

SANTA CLARA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

6:45 PM, County Building Cafeteria, 70 W. Hedding St., San Jose

Meeting will start at 7:00 pm sharp.**MINUTES FOR Thursday, July 10th, 2014****1. CALL TO ORDER****Meeting called to order at 7:10pm****2. ROLL CALL**

Absent: Jim Thurber (exc), Chris Stampolis, Andres Quintero, Omar Torres, Ash Kalra (exc), Hope Cahan (exc) Rich Waterman, Brian O'Neil, Bill Roth, Nora Campos, Luis Alejo, Sam Farr, Zoe Lofgren, Anna Eshoo, Mike Honda, Elizabeth Birk, Robert Braunstein, Karina Dominguez, Rishi Kumar, Raul Colunga, Deepka Lalwani (exc), Chris Kolterman, Amy Pearl, Augustina Armendariz, Buu Thai, Thomas Wang.

Alternates for: Marcene Van Dierendonck, Anna Song, David Cohen, Darcie Green, Ken Yeager, Pierluigi Oliverio, Rich Gordon, Bob Wieckowski, Mark Stone, Ellen Corbett, Bill Monning, David Wessel, Herb Engstrom,

3. IDENTIFICATION OF VISITORS

- Dennis Kennedy for Water District Board
- Claudia Rossi, Morgan Hill School Board; running for County Board of Education
- Hugo Jimenez, Candidate for Berryessa Union School Board.
- Noelani Sallings, candidate for Santa Clara School Board
- Anthony Phan, candidate for East Side Union High School
- Sam Panday, Intern for Asm Paul Fong.
- Jodi Muirhead, candidate for Santa Clara School Board.
- Rob Means, candidate for Milpitas City Council.
- Bill Ferguson, candidate for Milpitas City Council.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Support Immigrant Children to be put under new business

Motion to move as amended; seconded; approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Minutes are/will be posted at sccdp.org)a. Thursday, June 5th, 2014

Motion to approve; seconded; approved

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Alcohol Testing of Doctors, Medical Negligence Initiative. Discussion and possible vote. (Prop 46)

SUPPORT Argument (Sara Glover):

- Known as "Pack Patient Safety Act".
- Her son passed away due to medical negligence.
- NOT a frivolous lawsuit when against negligence.
- Patient safety: 1) Checking on Physicians; Mandatory drug testing of doctors. 2) Use "Cures Database"; tapping into database. 3) MICRA Cap; the cap makes it difficult to find legal representations for victims.

OPPOSE Argument (Jay Hanson, California Medical Association):

- Increases consumer health care costs.
- Costs state and local governments "hundreds of millions of dollars".
- Jeopardizes the privacy of people's prescription drug information.
- People could lose access to their own doctors.
- Violates individual and privacy rights.
- Major funded and pushed by trial lawyers.

Questions:

Q: What is the MICRA Cap? What does it do?

A: Caps pain and suffering damages to \$250,000; never increased from inflation. Unlimited award for economic damage.

Q: What are other solutions, other than just opposing this?

A (Oppose): The trial lawyers did not talk or make any attempt to negotiate with CMA and physicians. Trial lawyers just put in ballot measure what polls well.

A (Support): There have been attempts to redo the law, but interest groups are blocking any reform.

Q: Who has endorsed Prop 46?

A: Sen. Boxer, Rep. Pelosi, Ventura County Democratic Central Committee, among others.

Q: How will this impact on malpractice costs?

A (Oppose): California is less expensive to practice healthcare than in New York; the costs would go up if the initiative passes.

A (Support): After MICRA passed, insurance premiums kept rising.

Q: How many people have dies due to malpractice a year in California?

A (Support) 40,000 malpractice cases a year in California.

A (Oppose): Never seen that statistic; must be a lower number.

Q: Is the speaker in opposition to the ballot measure an employee of a medical organization?

A: Yes.

Discussion:

- Valid points and things need to change, but does not believe in the legislation presented.

Swanee moves to OPPOSE Prop 46.

Paul Fong seconded; opposes the proposition.

- John wants party to stay neutral.
- Jacquie agrees with the mandatory testing of doctors.
- Bill James wants the Committee to not take a position.
- Rob Means asks if this is a means of sparking a debate of this issue.

Substitute motion to take "No Position" on Prop 46.

Seconded; approved.

b. Vacancy in AD 25, to be filled at August 7 meeting.

c. Working Partnerships are asking for donations of clothing for the immigrant families on the border crisis.

d. Adjournment in Memory of Ira Ruskin

- A memorial service was held for Ira on Wednesday.
- Paul Fong spoke in his memory.

7. OLD BUSINESS

8. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND OTHERS

a. Executive Board: Andrae Macapinlac

b. Chair: Steve Preminger

c. Vice Chair: Bill James

- Updating on organizing documents: How we vote, change in central committee elections, etc.

d. Treasurer: Forrest Williams

\$2,102 in bank

e. Secretary: Andrae Macapinlac

f. Issues: Andres Quintero

- Ellen, Lucas, and Corey gave an update on the Issues Committee.
- Local Platform Committee highlights values, and needs for the Party.
- In February, the platform committee held two meetings in which it adopted much of the language into the draft platform.
- Some of the Plank Chairs include women's issues, education, good government, political reform, labor/economic justice/poverty, business/economy, healthcare, and transportation, among others.
- Draft available at <http://bit.ly/sccdemplatform>
- Platform Committee will meet Tuesday, July 22 at 6pm.

g. Community Services and Voter Registration: Judy Pipkin

- Party working with Working Partnerships on donating clothing to immigrant families on the order.
- Pushing for voter registration during the summer.
- July 26th All-Clubs Picnic.

h. Finance: Emy Thurber

i. Candidate Recruitment and Endorsement: Darcie Green

j. Communications: David Cohen

k. Campaign Services: Ann Grabowski

- In Texas, a 16 year old girl was drugged, raped and was filmed. It was posted on Instagram, and mocked by her classmates. We need strong leaders. But we also need to put on social media action against sexism and rape and hashtag #Jadapose.
- Endorsements coming up. Municipal Interviews August 19th-21st; Education Interviews meets August 25th-29th.

l. Political Outreach (Clubs): Diane Rolfe

Thanks the SVDC for providing the meeting with dinner.

- Dean Club: Swanee gave report. Discussion on propositions on August 13th. Walking for Michael Eggman and Amanda Renteria.
- SVYD: Alex Wara gave report; new officers. Many Young Dems running for office.
- Berryessa: Cortese was guest speaker last meeting; endorsed Thelma Boac and David Cohen for school board. August 21st endorsement meeting.
- Century Club: August 8th next luncheon.
- SCCDC: Dan Hoffman gave report. Raised money for two Latino American organizations
- PDC: Amanda Renteria event on July 27th.
- South County Dems: 3rd Annual Picnic in Gilroy. Honoring Swanee Edwards. August 17th.
- SVAPADC: Organizing annual dinner. TBD.

m. Regional Director:

1) Royce Kelley, Region 5

2) Hene Kelley, Region 6

3) Kelly Martinez, Region 7

o. Democratic National Committee: Chris Stampolis

p. DTV Report: Steve Chessin.

Democratic Television Producer Emeritus Steve Chessin reported that our guest in June was Stephanie Valenzuela, a San Jose native and young political and community activist who has done National Service-type work.

Our guest in July is TBD.

See the sccdp web site for the schedule, and to view our shows.

We could still use more good Democrats on the crew. No prior video experience is necessary.

q. Pro-Choice Coalition: Claudia Shope

r. CDC Report: Emilie Gatfield

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

11. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned in Memory of Ira Rsukin

8:40pm