

Notes from ad hoc meeting of the Exec. Committees – LCDCC & LCDC – March 21, 2016

Attendees: Anne Rubin, Becky Curry, James Evans, Carlene Leskar, David Smith, Adckinjo Esutoki, Debra Boivin, Shirley Howland, Rich East, John Sheehy and Louis Rigod.

The general purpose of this meeting is to modify the format of our club meetings to eliminate duplication of the duties in both organizations, to provide interesting programs and activities in more of a social atmosphere for the public, and to spend limited time on business in order to be more appealing to prospective new members.

We first reviewed the duties of the officers as outlined in our bylaws to illuminate areas that need work.

For example, the Chair should release meeting info (agendas, minutes, program) at least 7 days before each meeting.

The Vice-Chair should coordinate with Issues Committee for possible programs. The California Secretary of State website lists all ballots for the Nov. election. Seek suggestions from members for ballots they would like discussed. We could have pertinent speakers or have club debates on contentious issues.

The Treasurer's Report and the Finance Committee report could probably be combined.

The Issues/Candidates Committee should develop a bylaws process for the endorsement of local candidates and issues. Also notice of any endorsement vote should be announced in advance to allow membership to attend and have their vote counted.

The Membership Committee should be renamed Membership & Outreach Committee. Emphasis should be on developing strategies to increase membership and reaching out to current members to increase meeting attendance. Debra Boivin and Louis Rigod volunteered to help call members in advance of upcoming meetings.

Voter Services Committee has not been listed on our agendas for the last several months. This committee chair should coordinate with the Voter Services Comm. of the DCC for organized voter registration events. And then follow-up by sending around volunteer sign-up sheets at club meetings.

Fundraising (AKA Ways and Means) Committee Chair should coordinate with DCC for DPLC functions and follow-up by sending around volunteer sign-up sheets at club meetings. There can also be opportunity for the Club to have its own smaller fundraising events.

Other discussion included:

Convening an ad hoc Bylaws Committee meeting if needed to modify our bylaws.

Our media releases should announce speakers and activities only.

Minutes and agenda will include details of the club's business activities. The actual business part of meetings should be 20 – 30 minutes tops and should be at the beginning of each meeting. Times for start of business and start of program can be listed separately. Members of the Outreach Committee can call our usual members ahead of time to encourage them to attend the business part for their input.

Ideas for club programs included speakers, club debates, Presidential debate-watch parties, pot lucks.

Suggestions for speakers and/or programs: school funding ballot (T. Jordan), gun control, minimum wage, debt-free college, Citizens' United.