Minutes of the Dean Democratic Club of Silicon Valley Organizational Meeting
August 28, 2017
Marie Callender's Restaurant, 751 E. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale

Next working meetings: September 25, October 23, November 27
Next DFA-link meetings: September 11, October 9, November 13
Holiday potluck and brainstorming of 2018 goals: December 11

Introductions: John Comiskey called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Following that, each person introduced himself or herself and made a statement about recent political involvement.

Adoption of agenda: After one addition was made, Ralph Wheeler moved that we adopt the agenda, Carolyn Curtis seconded it, and the motion passed with no dissension.

Approval of minutes: Gerry Hunt moved that we approve the July minutes, Carolyn seconded the motion, and it passed with no dissension.

Treasurer's report: Karen Porter reported that we have $1897 in the state and $2125 in the federal account for a total of $4022. In response to requests, Carolyn is going to send us information about contributing to a memorial fund in memory of Don Mayall. There was a discussion of various types of club fundraisers (ice cream social, etc.). Farideh offered to work on this, possibly for October; if you have suggestions, please send them to her at fardomish@gmail.com.

NEW BUSINESS

Recap of event for Jerry McNerney: Mary Gill reported that the event for Congressman Jerry McNerney at Stephanie Grossman's home on July 30 with Congresswoman Barbara Lee was attended by 112 people and raised over $19,000. There was a discussion of past fundraisers and ideas for ways to generate more attendance at future ones.

Delta tunnels: Mary noted that the Santa Clara Valley Water District will have a voice in whether the Delta tunnels are approved, and a decision will probably be made by early October. She passed out information from the Sierra Club and encouraged everyone to e-mail the board and express opposition to the project, which is projected to cost somewhere between $17 and 60 billion and will wreak environmental havoc on the Delta and its flora and fauna. We in the SCVWD have real leverage because we are rate payers; the board will have to answer to those of us footing the bill. Numerous alternatives have

been proposed. Please write even a short e-mail to urge the board to oppose. See information and sample letter at: http://www.sierraclub.org/loma-prieta/tell-water-district-no-tunnels

DISCLOSE Act update and hearing in Sacramento tomorrow: Since Nancy Neff was knee-deep in working on car pools and legislative assignments (with amazing patience and perseverance), Mary reported on the California DISCLOSE Act, AB 249. There was a rally on August 23 at the state capitol; President Pro Tem Kevin de León attended and became a coauthor and pledged to get the bill through the legislature and onto the governor's desk. There is currently no labor opposition, but we do need 2/3 of both houses, which may be difficult even though we have exactly 2/3 Dems. There will be a hearing tomorrow, Tuesday, August 29, in the Senate Elections Committee at 1:30. She urged people to attend. For lobbying, meet at 10:00 a.m. in Room 126. The hearing will be in room 3191 at 1:30.

SB 100 support: Joel Masser had received a request from the Silicon Valley Climate Action Alliance asking us to declare our support for SB 100, which would accelerate the pace of California's energy renewal program to 100% by 2045. They are forming a coalition to try to get the bill passed. Ralph Wheeler pointed out that we've been speeding by our goals on renewables and said that setting them higher is a great idea. Carolyn moved that we support the request, Mary seconded the motion, and it passed with no dissent.

AB 249 support: Similarly, the Silicon Valley Climate Action Alliance had asked us to support the newest DISCLOSE Act bill, AB 249, and become part of their coalition to pass it. We are already listed on the California Clean Money website as endorsers. Jackie moved that we support the request, Gerry seconded the motion, and it passed with no dissension.

Proposed by-laws change: John had sent out a proposed change in our by-laws in July and again recently; it was available at the July meeting as well as at this one: http://ddcsv.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/bylaws-change-proposed-for-2017-08-28.pdf
The change involves Article VI B1 and 2, on voting requirements, and adds "present and entitled to vote" after "members" in three cases. Jackie moved that we make the change, Carolyn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Karen Porter pointed out that the FPPC requires us to have an assistant treasurer; she is formulating another by-laws change to follow FPPC rules and will have information at the next meeting.

Venue rental: John moved that we reimburse Farideh Dormishian, our new program director, for money for rental for venues for our DFA-link meetings. Carolyn seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously. The group commented that she did a great job with the August DFA-link meeting. There was a discussion of possible future venues.

OLD BUSINESS

Good government: Covered earlier.

Political outreach: John described some of the meetings of resistance groups that he has been attending on behalf of the Dean Club and the county party. He noted that Swing Left has been doing voter registration in CD 10 the last Saturday of every month. The group thanked him for these efforts. Farideh announced that this Wednesday, August 30, the ACLU will feature Stanford professor Jonathan Rodden speaking on "Political Geography and Minority Rule" at the Los Altos High School Auditorium, 201 Almond Avenue, at 7:30 p.m.

Environment: Covered earlier.

Social justice: No report.

Economic justice: No report.

Health care: Gerry reported that SB 562 is now in the Select Committee on Health Care Delivery Systems and Universal Coverage, where it faces an uphill battle since several members are not on board with single-payer health coverage.

Club building: Covered earlier.

Education: No report.

Club membership: Membership chair Ben Shapero reported that we have 192 members (including 21 "paid plus members" who have paid for more than one year and 134 who are now in arrears), 708 Facebook members, and 312 Yahoo members. So far in 2017 we have 19 new members and 90 new Facebook members. Ralph noted that we now have over 700 Facebook members, a new high, and still over 300 Yahoo members. Ben said that he will be contacting people who are in arrears with membership, and Carolyn offered to help.

John mentioned that he will be away next month, and so will Barbara. Updating the website may be a problem unless someone who knows the system (WordPress) can pitch in. Farideh offered to try to help with this.

Announcements

❖ Karen noted that Arthur Keller recently contributed $100 to our club; none of our endorsed Palo Alto City Council candidates have contributed.

❖ Farideh reported that Dotty Nygard, running for Congress in CD 10, will be the speaker at our next DFA-link meeting, September 11, at the Congregational Church of Sunnnyvale, 1112 S Bernardo Avenue, Sunnyvale 94087. Snacks and conversation at 6:30, meeting at 7:00.

❖ Jackie announced that Ben Field, South Bay Labor Council CEO, will be the speaker at the next Century Club meeting, Friday, September 8 from noon to 1:30 at the San Jose Convention Center. On Friday, October 13, Delaine Eastin, candidate for governor of California, will speak at Michael's at Shoreline, Mountain View, also for the Century Club.

❖ Farideh reported that our speaker at the last DFA-link meeting, T. J. Cox (running for Congress in CD 10) sent her nice message after the event. She sent him a card on behalf of the club.

Adjournment: At 8:50, Karen moved that we adjourn, Carolyn seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Mary Gill