

SANTA CLARA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
7 PM-9 PM, Regular Meeting at Sheet Metal Workers Local 104, 2350 Lundy Pl, San Jose
and via Zoom Online Conference (registration link below)

(Our meeting is open to the public, but we reserve the right to remove guests who disrupt the meeting. Video and audio recording not permitted without prior approval)

AGENDA FOR Thursday, September 7, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. IDENTIFICATION OF VISITORS

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Thursday, August 3, 2023

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution to Protect Indigenous Assyrians in Iraq
- b. *[Emergency]* Resolution: Rooftop Solar and Battery Access for All Californians
- c. Endorsement of Local Measure A – Los Altos School District Parcel Tax
- d. Report on Multicultural Day event, August 13, 2023, 2pm-5pm
- e. Democratic Victory Dinner update
- f. SCCDCC Endorsement Committee update
- g. SCCDCC Bylaws revisions – first reading

8. REPORTS

- a. Executive Board/Chair: Bill James
- b. Vice Chair: Jean Cohen
- c. Treasurer: Angelica Ramos
- d. Secretary: Helen Chapman
- e. Political Director: James Kim
- f. Issues: Huy Tran
- g. Community Outreach: Clarence Madrilejos
- h. Finance: James Kim

- i. Communications: John Comiskey

- j. Gender Equity and the Status of Women: Buu Thai

- k. Diversity & Inclusion: Rebeca Armendariz

- l. Youth Representative: *Vacant*

- m. Clubs: Tomara Hall

- n. Regional Directors

- o. DNC: Otto Lee

- p. Pro-Choice Coalition: Claudia Shope

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

Democratic Victory Dinner, Friday,
September 22, 2023

CADEM Endorsing Convention
Sacramento Convention Center
November 17-19, 2023

10. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

September 20, 2023, at 6pm

11. ADJOURNMENT

Register to Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QWZYvtncRaOZo6R4P3cqKg

Resolution to Protect Indigenous Assyrians in Iraq

WHEREAS, the indigenous Assyrian community, with profound cultural significance in Iraq, maintains a unique identity dating back thousands of years while engaging in the country's social, political, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, during the US invasion in 2003, Iraq had approximately 1.5 million Assyrians, while the current population has dwindled to less than 300,000 and since the inception of the conflict and subsequent rise of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in the early 2010s, Assyrian communities in Iraq have faced severe persecution, targeted violence, displacement, destruction of their cultural heritage sites, land confiscation and most recently the current Iraqi President has stripped Patriarch Cardinal Sako of his right to control the Chaldean Catholic church's assets in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, ISIS atrocities were so grave that in 2016, United States Secretary of State John Kerry recognized ISIS actions as genocide against Assyrians, Yazidis, and Shiite Muslims, while the international community, including the United States, bears a moral responsibility to protect vulnerable communities and promote human rights worldwide;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party calls on Congress, the President, and our international partners to provide security and humanitarian aid to Assyrians in both administrative regions of Iraq, the government in Baghdad and the regional government in Erbil, including by appointing Assyrian community leaders and established Assyrian humanitarian organizations within Iraq to administer all awarded humanitarian funds while requiring regular reports from the U.S. Department of State and the Assyrian administrators; and ensure steps are taken to preserve Assyrian cultural heritage, promote peaceful coexistence among different ethnic and religious groups in Iraq, and ensure the property rights and human rights of all persons and institutions in Iraq are respected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party calls on Congress to encourage dialogue to build a more inclusive society in Iraq, including by calling on the Iraqi Government to guarantee the property rights of the Assyrian, Chaldean, and Syriac churches and insisting that the Iraqi Government must honorably invite back the Chaldean Patriarch to Baghdad to restore his control of church properties and endowment, while advocating for the protection of the Assyrian property rights which are currently located mainly in the Nahla Valley and the "disputed" region of the Nineveh Plain.

Co-sponsors

House Representative Honorable Anna Eshoo
Assyrian Democrats of the Bay Area
Bay Area Iranian American Democrats
Jewish Democratic Club of Silicon Valley
Sousan Manteghi-Safakish
Mona Malik
Tony Khoshaba

Supporting organizations and Individuals

Assyrian Global Network
Mothers Against Murder (MAM), a 501(c) (3) CA
Corporation dedicated to violence prevention and
protection of victims' rights
Assyrian American Association of San Jose

Rooftop Solar and Battery Access for All Californians

WHEREAS rooftop solar and battery storage are the most effective clean energy solutions to reduce energy bills, avoid blackouts, and reduce the high cost of long-distance energy transport from solar and wind farms, thus saving ratepayers money, and protecting open space; and

WHEREAS the California Public Utilities Commission recently issued a decision that vastly reduced the credit value for energy exported to the electric grid for consumers, and is now considering changes to net energy metering rules for multi-meter properties, which would impact multifamily renters, schools, and farms; and

WHEREAS the California Public Utilities Commission recently issued a proposed decision that sides with the investor-owned utilities and would deny multi-meter properties the ability to buy less power from the utilities when they consume power directly from on-site solar, which would force renters, schools, and farms to buy all of their power from the utility even when it is generated on their own rooftop or field – an unfair proposal that would allow customers with only one electric meter to distinguish between on-site usage and exports while not allowing customers with multiple meters to do the same;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party supports giving all Californians, including multifamily renters and students, access to the full benefits of rooftop and distributed solar and battery storage; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party affirms efforts to move California closer to its goal of tripling rooftop and distributed solar and to ensure the continued viability of rooftop and distributed solar and battery storage for multi-meter properties so all Californians may have access.

Authors: Igor Tregub, AD14; Lee Miller, AD10

Sponsor: Margaret Okuzumi

Draft of Proposed Changes to SCCDCC Bylaws

Amend Article II.A. to allow for election or appointment of those not able to register or pre-register:

A. General. The membership of the SCCDCC shall consist of the following registered or pre-registered Democrats in Santa Clara County, or those not eligible to register or pre-register as Democrats but affirm in writing that they identify as a Democrat, including without limitation undocumented persons, except as otherwise specified by California state law:

Amend Article II.A.2 to provide for Elected-Equivalent Members to be allocated based on number of registered Democrats:

2. Elected-Equivalent Members: For each of the Assembly Districts, the indicated number of SCCDCC candidates next in election results order after the six members elected from that Assembly District shall become, by operation of these bylaws, "Elected-Equivalent" members of the SCCDCC, having the same rights and privileges as Elected Members. To determine the number of Elected-Equivalent Members for each Assembly District find for each Assembly District the ~~population of~~ number of registered Democratic voters who reside in that portion of the Assembly District that lies within Santa Clara County, multiply by forty the respective ratio of each of those populations to the total ~~population of~~ number of registered Democratic voters who reside in the county and round off the result. If the result is greater than six, subtract six from the result to determine the number of Elected-Equivalent members from that Assembly District. If the result is six or fewer, there will be no Elected-Equivalent members from that Assembly District.

Amend Article II.A.7. to provide for two Youth Representatives, instead of one:

7. Youth Representative: ~~One member~~ Two representatives, including at least one "self-identified female" as defined in the CDP bylaws, elected as described below in Article IV, Section C. To be eligible to serve as the Youth Representative, a person must be 16 to 22 years of age, must reside in Santa Clara County, and must be registered or pre-registered as a Democrat or must affirm that they identify as a Democrat if they are not eligible to be registered or pre-registered as a Democrat.

Amend Article II.A.8 to allow those not able to register or pre-register to be appointed as Alternate:

8. Alternate Members: each Elected Member may appoint a Primary Alternate Member and a Secondary Alternate Member who reside in the same district; each Ex-Officio and

DNC Member may appoint a Primary Alternate Member and a Secondary Alternate Member who ~~are registered to vote~~ reside in the County; each Regional Director Member may appoint a Primary Alternate Member and a Secondary Alternate Member who reside in the same Region; each accredited organization may appoint an Alternate Member who ~~is registered to vote~~ resides in the County and is a member of that organization. Alternate Members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. A Primary Alternate who is elected as an officer will continue as a Member of the SCCDCC and remain eligible to serve as an officer until the end of the term of said office, even if the authority that appointed the Member as a Primary Alternate withdraws said appointment.

Amend Article II.D. to allow those not eligible to register as Democrats to be appointed as proxy

D. Proxies. Proxies may be designated by voting Members, as follows:

2. The proxy is given to any registered or pre-registered Democrat, or a person who is not eligible to register or pre-register as Democrats but affirms in writing that they identify as a Democrat, including without limitation an undocumented person, who is a resident of Santa Clara County and of that jurisdiction through which the member giving the proxy holds the SCCDCC seat; and

Amend Article V.A. to remove reference to Regional Director serving as a voting member of our County Executive Board:

A. Composition. The Executive Board consists of the following as voting members: the elected officers of SCCDCC, the Directors, the Youth Representative(s), ~~the Regional Director who represents the largest number of voters in Santa Clara County~~ and, as non-voting members, the four appointed officers.

Draft of Proposed Changes to Executive Board Duties and Responsibilities Act

Amend Article I.B. and I.C. and preamble of Article II to remove reference to “Executive Officers,” which is not consistent with the Bylaws:

I. Name, Purpose, and Scope

I.A. The name of this Act shall be the SCCDCC Executive Board Duties and Responsibilities Act.

I.B. The purpose of this Act shall be to define the duties, responsibilities, and powers of the members of the Executive Officers Board of the SCCDCC.

I.C. This Act shall supplement the broad guidelines provided by the SCCDCC Bylaws ~~in regards to the~~ regarding members of the Executive Officers Board of the SCCDCC; and shall regulate said members of the Executive Officers Board under the SCCDCC Bylaws.

II. Duties, Responsibilities, and Powers

The duties, responsibilities, and powers of the Executive ~~Officers~~ Board members shall be as follows:

Amend Article II.E. to conform to previous changes to Bylaws:

II.E. Director of ~~Voter Registration and Community Services Outreach~~

II.E.1. To promote community involvement and participation in the Democratic Party and Democrats, in general;

II.E.2. ~~To make arrangements for Special Projects and Events, including~~ hospitality requirements for the SCCDCC; and

II.E.3. To coordinate voter registration, informational tabling, and other outreach activities and GOTV.

Add Article II.L to include duties of Youth Representative(s):

II.L. Youth Representative(s)

II.L.1. To represent the interests, concerns, and perspectives of youth residents of Santa Clara County in deliberations and decisions of the Executive Board.

Amend Article III to include reference to “directors”:

III. Enablement

III.A. Each officer and director shall perform his or her duties as prescribed, through appropriate activity, delegation, or as prescribed by additional legislation.

III.B. Except where otherwise provided, each officer and director is expected to report their relevant activities to the full SCCDCC on a monthly basis.

Draft Proposed Changes to Endorsements in Local Races Act

Add Article I.B.3 to include as a criterion to be eligible for (continued) endorsement that the candidate not have endorsed (and continued to have endorsed, once given notice in writing) a non-Democrat running against an endorsed Democrat:

3. Any Democratic elected official or candidate who endorses a candidate for office who is not a registered Democrat and is running against an endorsed Democrat, and who fails or refuses to timely withdraw such endorsement upon request in writing by the County Chair, shall automatically and without any further consideration or action of the SCCDCC (a) have any current endorsement by the SCCDCC withdrawn and (b) lose their eligibility to be considered for endorsement through the end of the next general election.

Amend Article II.A.3 to provide that only clubs chartered at the beginning of the current 2-year organizational term of the SCCDCC will be entitled to a representative on the SCCDCC endorsement committee:

3. One (1) member representative from each ~~accredited~~ club accredited at the start of the current biennial club chartering term, nominated by the Chair of that club.

Amend Article II.D to allow for multiple candidates to be interviewed together:

D. Interviews. The Endorsement Committee shall, as soon as practical, ~~separately~~ interview each candidate for whom an endorsement is considered.

Amend Article II.E.3 to make clear that a member must not be recused from voting in order to make a motion regarding a race:

3. An Endorsement Committee member who is an unpaid campaign staff member of a candidate in the same race; and/or has donated, endorsed, or volunteered for a candidate in the same race may be present for the interview of candidates in that race but may not ask questions of any candidate in that race, and may be present for and participate in discussions at the sub-committee and Endorsement Committee levels, but shall not make any motion for endorsement or participate in the sub-committee or Endorsement Committee vote on candidates in that race.

Amend Article II.E.4 to correct erroneous cross-references:

4. Members subject to the disclosure requirements of this section, including without limitation those subject to the restrictions in sections II.~~DE~~.2. and/or II.~~DE~~.3., retain their right to participate fully in the consideration and vote on the endorsement by the full Central Committee.

Amend Article II to add Section F, specifying procedural rules, and renumber the following Sections accordingly:

F. Procedural Rules. Meeting of the Endorsement Committee shall be conducted according to rules of procedure set forth in the SCCDCC Bylaws for the conduct of SCCDCC meetings. Motions to recommend endorsement, or not, require a simple majority of those Endorsement Committee members who are present and voting. With respect to motions to recommend endorsement, motions to recommend sole endorsement shall be considered before any motion to recommend multiple endorsement. If no motion to recommend sole endorsement or multiple endorsement passes, the Endorsement Committee may, by majority vote, adopt a motion to recommend that “no endorsement” be made. If no motion passes, the Endorsement Committee Chair will report to the SCCDCC that the Endorsement Committee did not reach a consensus on a recommendation in the race. For convenience, subcommittees of the Endorsement Committee may follow less formal procedures, unless a motion is made and passed by simple majority to follow the more formal rules applicable to the full Endorsement Committee, in which case the rules applicable to the Endorsement Committee will be followed by the subcommittee.

FG. Recommendation. For each office sought, the Endorsement Committee shall provide an endorsement recommendation to the SCCDCC.

GH. Summary for Campaign Assistance. The Endorsement Committee Chair shall provide to the Political Director a summary of endorsement recommendations for use in determining levels of campaign assistance.