacramento with Adckinjo and Anne and learned about Robert's Rules of Order, among other things.

Becky distributed a list of Associate Members for the various districts and encouraged the voting members to recruit an alternate who can fill in when they cannot attend a meeting. The alternate has to be a democrat, has to live in your district and has to be current on their dues.

The roster of Central Committee delegates to the state party convention has been submitted by Becky. The delegates are Adckinjo, Becky, Holley, Joy, Judy and Wanda H. The appointment of Wanda H. from the Assembly District Delegation Election, in addition to the Lake County Central Committee appointment, will be resolved at the credentials at the state party level. Good news about the field office: Jason Lyles stated they have found a location in a county building available near animal control in Lakeport.

A Mike McGuire staffer will be in Lake County 2 days/week probably by March. Look for an Open House announcement.

Vice Chair:

Vice Chair Esutoki attended and met Jason Lyles at the local swearing in ceremony and winter event of Mike McGuire's in Santa Rosa.

The membership Committee will need to get together soon in order to give direction to James on plan of action. Watch for an e-mail on date and place for a first meeting.

He attended the CDC trainings on January 24th and 31st and found them to be a huge success. Adckinjo is working on organizing another training in March in American Canyon pending the location of an appropriate venue.

A meeting was held on the 24th after the CDC training to discuss the State of Jefferson. Twelve out of twenty affected counties were represented.

Vice Chair urged members to attend the BoS meeting on 2/17.

Secretary:

The CDC training on the 24th of January was interesting and fun. She suggested others might find it rewarding to attend a future training. She mentioned gaining a better understanding of Robert's Rules of Order as a result.

Treasurer:

In January \$195 we received in dues, \$50 in donations, \$20 for last year's BBQ silent auction. We spent \$50 for the March strategic plan workshop rent for meeting room. Balance on hand \$1394.

Committee Reports:

Elections:

Nothing to report.

Finance:

Unclear on finance and membership committees' division of duties. Waiting for the membership meeting to clarify who does what.

There should probably be a joint meeting between those two committees before the strategic planning workshop to decide who is going to do what.

Issues:

Meeting in Lakeport to be announced for late February or early March. The bylaws have a whole section detailing what the issues committee is supposed to be doing, so they will be using that as a guideline for their work.

Voter Registration:

Becky announced a volunteer opportunity at the up-coming Black History Month event at MZ's Hair Salon on Lakeshore Dr. in Clearlake on Saturday 2/28 12:00-6:00 pm. Bruno Sabatier, the organizer of the event, agreed to allow volunteers to register voters.

Associate Member Gillian Parrillo announced the National Voter Registration Day probably on 9/22/15 (date to be confirmed later); a non-partisan event to encourage people to register to vote. There will be lots of media present and we will need volunteers to help staff the voter registration effort. We will probably start by going to the community colleges first. She will ask the BoS to sign a proclamation. Check out the web site at www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org.

Becky will bring a Secretary of the State report on voter registration to the March meeting. This report tells us how many Republicans and democrats there are.

Voter registration forms were passed around for committee members to keep on hand when they are out and about in the county. If you register a Democrat, make a photo copy and give to Becky.

Bylaws Committee:

Judy Conard handed out the first installment of proposed changes to the bylaws for review.

The proposed changes will also be emailed to everyone for a chance to comment.

Full copies of the bylaws were available to those who did not have a copy with them.

We will vote on these changes at the next meeting.

On Going Business:

Member survey discussed at executive board meeting.

Becky and James will formulate the results in a narrative and send to membership.

New Business:

Congressman Thompson's Ravioli Feed will be on Friday April 10 at 5:30 pm. If you bring a Dessert for the auction and volunteer you will get free entry to the event. Volunteer sign-up sheet was passed around.

The Strategic Planning Workshop will take place on Sunday March 8, 2015, 12:00-4:00 pm at the Clear Lake Riviera Community Center. Everyone should try to come and help us map out what our goals should be for the next two years.

Announcements/Good of the order:

The Second Sunday Cinema will be in Kelseyville on 2/8/15 at 3:00 pm at Kelseyville United Methodist Church. The movie is "For the Bible Tells Me So".

Ron Green's KPFZ show will be off the air for a couple of weeks as he is going to Florida for a vacation.

Next meeting will be on Thursday March 5, 2015 @ 6:30 p.m. at the Lower Lake Methodist Church Social Hall

Adjourned

8:50pm

Minutes recorded and transcribed by

Anne Rubin, Secretary