Minutes of the Davis Democratic Club Board Meeting

Tuesday December 5, 2023

Place: Stphen Souza 2424 Rodin Place

Davis, CA 95616

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

Quorum was 6 board members

Members Present: 12 board members were present at the beginning of the meeting.

President Stephen Souza Present

Vice President Rick Gonzales - Present

Treasurer Ameer Alsawaf Present

Recording Secretary G Richard Yamagata Present

Corresponding Secretary & Publicity Giles Giovinazzi Present

Membership Chair Gary Hopkins

Newsletter Editor Carl Schmid

Past President Bob Bockwinkel Present

Board Members present: Jan Agee, NJ Mvondo, Bob Marr,

Ex-Officio present: Aiden Ledbetter,

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: Jonathan Howard

Ex-Officio members absent: Jim Provenza and and Bill Julian, YCDP Linda Deos

There was 1 guest present. -- ChuckWhite present

A quorum is 6 board members. A Quorum was present at the meeting with 11 board members attending at the beginning of the meeting and 12 board members at end of this meeting.

AGENDA

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

MOTION

Carl Schmid move for the agenda to be approved. Gary Hopkins seconded the motion.

VOTE

The agenda was approved with no objection and it passed unanimously. 11 ayes and 0 nayes

MINUTES

The minutes were distributed by e-mail.

MOTION

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Carl Schmid. The motion was seconded by Bob Bockwinkel.

VOTE

There were 11 ayes and no nayes or abstentions. The minutes were passed as published.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was one member from the public, Chuck White. He will address the board later under board membership.

REPORTS

COLLEGE CAMPUS DEMS Report

Aiden was present and he reported that the month of November was busy with the the group attending the CADEMS convention. They had the largest college dems group present at the meeting with 35 people in attendance. They also had goat the vote on the quad this month, signing up new voters. They canvassed precincts for the Woodland School Boarrd election for the Democrat running against the Republican incumbant and canvassed for Sheila Allen, They also did phone banking for the congressional election in Virginia, making over 778 phone calls and mailed post cards to Gavim Nuesome, the UC Regents and the Davis City council asking for stronger action on climate change action. They also are spearheading and partnering with other on campus groups to register more students on campus to vote. They also attended the UC Davis/Yolo County/City of Davis 2 by 2 by meeting on housing for students and asked for students to be represented on their commitees.

YCDP and SISTER DISTRICT/INDIVISIBLE YOLO

Linda Deos was not present at this meeting, so no report was given.

Linda was at the Davis City Council meeting

TREASURERS REPORT

The treasurer Ameer Alsawaf gave the report. The club started out last month with 22044.68. It received 100 in memberships - so ended with a balance 22199.68 in bank.

President Souza stated that going into the holiday party, things are coming along nicely.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Bob Bockwinke l introduced Chuck White for board inclusion at next month's meeting. Chuck stated that he is most interested in getting out the vote in Nevada and has participated in Reno and Sparks in canvassing and walking for the Democrats running for congress. Bob stated that Chuck has a rental in Lake Tahoe, which could be made available to students and club members that want to canvass precincts in Nevada, but Chuck stated that if you are really interested in walking precincts, it is more time effective to rent a room with other precinct walkers in your target city. This makes up for the 2 hour or more drive to the precincts from Lake Tahoe to the locations in urban Nevada like Reno, Sparkes and Las Vegas. Chuck stated that it is easy find motel roommates with the online sites where you can find fellow precinct walkers to share a room with. He recently shared a room with a Democrat fro Palo Alto. You just have to go to the web site for "get out the vote" that is sponsored by the Democratic Party. They do this because Nevada is a swing state and is important for the Presidential and congressional elections.

MEMBERSHIP

Gary Hopkins reported that the club currently has 164 family units and 230 individual members. He expects to start the new year with the big push for renewals in mambership.

The post office has once again changed the rules for bulk mailing. President Souza has suggested that the club no longer try to meet the bulk mail requirements and go to using stamps. This will save money in the long run. Also, he suggested that the club go to e-mail distribution of the newsletter to all that have e-mail There are 8 to 20 members without e-mail addresses and we should mail out those newsletters to those members using stamps. If anyone objects or needs a printed newsletter, the people should contact the board [Bob Bockwinkel at 530-848-8634 or G Richard Yamagata at yamagata@dcn.org of Stephen Souza at sasouza55@gmail.com]. .

NEWSLETTER

Carl Schmid reported that there was a quick newsletter that went out and that the club only has 8 people without an e-mail address. That quick newsletter has gone out and people should have already received the newsletter electronically. The next newsletter should have lots of photos from the holiday party. He also stated the the top donors list has once again be edited and updated.

NJ asked on the club is able to allow for new members to sign up on line. The club has an Act Blue account and Giles stated that you can go to the DDC Facebook page and click on the Act Blue link and give money to the club that way. Several members of the board stated that they use this method to renew their memberships and make a note in the comment field. NJ asked if the procedure can be made easier and a better link be placed at the DDC web site. Giles said that he will look into this. In all actuality, there should be a committee to work on this. G Richard Yamagata stated that there needs to templates set up for each club event. For now, members that wish to use Act Blue will have to use the generic donation form and to put a notation as to what the donation is paying for.

GENERAL MEETINGS

The planning is in full swing. The Sunday Holiday Party will feature the Raging Grannies, Poetry readings by various people of various groups and that everyone that walks into the door will be given a raffle ticket and everyone will go home with a prize. Prizes will include campaign swag, champagne flutes Christmas Cactus and more.

The location is the old Caffe Italia 1111 Richards Blvd, now named University Park Suites and will be from 3-5 PM.

It was asked that all that attend to try to bring food .

It was requested that G Richard Yamagata to send out an e-mail link to people like students that only use credit and debit cards to be able to pay via Act Blue. Also, he will inform people that only cash or check will be accepted at the door. [This was completed by G Richard Yamagata.]

Lastly it was noted that there are still 12 bottles of sparkling wine that were donated by Bob Marr from the Champagne Brunch. These will be used at the Holiday Party.

President Stephen Souza stated that he and Robin will update and present the poem The Night Before Christmas in Davis for the poetry reading.

ON GOING BUSINESS

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Nothing new to report.

FACEBOOK

Giles reported that the latest newsletter has been posted. .

TWITTER or X.COM

G Richard Yamagata reported that the number of followers continue to increase and the DDC online at X is firmly Blue Wave and supports the Biden-Harris ticket. We currently are at 5700 plus followers..

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

KUDOS

Aiden gave Kudos Stephen for all that he was going to do for the Holiday Partt,

President Souza gave Kudos to Giles for all his work on the Holiday Party Invitation.

President Stephen Souza gave kudos to Jan Agee, Bob Marr, and Ameer Alsawaf for making the meeting on Zoom.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No public events announced at meeting which are occurring in the new year 2024..

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting is January 9, 2024 and will be a hybrid meeting at the home of Stephen and Robin Souza and on Zoom.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

NJ Mvondo made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Bob Marr. The board voted to adjourn with no objections. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by G Richard Yamagata 1:25AM January 9, 2024.