

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, January 4, 2018

Location: Lowerlake Methodist Church community room, 16255 2nd Street, Lower Lake CA 95457

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, Tim Everton

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

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

District 5: Becky Curry, Adckinjo Esutoki

Ex-Officio Alternates: Stephanie Pahwa, Sissa Harris

Club Representative (attendance not mandatory): Richard East

Voting Members Absent:

Ex-Officio Alternates (attendance not mandatory): Joey Luiz

Regular Member Alternates Present: Cesa Giumelli, Carlene Leskar

Associate Members present: Janet Levi, Natalie Higley,

Guests: Ann Bauer, Louveina Hopkins, Don Anderson

Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved as amended.

Approval of November 2017 Minutes:

Minutes approved as amended:

Spelling correction to Ceva's name, marked Adckinjo "present" in December (last-minute meeting location change, he went to initial location and did not receive message about new location)

Public Comment – Louis Rigod wished everyone a happy new year and encouraged all that now is the time to renew our democratic energy.

Guest Speaker: District Attorney Don Anderson, running for Judge

Appointments & Resignations

- 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:*

- Congressman Thompson spoke out and voted against the Republicans' final tax bill. He forcefully denounced its passage and signing into law, and he will continue to work both in the House and in our community to mitigate the effects of this law on middle class families.
- The Congressman applauded House leadership's introduction of the supplemental disaster relief funding for which he has been advocating for communities devastated by

recent wildfires. The \$81 billion package would deliver much needed funding for the State of California's ongoing fire recovery efforts.

- As chair of the Gun Violence Task Force, Congressman Thompson held a series of meetings and press conferences with stakeholders, gun violence survivors and their families, and the Task Force to fight the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act that passed the House. This bill would dramatically reduce States' ability to enforce their own concealed carry laws. Thompson will continue to fight this bill as it is deliberated in the Senate.
- The Congressman issued a call to Korean War veterans living in Contra Costa County to come forward and accept the "Ambassador for Peace" medal from the Republic of Korea for their service. He will award the medals to these veterans at an event in the coming months.

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

- DCC discussion – there has been no report from Senator McGuire for 3 months, nor has Joey attended meetings in that time.

Congress Member John Garamendi – Alternate S.Harris:

- **Events:** Hosted two telephone town hall meeting on December 12th. I attended one of them via phone.
- **Media appearances & speeches:** Congressman Garamendi appeared on FOX news & MSNBC to discuss the tax bill and its consequences.
- **Statement:** "In February, the emergency spillway at the Oroville Dam nearly failed. It put thousands of lives in the North state at risk. And now, the federal regulators are attempting to relicense the dam for another 50 years without the necessary information. The last environmental impact report on the Oroville Dam was conducted in 2007. Relicensing this project without an updated study that takes last February's events into account is simply wrong. I'll be fighting at home and in D.C. to make sure the North state's voice is heard."
- **Issue:** Opposed the tax bill and voted against it. After its passage, issued the following statement, "America needs to invest in its future, not make the rich even richer. We could make a major investment in our country's infrastructure. We could expand health care coverage for millions. We could invest in education, research, and domestic manufacturing. But instead, we're gutting the treasury by giving enormous tax cuts to the super-wealthy one percent and America's largest corporations. That's not what the American people want. But it's what the Republican Party's donors want, and they're cashing in their chips."
- **Issue:** Opposed the reduction in the size of Bear Ears and Grand Staircase. o **Issue:** Opposes any reductions in Social Security and Medicare benefits.
- **Issue:** Opposed ending Net Neutrality and vows that he "will not rest" until Net Neutrality is the law of the land.
- **Issue (Jan. 2018):** Supported Winters Healthcare in securing nearly \$100,000 in federal grant funding in jeopardy due to a bureaucratic issue. Winters Healthcare Foundation will use these funds to continue to provide quality healthcare to rural communities throughout the Third District.
- **Issue (Jan. 2018):** In response to President Trump's tweets regarding North Korea, Congressman Garamendi stated his support for Rep. Ted Lieu's bill (HR 669) that would limit the President's nuclear first strike capabilities and require Congress to pass a declaration of war before engaging in nuclear conflict.

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Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry – Alternate Stephanie Pahwa:

- The Legislative Session reconvened yesterday. Cecilia asked that the Assembly adjourn in memory of those that lost their lives in the California Wildfires and their names were read.
- There will be several bills introduced in the coming days focusing on emergency alert systems and insurance related bills.
- There is an ongoing labor issue at Queen of the Valley Hospital related to United Healthcare Workers right to organize. Cecilia has written a letter to the Queen's Executive Chief in support of UHW's right to organize and urging the Queen to recognize and work with union.
- The CDP Pre-endorsement conference for Region 2 will occur Sunday, January 28 at 1:30 at Lafayette Library in Lafayette. Cecilia would be honored to receive your vote. If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Krumpfen at mzpezz@aol.com or 707-337-7512.

Club Report - Richard East, Club Representative:

- Met December 13
- Guest Jim Steele talked about the health of the lake, biology of Clear Lake, and whether the Blue Ribbon Commission will help.
- All 2017 officers will continue to serve in 2018 except parliamentarian Adckinjo Esutoki.
- Finalized "strive" document
- Next meeting is January 10 with guest Tina Scott.

Officer Reports:

Chair Negrete –

- Getting familiar with California Democratic Council
- Preparing for pre-endorsement conference January 28 in Lafayette (two and a half hour drive)
- Preparing for CADEM convention in February

Vice Chair Curry –

- Sent final delegate roster to CDP for pre endorsing and convention credentialing after the Dec changes.
- Region 2 pre endorsement voters will be notified by email of date/time/place of meeting.
- Eligible voters can also vote by mail
- Watch for emails from Jeff Koertzen - Contra Costa DCC - who is running the process/
- CDP is soliciting volunteers for the convention - I will send out an email to the Dem email list.
- Sent out email w/link to draft CDP platform to membership - Final date to submit platform ammendments is Jan 24 - form on cadem website.
- Sent out info re DNC updates/Unity Reform Commission status.
- Training - Date set for Sonoma County DCC to bring their activist training to us - Sunday Feb 11 - Harvest Private Dining Room - Twin Pine - time to be announced. Expect at least a 4 hour training.
- Thanks to Carlos for facilitating the venue
- Basics in voter contact strategies - canvassing/phone banks/voter registration training.
- Max 25 attendees. I will send out an email and ask for sign ups via email as soon as we have the time nailed down.
- Set up meeting w/Dirk Slooten candidate for Clrkl City Council and other members of the elcx comm. A promising candidate.Tom Jordan will have more in his report.
- CDC - I've done the administrative work updating our DCC's affiliation and will send in the roster to Martha Gamez, who is doing the credentialing for the election.

Secretary Baumann-

Watched Democratic Unity Reform Commission final meeting live-streamed from Washington DC, urged DCC members to read Unity Reform Commission report. Areas of maximum concern:

- 1) Financial transparency -- there has been none, even the DNC's Executive Committee was not informed of how/when/where money was spent during 2016 campaign – Unity Commission recommends a Finance Committee elected by the DCC membership which would need to approve, in advance, any expenditure over \$100,000
- 2) Super Delegates – Commission recommends reducing number by 60%
- 3) Make it easier to vote – states like New York are the hardest, with requirement to register as a Democrat nearly a full year in advance of the primary. DNC has no control over most state primary or election process, but Unity Commission acknowledges that people who want to vote Democrat should not face severe hurdles.
- 4) Why This Matters – recommended viewing of Nomiki Konst's viral You Tube rant, a four- minute clip taken from CSPAN in which she addressed her fellow Unity Commission members about the real-life consequences to all Americans when the Democratic Party loses (in the last 10 years) 1,100 legislative seats from coast to coast, 69 of 99 state legislatures, all but a dozen Governorships, the US House, the US Senate, the White House, and consequently the Supreme Court. Membership in the DNC includes many consultants and their lobbyists, which constitutes a conflict of interest – they vote to support a system that funneled \$700 million dollars to just five (5) consultants in 2016. No-bid contracts were given by the Chair without transparency, and with no accountability for results – these consultants get paid whether the Dems win or lose.
- 5) Millions of people watched or shared the Nomiki Konst clip, indicating the hunger people feel for a reformed Democratic Party that once again represents the people and serves the people. This reform critically needed in order for Dems to start beating Republicans again, in the opinion of secretary Baumann.

Treasurer Evans:

- 12-1-2017 to 12-31-2017 BOH = \$5,637.85
- General Fund:
 In December we received \$100 in dues. We paid the \$50 annual fee to the California Secretary of State, \$2,964 to the Club for their BBQ share, \$278 to our accountant, \$570 for next year's meeting room rent and \$76 for the P.O. Box rent. Our balance on hand is \$5,638.
- Budget:
 In the Fourth Quarter we raised \$1,238 more than estimated at the beginning of the year and we spent \$1,232 more than estimated. For the full year we raised \$2,253 more than estimated and we spent \$868 less than estimated. The 100 Days Dinner and the BBQ both raised significantly more than estimated. \$714 of the expenditure savings came from the 100 Days Dinner.

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
 No December meeting, next meeting is January 15 at 6:30p (MLK day)

Finance – D3 James Evans, Chair / D1 Susan Cameron, D4 Virginia Cerenio, D4 Tom Jordan, D5 Adckinjo Esutoki
 December 2017:

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- Membership: One new member joined in December. We welcome Janet Levy. 10 new members joined this year and 7 dropped out. Total membership at the end of the year was 57. At the end of 2016 it was 54. 8 members on our current list did not renew for 2017. We may have to drop most of them. Recruiting new members would be helpful for our finances and event volunteers. 44 members have not renewed for 2018. Our dues are due this month. You can't vote next month unless your dues are paid up.
- Budget: Our year end BOH is \$1,600 more than 2015, the last off year. My preliminary estimate for the costs of the UDC office, the Fair and the Slate Mailer is \$3,563 including my estimated maximum legislator donations. That leaves only \$2,075 for normal operations which doesn't leave much if any for local candidate support. The first ten month cost for the accountant alone will be at least \$3,500. We are going to need to boost the Candidate net income and hold down all costs as much as possible. It will be helpful to pay for the Slate Mailer after all the BBQ receipts are deposited but that will reduce the 2018 year end BOH and funding for 2019 operations. A larger than normal BBQ net will improve the situation.
- I can't work the numbers of the full DPLC 2018 budget until I receive and reconcile the December 2017 bank statements on or about January 12. Until then I will be looking for ways of lowering the cost of, and improving the net of, our five main events. I welcome everybody's suggestions to improve our income and lower our costs.

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.

Voter Registration* -- Chloe Karl, Chair, D3, D1 VACANT, D2 Shirley Howland, D4 Larry Bean, D5 VACANT
 Committee did not meet, no report.

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

- SB349 – Stephanie Pahwa requested that the LC DCC endorse this Resolution (attached) and send to the CDP. Becky Curry pointed out some issues with the nature of the wording, and DCC agreed to approve with the understanding that word-smithing to make the Resolution conform to necessary format would occur before it is sent to the CDP. **APPROVED**

New Business

- CDC Delegates – Becky Curry and Carlos Negrete as CDC Delegates and Adcjinko Esutoki and Doug Harris as their alternates -- nominated and **APPROVED**.

Announcements

- Carlos Negrete: Next meeting will be Thursday, February 1, at 6:30pm at Kelseyville Sr Center.
- Susan Cameron: Women's March January 20 in Sacramento, carpool invite.
- Ron Green: Roy Zimmerman benefit at Catfish Coffee

Adjourned at 8:25pm

Minutes recorded by secretary D.Baumann

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Resolution
Support the Fair Pricing for Dialysis Act

WHEREAS, kidney failure is a growing national health concern, and most patients who suffer from kidney failure must visit a dialysis clinic three days a week to have their blood emptied, cleaned, and returned in an exhausting three to four hour process that requires having a tube connected to a patient's arm or neck leaving them susceptible to bloodstream infections; and

WHEREAS, the two largest dialysis corporations – DaVita and Fresenius – made combined profits of \$3.9 billion from their dialysis operations in the United States in 2016, and dialysis corporations are driving up the cost of health care in California by charging several times more than the actual cost of providing patient care to maximize profits and spike executive salaries, and these inflated prices ultimately cost consumers and taxpayers tens of millions of dollars in higher health insurance premiums; and

WHEREAS, community groups, dialysis workers, other healthcare workers, and dialysis patients are part of a growing coalition to hold the dialysis industry accountable, prevent price gouging, and improve patient care for Californians who rely on dialysis treatment; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lake County Democratic Party supports the Fair Pricing for Dialysis Act, a ballot initiative in the process of qualifying for the November 2018 general election in California that would limit dialysis corporations' revenue to 15 percent above the cost of providing patient care and require dialysis corporations that violate the initiative to refund the difference; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lake County Democratic Party will transmit passage of this resolution to the California Democratic Party and urge the CDP to formally support the Fair Pricing for Dialysis Act.

Paid for by Californians for Kidney Dialysis Patient Protection, Sponsored by Service Employees International Union – United Healthcare Workers West, 777 S. Figueroa St., Ste. 4050, Los Angeles, CA 90017. Major funding by Service Employees International Union – United Healthcare Workers West.