Minutes of the Davis Democratic Club Board Meeting

Tuesday October 6, 2020

Place: Meeting on ZOOM

Davis, CA 95616

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President Stephen Souza

Quorum was 8 board members

Members Present: 16 board members were present at the beginning of the meeting.

President Stephen Souza

Vice President Rick Gonzales

Treasurer Ameer Alsawaf

Recording Secretary G Richard Yamagata

Corresponding Secretary & Publicity Giles Giovinazzi

Membership Chair Saira Delgado

Newsletter Editor Carl Schmid

Past President Bob Bockwinkel

Board Members present: Jan Agee, Tom Dowling, Dave Griffin, Bob Marr, Jonathan Howard, Francois Kaeppelin and Linda Deos

Ex-Officio present: YCDP President Bob Schelen,

ATTENDANCE: These rules are not in effect during the COVID19 Pandemic

Board Members absent: Dillan Horton (on sabbattical), Alan Hirsch(on sabbattical)

Ex-Officio members absent: The College Dems president Aurora Schunemann, Jim Provenza and Bill Julian, – no attendance requirement

There were 5 guests present. They were Luba Schmid, Marie Bockwinkel, Bruce, Kristal Edwards-Starling, Christian MonseesA quorum is 8 board members. A Quorum was present at the meeting with 15 board members attending at the end of this meeting.

AGENDA

The agenda was presented to the board by the President, Stephen Souza. Bob Bockwinkel made the motion to approve the agenda as submitted with no changes. Carl Schmid seconded the motion. The agenda was approved with no objection and it passed unanimously.

MINUTES

The minutes for the September meeting were presented by the President, Stephen Souza. The motion to approve was made by Linda Deos and seconded by Bob Bockwinkel. The minutes were approved with no objection and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT and COMMUNICATIONS

President Stephen Souza opened with public comments. Bruce presented first with a report from Community First for Biden. They started writing post cards to people that they know to get out the vote. He stated how he grew his campaign. Janet Agee commented that the national campaign asked that letter writing should come to an end now that the ballots are being mailed. The fear is that letters will add to the massive amount of mail during October. There was general agreement amongst the board that US Mail is slow and not being delivered. The letter writing programs by Bob and Bruce was left to their respective, better judgment during the last 4 weeks of the campaign.

 COLLEGE CAMPUS DEMS

The College Dems president, Aurora, was not able to make this meeting.

YCDP REPORT

Bob Schelen presented for YCDP. He reported on the student intern program that has interns working for the YCDP. This is being overseen by Christian Monsees. Bob reported that the slate card is in the post offices. [This card has all of the candidates, propositions and measures on it that were approved for endorsement by the YCDP.] Kristal Edwards-Starling was at the meeting to ask for video content for the virtual Bean Feed at the end of the month on the 24th. He then reported on the campaign headquarters including a detailed report on receiving signs from Patty Yee and Biden Campaign. All is good at the headquarters. They are doing phone banking for local campaigns and the Biden campaign going into the targeted states. He stated that Giles and other attorneys working against voter suppression by the Republican Party. Bob is working on getting big names for the virtual fundraising.

INDIVISIBLE YOLO

Linda Deos reported as the DDC liason with Indivisible Yolo that the organization is concentrating on texting and phone calling to get the vote out. They did local endorsements and she announced who these people are that were endorsed, Most notable for the DDC is that DDC Board Members Dillan Horton and Linda Deos were endorsed by Indivisible Yolo.

TREASURERS REPORT

Ameer Alsawaf gave a report on the funds in the club treasury. He e-mailed bank statements to the board for August. At the end of August we ended up with 14,548 in the Federal account. We have spent the $8000 for campaign donations as approved by the board from the September meeting.

[$2,000 to the Biden  Campaign
$2,000 to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC)
$2,000 to the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee
$2,000 to the Yolo County Democratic Party

$8000 Total

In addition:
$2,000 for Stephen Souza, the DDC President to use at his discretion for sponsoring fundraisers (like the Verbs) and funding Bob Bockwinkel's letter writing campaign.
(all from last month's meeting) Ry]

President Stephen Souza still has $1041 left to spend of the $2000 to be spend at his deiscretion. Other costs are Copy Max $481, River City fees $470, Post Office fees $500. We had a deposit of $1054 from DDC members and an additional $251 from Act Blue. Right now there is about $4600 in the Federal and $363 in the state account for a total of @$4964 in the DDC treasury.

There were no questions from the board about the treasurer's report. President Stephen Souza thanked Ameer for his report to the board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

 COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD MEMBERS

Bob has no new members to nominate at this time. Bob said that he will be bringing a new nominee from the College Alumni Club after the first of the year.

LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN

They are mailing a package of letters to Texas. They want the letters there by the 15th of October, when they plan to place the letters into the mail to arrive in time for people to read them and then vote in the Texas election. If the letters are not ready by the 15th, they will be sent by the people that still have the letters. He reported that people have spent a long time on this campaign. There are over 1000 letters that have been written up to this time for the Texas. There have been a total of $3500 that have already been mailed out.

President Souza thanked Bob Bockwinkel for all of his work on coordinating this DDC project. He also thanked all of the people that have worked on this project and asked Bob to be sure to tell them that the DDC appreciates their time and effort.

MEMBERSHIP

Saira stated that she has put red dots on the latest two batches of newsletters to see if she can scare people into sending in their memberships for 2020. She reported a total of new 30 renewals. This brings the total to close to 90 memberships that came in this year so far and many of these were for more than what they donated in 2019. They seem to be feeling the urgency of the 2020 November election.

Ne further members will be scoured or removed off of the lists for the remainder of the year.

Bob Bockwinkel informed the board that there will be 5 members that will be donating at the $1000 level. He said that there will be 7 people at the $500 level and 23 at the $200 level.

Saira said that about 20 to 30 envelopes have yet to opened that recently arrived in the PO Box. Twelve to 15 just arrived that the PO Box. Bob will send Saira and Ameer the list of people that have donated the amounts that he discussed.

Stephen stated that if there are over $1000 in those envelopes, he would like to spend this money and send it to the Democratic Senate campaign to flip the Senate from red to blue.

Stephen wants to have three to four thousand dollars remaining in the bank account at the end of 2020 for the club to spend on the newsletter and other bills through 2021. He did not want to spend the balance to zero, being a fiscally prudent person.

Stephen said that he already has $1000 to spend on the Senate campaign.

Saira said that she has not sent DDC Vice President Rick Gonzales the list of people to call that have yet to renew their memberships for 2020. She wanted to give people a chance to donate on their own. She stated that checks continue to arrive at the PO Box. She said that she would get the list over to Rick once the envelopes with renewals seem to have stopped coming into the club PO Box.

Newsletter editor Carl Schmid stated that he was listening and it seems that the club treasury has $6000. He said that it would be a travesty if we have $5000 in the treasury after the election. He would like to see the treasury spent down as close to zero at this time by election day. He does not want to end the year with money in the bank and have remorse that the club did not donate more to affect the November election. He said that it would be an embarrassment if the club had $5000 at the end of the year in the treasury, when we could have spend more before election day. All we need is $2000 in the treasury to get us through the next year.

Giles asked that if there are any extra dollars will be give to the Biden for President campaign. President Stephen Souza said that he was already doing that for the club.

MOTION/VOTE

Carl Schmid made the motion to authorize the President Stephen Souza to spend the maximum additional amount of money, at the DDC President's and the DDC Treasurer's discretion, on Democratic candidate campaigns before election day. [It is understood that an additional $4000 potentially will be donated from the DDC treasury to national Democratic candidate campaigns. If we are short we could shake a cup and raise the money as we have done in the past.]

This motion was seconded by Bob Bockwinkel and Linda Deos.

The motion was passed unanimously by the DDC board.

NEWSLETTER

Carl Schmid started his report by thanking Francois for updating the web site by adding a volunteer page. He listed and has links to various campaign activities that volunteers can participate. Carl said that he would update and add any additional links or listings to the page. People only have to send him the information.

The next newsletter will not come out until after the election, so there is no immediate information that needs to be disseminated. He asked Bob Schelen to print a debriefing for the November election.

He wanted the club to write a forward looking letter for the club newsletter in what will be happening in the world of COVID19. The membership needs to know what is going to happen with the club.

Stephen said that he will do that. He said that he has ideas of what to do for the next year.

Bob Bockwinkel said that he has a venue for our next fundraiser.

GENERAL MEETINGS

President Souza said that the club can host an election night party. This would be a test for the Holiday Party. He said that he needs help to write people names down to give away swag during the party at random periods of time during the party. [The club did have the party and it was sparsely attended. The election results were too up in the air and were no cause for celebration.] Bob Schelen asked that the club coordinate with the Democratic Campaign Headquarters. He did not want the club to come cross purposes and take audience away from the headquarters election night party or event.

VIRTUAL BEAN FEED

Kristal Edward-Starling talked about the virtual event that was planned for October 24th. She said that this would be an online event. She asked the DDC and other clubs to prepare photo montages. The event has been named "The soul of Yolo." She asked for donations for the silent auction.

Luba volunteered to put together the photo montage for the DDC. Also, Bob Bockwinkel volunteered to get the photo montage from Arun's funeral which had many, many photos from DDC and Democratic Party events.

ON GOING BUSINESS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Giles stated that the club needs to give itself credit for what we have done this year. We have donated money to campaigns, we have participated in campaigning by letter writing, we have reached over 7000 people through our letters and Facebook and other social media. The club has been active throughout this election cycle. No other club puts out a printed newsletter.

Carl asked that Giles write an article of what the accomplishments have been of the club has been over the last 3 months.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bob Bockwinkel wanted the club to know that he is working on-going with the College Alumni of the College Dems and will be bringing a new board member from that organization during the new year. He also continues to coordinate between the DDC and the College Dems and is in contact with them.

KUDOS

Carl Schmid gave kudos to Bob Bockwinkel for all his work as being our DDC Field Operation.

Marie

WEIR-WILLIAMSON AWARD

It was agreed that we will wait until next year to give out this award.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No other announcements were made at this time.

FUTURE MEETINGS

November 3rd will be the virtual party. The next board meeting will be one week after election day, November 10. The next meeting in December will be on Decmeber 1, 2020. All of these meetings will be held via Zoom.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Carl Schmid made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Bob Bockwinkel and Bob Schelen. The board voted to adjourn with no objections. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by G Richard Yamagata December 1, 2020.