

Approved at January 2018 Meeting

MINUTES

Meeting of Thursday, December 7, 2017

Location: Kelseyville Senior Center was double-booked, meeting moved to Kelseyville Pizza

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order 6:30pm by Chair Carlos Negrete. Voting Member list completed by Secretary and Quorum verified to be present.

Voting Members Present:

District 1: Susan Cameron, Ron Green, Doug Harris, Carlos Negrete,

District 2: Shirley Howland

District 3: Deb Baumann, James Evans, John Sheehy; Louis Rigod via Alternate Giumelli

District 4: Larry Bean, Virginia Cerenio, Tom Jordan, Chloe Karl, Dave Rogers

District 5: Becky Curry, Adckinjo Esutoki

Ex-Officio Alternates: Stephanie Pahwa,

Voting Members Absent:

District 2: Tim Everton

District 3: John Holt (resigned as of this meeting)

District 5: Debra Boivin (resigned as of this meeting),

Club Representative (attendance not mandatory): Richard East

Ex-Officio Alternates (attendance not mandatory): Sissa Harris, Michael Friel (resigned as of this meeting), Joey Luiz

Regular Member Alternates Present: Ceva Giumelli

Associate Members present: Chloe Karl

Guests: Ann Bauer, Janet Levi (guest of Stephanie Pahwa)

Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved as amended (added that Chloe Karl was nominated last month and is to be voted upon this month, added resignations)

Approval of November 2017 Minutes:

Minutes approved as amended:

- page 1 – change reference from “October” to “November” minutes
- page 4 – added prelude to Finance report (“Report on BBQ/Fundraiser”)
- page 5 – moved Totes for Teens from Ongoing Business to Announcements

Public Comment - none

Appointments & Resignations

- Resignations: Debra Boivin D5, Jonathan Holt D3, Michael Friel, ex-officio
- Convention delegate replacement –Doug Harris nominated by Deb Baumann, Susan Cameron second – **APPROVED**
- Chloe Karl was nominated for open D4 seat at November meeting, to be voted on at tonight’s meeting -- **APPROVED**
- Open seats for regular members *are now as follows:*
D2 – 1 seat; D3 – 1 seat; D5 – 3 seats
- Open seats for alternates:
D1 – 3 seats; D2 – 2 seats; D3 – 3 seats; D4 – 1 seats; D5 – 2 seats

Legislator's Reports

Congress Member Thompson – Alternate M. Friel, not present, report submitted electronically after meeting:

- As a member of the House Committee on Ways & Means, Congressman Thompson has spoken out and voted against the Republicans' tax bill. This bill would be devastating to the middle class, eliminating dozens of tax deductions the middle class counts on and adding \$2.3 trillion to the national debt to pay for tax breaks for wealthy and corporate interests.
- The Congressman has continued to fight for all the resources our community needs to begin the process of recovering and rebuilding following the devastating wildfires. Among other things, the Congressman introduced a bill to deliver temporary tax relief to fire survivors, continued to work with FEMA on various disaster relief measures, and led the entire California House delegation in calling on House appropriators to grant the State of California's \$4.4 billion request for further disaster relief.
- The Congressman has cosponsored H.R. 4541 which would reauthorize funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), community health centers and other critical public health programs. It's been over two months since funding ran out for CHIP, a vital program that so many families count on to give their children healthcare. The Congressman believes Congress must take immediate action to ensure these children continue to receive the care they need.
- Congressman Thompson introduced the **Authorizing Critical Conservation for Sportsmen and Sportswomen (ACCESS) Act**. The bill would expand access for fishing, hunting, and other recreational activities on public lands and would reauthorize several conservation programs that protect wildlife and their habitats. It also includes a permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act, key programs for sportsmen's access to public lands that have broad bipartisan backing.
- **Additional Discussion:**
 Michael Friel has resigned from DCC, Thompson's office looking for replacement, may appoint newest staff member in the Napa office, Shao-Jim Chang, who grew up in Lakeport and recently graduated from UB Berkeley.

State Senator Mike McGuire – Alternate J.Luiz – not present, no report

Congress Member John Garamendi – Alternate S.Harris:

- **Change:** My contact person at the Congressman's office, Jeannie Klever, retired. I have contacted Angel Melchor at her suggestion, to see if he will serve as my new contact person. He works in the Congressman's Davis office and has visited Lake County in the past year with the Congressman.
- **Events:** None were specified on his web postings.
- **Media appearances & speeches:** Congressman Garamendi appeared on CNN, FOX news, Bloomberg TV, & MSNBC to discuss Trump-Russia, the candidacy of Roy Moore, tax reform, the ambush in Niger, and the issue of Sexual Harassment.
- **Statement:** "The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) issued the first official cost estimate for modernizing the U.S. nuclear triad over the next 30 years. The report confirmed... rebuilding the U.S. nuclear triad is a costly endeavor that the American taxpayers ultimately bear responsibility for. No one seems to have an answer as to which federal programs, many of which are critical for ensuring national security, will need to be cut to pay for this massive project. We could use this \$1.2 trillion to completely rebuild our nation's ports, dams, levees, railways, and airports and still have over \$500 million to spare... Congress and the Department of Defense are prepared to devote these resources to hasten a 21st-century nuclear arms race. Now that we have our first official cost estimate from the CBO, I hope we will rethink this critically important decision and consider spending these funds in a more productive manner for the American people."
- Opposed the House and Senate Tax plans on multiple occasions, for all the obvious reasons. He issued statements that he welcomes working with Republicans on a tax plan that works for all Americans.
- With Rep. Doug LaMalfa, introduced an amendment that requires additional safety reviews for the Oroville Dam. The last environmental review of the dam was completed over a decade ago, and no new review has been conducted since the spillway suffered significant structural damage earlier this year.

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- Earned a 100% rating on Food Policy Action's 2017 legislative scorecard, an organization that promotes food safety. [www.foodpolicyaction.org]
- Wrote an opinion piece in the Sacramento Bee opposing the Republican proposal to privatize Air Traffic Control. [<http://www.sacbee.com/opinion/california-forum/article185115128.html>]
- **Statement regarding Net Neutrality:** "Net Neutrality forbids Internet providers from discriminating against what content people can access and guarantees a level playing field for everyone. This commonsense policy is being repealed by the FCC and Trump Administration, which opens the Internet up to dangerous pay-for-play policies that allow the largest companies to buy preferential treatment. Allowing a board of five unelected representatives to institute such consequential policies that impact every American citizen and business is wrong. Congress must act immediately to pass legislation that will make Net Neutrality law of the land."
- Spoke on news programs opposing tax payers being "on the hook" for Sexual Harassment settlements.
- **Additional Discussion:**
 Following up on the congressman's concern with the issue of Sexual Harassment, Deb Baumann requested that Congr. Garamendi push for transparency regarding the names of members of Congress who used more than \$17 million dollars of taxpayer money in recent years to buy the silence of people who filed sexual harassment suits against them – cases which were adjudicated to have enough merit that the women received costly settlements, out of the taxpayers' pockets, not paid by the congressmembers who committed the harassment or crimes. Not asking for names of victims – just the names of congressmembers who abused tax payer funds this way.

Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry – Alternate Stephanie Pahwa:

- The Legislative Session reconvenes on January 3, 2018. Cecilia is working on her legislative package. If anyone has any legislative proposals or ideas, please contact Tracy Krumpen at tracy.krumpen@asm.ca.gov.
- Cecilia received the Legislator of the Year award from the Solano Transportation Authority last month.
- Cecilia attended the CDP E-Board last month in South San Francisco. She is a member of E-Board.
- **In the District:** Last month, Cecilia met and spoke with MATH – Middletown Advisory Town Hall

Club Report - Richard East, Club Representative not present, report given by Susan Cameron:

- Club met on November 8,
- Guest speaker was DNC rep Sandra Lowe, who explained how DNC works and how we cannot get money out of politics until the GOP does first.
- Club working on "We Strive" document which lists things we strive to achieve
- Elected 4 members for pre-endorsement voting in January-Feb
- Next meeting is December 13 with guest Jim Steele
- Club has \$4549 balance, nearing 100 members, 2018 goal is 120 members

Officer Reports:

Chair Negrete –

- Attended E-board where sexual harassment was a big topic (Carlos received email from Los Angeles Times asking how people address this at DCC level and he has not responded)
- Resolutions Committee – created Money in Politics task force to address dark money issues
- Attended workshop on Labor Movement over past 30 years, and the Democratic Party's disengagement with Labor
- Other counties sending emails about what DCC's can be doing

Vice Chair Curry –

- Thanks to everyone who took time to attend the PDI voter database training. There are online courses available for followup work. Email me if you want the links.
- I went to storage and took inventory and made up a list - distributed to officers. Relevant for those who will be organizing voter reg booths/setting up next year's United Dem Campaign office and organizing the BBQ or other Dem sanctioned events.
- Submitted Lake DCC roster to Emma Harper at CaDem for convention delegate credentialing and pre endorsement voting.

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- Secured our meeting spaces for 2018 at the Lower Lake Methodist Community Room & the Kelseyville Sr. Ctr. Thanks so much to Dave Rogers for volunteering to take over opening the klvl space. I will follow up with him on Sr. Ctr. contacts.
- Sent in prelim app for our LC fair booth. I have given a folder w/docs & instructions for the Registration Committee, including setting up the fair booth to Carlos. He will give in the new chair of the Registration committee
- BBQ - handbook completed w/docs on disk - Given to Carlos so he can turn it over to the 2018 BBQ lead organizer.
- Still trying to coordinate field training with Deborah Dobish from Sonoma Dems - they are understandably behind on some of their organizing tasks. Based upon recent developments, it does look like we will have to push the dates out to March or April. which would still give us time to train people to help local campaigns She will be in touch in the next week or 10 days with a more concrete timetable.
- Reminder - DCC dues for 2018 are due & payable no later than Jan 31, 2018. If you paid dues in the last quarter of 2017 you are current for 2018. Dues are \$25.00 annually.

Secretary Baumann:

- Attended MOI PDI training
- Closely following the Democratic Unity Reform Commission, urged people watch the live stream this Friday and Saturday from Washington DC as the Commission votes on final recommendations.
- Also following issues related to the 2018 campaign, such as contract sent by the DCCC to all candidates requiring them to spend at least 75% of their campaign funds on paid advertising. I worry that this strategy makes no sense in the new internet era. It pays DNC consultants millions in commissions, but reliance upon TV ads made Hillary outspend Trump 53-1 in Florida... and she lost that state. Super-expensive TV ads are the reason consultants say the party needs giant corporate donations. But the era of TV ads making or breaking campaigns is over. Boots on the ground (volunteers going door to door) proven more effective.
- Recent news stories highlight that millennials (now the largest voting demographic in USA) are overwhelmingly progressive, but recent polls suggest the Democratic Party should not be complacent about their vote. 76% of millennials want to form a Third Party. Need for a Third (Labor) Party was also a hot topic at recent national AFL-CIO convention.

Treasurer Evans:

- **November 2017** -- 11-1-2017 to 10-30-2017 BOH = \$9475.27
- General Fund: In November we received \$25 in dues, a \$500 BBQ sponsor donation and a \$800 deposit refund for the use of the Senior Center for the BBQ. We paid \$317 to our accountant and donated \$100 to the California Democratic Council. Our balance on hand is \$9475.
- Budget: I estimate that this month we will receive \$200 in dues and pay \$4003 for the Clubs BBQ share, our accountants monthly fee, meeting room rent, P.O.
- Box rent and office supplies. That would leave us with a year end balance of \$5671 which is equal to the historical average from 2009 to 2016.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOTE 1: As DCC Chair, Carlos Negrete is a member of all committees.

NOTE 2: * indicates committee which should have at least 1 member from each District

Elections* – D4 Tom Jordan, Chair / D1 Ron Green, D2 Tim Everton, D3 John Sheehy, D4 Virginia Cerenio, D5 –Becky Curry, Alternate Reps for Garamendi, Thompson, McGuire, Aguiar-Curry

- DPLC ELECTIONS COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes, November 27, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
 - Location: Offices of Scotts Valley Pomo, 1005 Parallel Drive, Lakeport.
 - In attendance: Tom Jordan (Chair), Becky Curry, Virginia Cerenio, Ron Green, Sissa Harris, Stephanie Pahwa.
 - Committee Members absent: Carlos Negrete, John Sheehy, Michael Friel, Joey Luiz.
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- Meeting Goal: Create a plan to “seek out and encourage new Democratic candidates” for the 2018 election cycle.
 - A. Report on follow-up with potential school board candidates. Amended to include District Attorney and judicial candidates. Next steps.

Becky Curry identified three Democrats on the Kelseyville Bond Oversight Committee, including Molly Keithly and Crystal Alvarez, both PTO members. Becky reported that she invited Ana Santana and Helena Welsh, potential school board candidates, to the Dem Holiday Party on December 9th.

There is a meeting with Dirk Slooten, Clearlake City Council candidate, scheduled for December 8th. In addition to Sabatier, Becky and Sissa plan to attend. This will also provide an opportunity to try-out the pre-endorsement questions on a new candidate.

B. Second review & redraft of Candidate Endorsement Questionnaires.

Becky and Virginia reviewed all questions generated by committee members at the October meeting. Sissa's school board questions were submitted by email on November meeting date; will be reviewed and included in the next draft. Virginia explained the three documents as follows:

-Candidate Orientation Pre-Campaign Questions, to assist candidates in campaign message and focus.

-Written Questions for candidates to submit prior to endorsement interview.

- Oral Interview questions, used during the endorsement interview, to determine the candidate's fitness for office and meeting DPLC endorsement criteria.

Committee members reviewed all documents and agreed with the concept. It was recommended that questions specific to the elected office be included, e.g. Sissa's questions specific to school board candidates (which will be included in next draft). Ron Green will draft questions for DA and judicial candidates.

Follow-up tasks:

Becky Curry will check the party affiliation for Christian Villalobos Woodland College). [Since meeting, Becky has reported Villalobos is DS.] *Sissa Harris* will follow up with Bruno Sabatier, re: Villalobos and Roberto (Cactus Grill).

Ron Green will draft question specific to DA and judicial candidates for inclusion in some or all of the questionnaires.

Virginia Cerenio will include questions received from Sissa and Ron in questionnaires and prepare for FINAL review at January meeting with the goal of distribution by February 1st by email only.

Committee members attending the Dirk Slooten meeting will "try out" the Candidate Orientation questions as appropriate.

Virginia Cerenio will draft a 2018 Elections Calendar to include new candidate orientation, deadlines for written responses by all candidates, and endorsement interview date and based on Becky's guidance; this will be reviewed at January meeting.

- Meeting concluded at 7:35 p.m. The next meeting will be 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 15, 2018.

Finance – D3 James Evans, Chair / D1 Susan Cameron, D4 Virginia Cerenio, D4 Tom Jordan, D5 Adckinjo Esutoki

- Membership: One new member joined in November. We welcome Chloe Karl.
- BBQ: At the November meeting I received a BBQ sponsor check from Moke Simon for \$500. This increases our sponsor income from \$5,750 to \$6,250 and from third to second highest since 2008. Our gross income rises from \$10,959 to \$11,459, the second highest since 2008. Our net income went from \$8,400.46 to \$8,900.46. This raises the Club share from \$2,797.35 to \$2,963.85
- James Evans moved that we pay the Club \$2,963.85 for their BBQ services. Deb Baumann seconded.

APPROVED

Issues* -- D3 Deb Baumann, Chair / D1 Doug Harris, D2 Shirley Howland, D3 Louis Rigod, D4 Jim Knox, D5 VACANT, Alternate Reps for Garamendi, Thompson, McGuire, Aguiar-Curry

Committee did not meet, no report.

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Voter Registration* -- VACANT, Chair, D1 – VACANT, D2 Shirley Howland, D3 VACANT, D4 Larry Bean, D5 VACANT

Carlos Negrete appointed Chloe Karl D3 to be new committee member and Chair.

Descriptions of Standing committee duties are in the DPLC bylaws
<http://lakecountymocrats.org/about-us/bylaws/democratic-party-of-lake-county-bylaws-revised-june-7-2015/>

ONGOING BUSINESS

- Holiday Party – Hidden Valley Lake has guard at gate, needs names for gate entrance, circulated sign-up sheet.
- SB 349 – Stephanie Pahwa circulated petition form to get SB 349 on ballot in 2018, asked DCC members to sign.
- Ceva Giumelli said SIEU working on alternative ways to collect dues, as court have ruled against mandatory dues... SIEU is the largest employer in Lake County (1800 jobs). Deb Baumann suggested the DCC send a letter of support to the newspapers, use it to educate public on the issue. Issues Committee will put together a draft letter for the DCC to approve. In addition to Issues Committee members, others who wish to attend: Stephanie Pahwa, Chloe Karl, Ceva Giumelli, Becky Curry.

New Business

Announcements

- Next meeting will be Thursday, January 4, at 6:30pm at Lower Lake Methodist Church Community Room
- Deb Baumann brought walnuts and persimmons for everyone to take home (please!)
- Susan Cameron said the January 10 Club meeting would have guest Tina Scott (an opportunity to talk about labor)
- Carlos Negrete said Don Anderson would be our guest next month

Adjourned at 8:25pm

Minutes recorded by secretary D.Baumann