Minutes of the Davis Democratic Club Board Meeting

Tuesday December 1, 2020

Place: Meeting on ZOOM

Davis, CA 95616

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by President Stephen Souza

Quorum was 9 board members

Members Present: 14 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, Bob Marr, Jonathan Howard, Dave Griffin, and Linda Deos

Ex-Officio present: none

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

The by-laws state that an individual cannot miss 3 meetings in a row. It also states that a person cannot miss 3 meetings in a 5 meeting reporting period. This is to prevent members from showing up every other meeting or 50% of the time.

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

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

There were 8 guests present. They were Luba Schmid, Marie Bockwinkel, Tom Cronin, Sean

Raycraft, Gary Hopkins, Erika Valle, Don Gibson, and Christian Monsees.

A quorum is 9 board members. A Quorum was present at the meeting with 14 board members attending at the end of this meeting.

AGENDA

The agenda was presented to the board by the President, Stephen Souza.

MOTION/VOTE

Carl Schmid made the motion to approve the agenda as submitted with no changes. Bob Bockwinkel seconded the motion. The agenda was approved with no objection and it passed unanimously.

MINUTES

Recording Secretary G Richard Yamagata asked President Stephen Souza to present the October meeting minutes to the board. The minutes were uploaded to the servers.

MOTION/VOTE

Bob Bockwinkel thanked G Richard for the detailed minutes for the Davis Democratic Club meetings Bob made the motion to approve the agenda as submitted with no changes. Bob Bockwinkel seconded the motion. Carl Schmid seconded the motion The October minutes were approved with no objection and it passed unanimously.

There were no November Minutes, because that DDC Board Meeting was cancelled because of the November election.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment from the visitors. Stephen Souza had everyone introduce themselves, which helped greatly with recording attendance.

Christian Monsees COLLEGE CAMPUS DEMS

The College Dems president, Aurora, was not able to make this meeting. Christian Monsees made observations on what the College Dems have been doing by saying that they have been working hard for the November elections and were now working hard on final exams.

INDIVISIBLE YOLO

Linda Deos reported on what Idivisible Yolo had been doing. The Indivisible general meeting was the previous night. The organization made thousands of phone calls, sent tens of thousands of text messages, and thousands of letters and post cards She stated that there was no meeting next month. She lastly reported that Indivisible gave $11000 in matched funds to the Stacy Abrams campaign.

YCDP REPORT

Bob Schelen was not present at this meeting. There was no report given, because there was no November meeting. There was a report on what was being planned by the YCDP for the future, but no official word from the YCDP chair.

TREASURERS REPORT

Ameer Alsawaf gave a report on the funds in the club treasury. He e-mailed bank statements to the board for September and October. During the last 30 days (the month of November), the DDC has donated $2000 to the Democratic Senate committee. The club had given $3500 during the previous months for a total of $5500 given by Board and the club to various campaigns since October. There were additional bills totaling $1394. The club had $3057 in the Federal account and $363 in state account for a total of $3420 in the treasury at the end of October. At the end of November, Ameer estimates that we have $2700 in the treasury.

Vice President Rick Gonzales asked for the treasurer to restate the bills and if the totals included the latest dues that were collected by the membership chair, Saira Delgado. Ameer repeated all of the figures ad stated that no, the totals do not include the latest dues, because the money has yet to be deposited.

There were no other questions about the treasurer's report.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

There were no new members presented at this time. Board membership chair Bob Bockwinkel stated that he would like to have alternates elected to the board, if the board thought the board was getting too large.

Bob Bockwinkel had invited people to tonight's board meeting that worked on the 2020 November election campaign. He had invited Tom Cronin, Sean Raycraft, Gary Hopkins, and Erika Valle, Gary Hopkins came from Ohio, ran his neighborhood precinct there and was chair of the local Democratic Party organization. He also talked about Don Gibson, Gary Hopkins, Tom Cronin, Sean Raycraft and Erika Valle.  He said that they all have skill sets that can be utilized by the board.

President Stephen Souza told the visitors that they can save their invite to attend future meeting.

Membership

Membership Chair Saira Delgado reported that the DDC had 112 memberships renewed so far this year. She stated that most of these people gave beyond the $50/year membership level and some people have even given twice this year. She stated that this number is less than the number of names that have renewed in past years, but she suspects that people are having financial trouble in this day of Covid 19. She hopes that people will return to the fold and donate money next year. She stated that Bob Bockwinkel is doing fantastic work in getting people to renew and to donate at above the $50 level. She then asked Carl if she could put a blurb in the newsletter that explained how people will not be dropped from the membership list.

NEWSLETTER

Carl Schmid, editor of the DDC Newsletter, stated that it has been an interesting year and that was the subject of the last newsletter. The newsletter covered the status of the club and what it did during the 2020 election cycle and where the club is headed in the future. Publicity Chair and Corresponding Secretary Giles Giovinazzi wrote the excellent article and it is worth the time for all of the board members to read the article.

Editor Carl then stated that there was a problem with the DDC web site and he asked Dave Griffin to look at it and repair the mechanism to upload the newsletters. Dave and his wife will look at it. He stated that a fix will be coming in the next few days. He explained why the problem occurred. He stated that they are working on the problem.

Carl thanked them for working on this.

Carl then asked for more articles and asked for ideas for future newsletters.

Bob stated that when we start focusing on future board members that we do articles on these people. Bob said that Sean Raycraft has a very interesting past and it would be a great article to write about him.

GENERAL MEETINGS

President Stephen Souza stated that the John Natsoulas Gallery is available to the DDC whenever Club wants to use it. He stated that "we are all ready for the biggest party, ever, once the lockdown is over. We can use the entire facility from the bottom floor to the fourth floor, the roof and the front "cat" patio area. He asked the board to start thinking about it and to start contacting people to make this happen once we are unleashed from isolation.

In the mean time, he asked board members for ideas on what to do for future fundraiser, like what to replace the annual "love your electeds" fundraiser. He stated that other clubs are doing virtual auctions. He further stated that the DDC is an older club in terms of demographics and therefore he does not know how many people want to do a virtual zoom "love your electeds" or zoom virtual "Champagne Brunch."

Dave Griffin stated that the Winters club wants to do an inauguration virtual event. For the price of a bottle of champagne donated to the club, a bottle of pascoe can be delivered to the door of anyone that wants to participate. Bob Bockwinkel can pick-up or dropoff a bottle of sparkling wine. Linda Deos state that she did wine fundraisers for her campaign that did well. Linda felt that the inauguration fundraiser event was a great idea. Bob thought that we can tie in with the Winters Club.

Bob digressed and started talking about other club members that have big backyards that the club can use once we are no longer in isolatio.

Rick stated that we can have a large event that incorporates all of the 4 Democratic Clubs. We can have a county wide function at the event that will be convened after we all get out of isolation. This can start exchanging and working together with the other clubs. It might be worth pursuing.

Bob Marr suggested that we buy Perseco sparkling wine from Costco.

The board agreed that we will have a sparkling wine event. Rick Gonzales, Bob Bockwinkel, Bob Marr and Dave Griffin will make this event happen.

MOTION/DISCUSSION/VOTE

Stephen Souza made a motion to have this virtual sparkling wine inauguration event.

Linda Deos seconded the motion.

Carl Schmid stated that we had two virtual events, which he felt were not anywhere near a success.

Stephen stated that we need to promote the event. Bob Marr stated that we need to purchase only the number of bottles that are needed. Saira stated that we need to do phoning of members and have other members call new members.

Bob stated that we have 15 board members and if each board member calls 10 people we can have 150 people participating.

It passed 15 votes aye, no nayes nor abstaining votes.

FINISHED/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bob stated that Holly Bishop has volunteered their house for a swimming pool event.  Stephen stated that this is way too far into the future.

Someone mentioned that the AD representative elections are coming up and explained the process of how the delegates can register on-line and the ballots will be mail-in ballots. There is a web site address to register as a candidate and to apply to receive a ballot to vote. Any registered Democrat living in the assembly district can receive a ballot to vote.

SOCIAL MEDIA/WEB SITE

Giles Giovinazzi reported that there is nothing more going on with the web site other than the usual non-election traffic, now that the November election was over.

KUDOS

Stephen gave kudos to Linda Dios for running for office and putting herself out there. He was speaking as a candidate that ran and lost and ran and won and ran and won and ran and won and ran and lost. He thanked Linda for running.

Dave Griffin gave kudos to all of the candidates that won that were endorsed by the YCDP. Stephen made the observation that there were many elections that were decided by only a few votes. He stated let no one tell you that your vote does not count.

Rick Gonzales gave kudos for a Latina that ran for Woodland City Council and won by 26 votes. She was endorsed by the YCDP, so was covered in the last kudos.

No other announcements were made at this time.

FUTURE MEETINGS

We will continue to meet using ZOOM, the first Tuesday of each month until June 2021 Meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Carl Schmid made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Linda Deos. The board voted to adjourn with no objections. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by G Richard Yamagata January 5, 2021.