



Minutes of the Dean Democratic Club of Silicon Valley Organizational Meeting
October 26, 2020

Next working meetings (by Zoom): November 23, January 25, February 22, March 22

Next DFA Link program meeting (by Zoom): December 14 (annual brainstorming for next year's goals)

Introductions: John Comiskey called the Zoom 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: Gerry Hunt moved that we adopt the agenda, Alice Smith seconded it, and the motion passed with no dissension.

Approval of minutes: Alice Smith moved that we approve the September minutes, Amy Wright seconded the motion, and the motion passed with no dissension.

Treasurer's report: Amy Wright reported that we have \$1157 in the bank: \$294 in the state and \$863 in the federal account. \$55 in the P.O. Box. Of the many checks she wrote to candidates after our last meeting, all but four cleared, about \$400. She filed the FEC report also (this is a huge job--thank you, Amy!).

NEW BUSINESS

SCCDP Chartering: John reported that we are required to resubmit our chartering documents in January. That means our memberships need to be up to date. Ben Shapero, membership chair, can provide this information if you are want to check: shaperobenjamin@gmail.com

GOTV opportunities: John asked people to put ideas in the chat for GOTV activities. He mentioned that the county party has many ways to volunteer, with both the Biden campaign and other candidates or groups. He added a link: <https://www.mobilize.us/joebiden/event/339413/> Phoning is almost daily now. See sccdp.org/action. Mary Gill added a link to the Democratic Volunteer Center: demvolctr.org. There are opportunities there to work with a variety of campaigns and organizations and many trainings for phone banking. If you sign up to text, you will get a message with a detailed list of campaigns that offer texting and training. Nancy Neff has been phoning for Reclaim Our Vote and provided this link: bit.ly/callapalooza. ROV is

phoning to many voters in states that have significant voter suppression. She has phoned to quite a few southern states and polls are shifting in favor of Democrats. She pointed out that many of the voters they contact respond well to phone conversations and are less likely to use Internet. Nancy gave a link to a post-election debrief with Andrea Miller of ROV: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/reclaim-our-vote-briefing-11-5-2020>. Jackie Wheeler is phoning for Sister District: <https://sisterdistrict.com/volunteer>. She is also doing lit drops for local candidates (as are Gerry Hunt and Mimi Spreadbury) and will check out texting opportunities. Mary described some positive experiences she's had texting voters in swing states with Senate races, within the Democratic Party so the information collected is preserved.

There was a discussion of our December meeting, which will be on Zoom. It was decided that people can provide suggestions for the goals for 2021 and add them to the chat.

OLD BUSINESS

Candidates and initiatives: In response to a question, Tom Shaw provided a link about the \$100 million super PAC from Silicon Valley megadonors: <https://www.vox.com/recode/2020/10/20/21523492/future-forward-super-pac-dustin-moskovitz-silicon-valley>. Alice Smith plans to text voters in Ohio (see link in announcements--the event includes training). John reported that 30% of voters in our state have voted. Ralph mentioned that it's important to make sure your signature matches your driver's license so the ballot doesn't get rejected. There was a discussion of the Supreme Court confirmation and how it might affect the election.

Good government: No report.

Economic justice: No report.

Environment: Amy Wright reported that she has seen signs to recall Governor Newsom. Ralph Wheeler reported that there are new developments in geothermal energy, which will be there for 100 million years; there are some new technologies to make it mainstream.

Health care: No report.

Social justice: John reported that Measure G in San Jose would increase funding for police oversight, and Gerry Hunt commented that police officers there have had considerable power in the past and this measure could help give more power to the auditor. Nancy provided the link seesay2020.com, which allows you to photograph or video problems at polls and post them on line. She also added a website about efforts to resist far-right intimidation at polling locations: <https://truthout.org/articles/organizers-are-gearing-up-to-resist-far-right-intimidation-at-polls/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=ff5559fd-3138-4033-b677-9b75f458b1da>

Education: John noted that there are propositions and measures on the ballot that will help with school funding and encouraged people to vote for them and urge their friends to do so.

Political outreach: Covered earlier.

Club membership: No report. John will contact Ben Shapero about SCCDP chartering.

Announcements

❖ Jackie Wheeler announced that there will be a virtual lunch and election recap with Dr. Terry Christensen, political scientist and author, on November 13 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Sure to be an informative and interesting event.
https://www.demcenturyclub.org/virtual_lunch_nov_2020

❖ Alice Smith shared a link for a text bank with Battleground Ohio (Dems) on October 27 at 3:30 Pacific time, including training:
<https://www.mobilize.us/oh2020victory/event/341917/>

Adjournment: At 8:03 p.m. Jackie Wheeler moved that we adjourn the meeting, Amy Wright seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Mary Gill