Minutes of the Davis Democratic Club Board Meeting

Tuesday March 1, 2022

Place: Meeting on ZOOM

Davis, CA 95616

Since only two general DDC members turned out for the General Election Meeting, it was decided to work the General Meeting into the board meeting.

The DDC Board Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by President Stephen Souza.

Quorum was 8 board members

Members Present: 13 board members were present at the beginning of the meeting. There were 14 board members at the end 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 Vacant

Newsletter Editor Carl Schmid

Past President Bob Bockwinkel

Board Members present: Bob Mar, Jan Agee, Jonathan Howard, and Gary Hopkins

Ex-Officio present: The College Dems president Michelle Andrews, YCDP Chair Linda Deos and Former YCDP Chair Bob Schelen showed.

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, Dave Griffin, Sean Raycraft (up for re-election if they turn up before the General Election)

Ex-Officio members absent: Bill Julian – no attendance requirement

There were 5 guests present. They were David Shapira, Lucy Brazil, Luba Schmid, Marie Bockwinkel, Moses Diaz

A quorum is 8 board members. A Quorum was present at the meeting with 12 board members attending at the beginning of this meeting and 14 board members at the end of the meeting.

AGENDA

The agenda was presented to the board by the President, Stephen Souza, with the following change. Agenda item IV B was moved to the front of the agenda, which entails how the General Meeting election was going to be held.

MOTION/VOTE

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

MINUTES

The minutes are available. They were submitted on line. The recording secretary said that he can wait until April to approve them.

Agenda Item IV B 1. General Election

A roll call of the people attending was taken and confirms the lists above. It was ASSUMED that all people in attendance of the meeting had paid their dues.

President Stephen Souza asked if there were any nominations from the floor as permitted by our by-laws. There were no nominations nor was there a nomination to fill either the Publicity Chair or the Corresponding Secretary position which both offices are held by Giles Giavinazi.

President Souza present the slate of officers put forth by the board to be elected. It is as follows:

President Stephen Souza

Vice President Rick Gonzales

Treasurer Ameer Alsawaf

Recording Secretary G Richard Yamagata

Corresponding Secretary & Publicity Giles Giovinazzi

Membership Chair Gary Hopkins

MOTION/VOTE

There was a motion to elect this slate made by Jonathan Howard and seconded by Carl Schmid.

The slate was approved with no objection from any of the dues paying members present and it passed unanimously. The Executive Board was now established. The executive board also includes the Newsletter Editor and Office of Immediate Past President. We needed to next renew the General, non-elected board members. Those board members present for re-election were: Carl Scmid, Bob Mar, Jan Agee, Jonathan Howard.

PUBLIC COMMENT and COMMUNICATIONS

An announcement that Lucas Ferrichs is having a campaign kick-off for Yolo County Supervisor at 2-3PM on Sunday the 13th of May in Central Park on 5th Street.

David Schpira, a new DDC member of over a year introduced himself to the board == He and his wife came 6 months before the start of the pandemic. Has not met fellow DDC members. He moved from Arizona and was very active politically for the Democratic Party. He serves as a delegate for State Democratic Party appointed by speaker Anthony Rendon.

DAVIS COLLEGE DEMS

The Davis College Democrats President Michelle Andrews had a presentation of what they had done in preparation for the Indigo Awards, which is their annual big fundraiser event. The 14th Annual Indigo Awards will honor 4 people, two of which are Dan Carson, Katey Rogers. The other two to be honored will be announced as the event gets closer. She went over the pricing of the event in terms of sponsoring levels. This will be their 1st in person Indigo Event in 3 years, though you can still participate via on-line if you are so inclined.

Last year's honorees included Assembly Woman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, West Sac Mayor Martha Guerrero, Assemblymember Alex Lee and addressed by CA Senator Scott Wiener at the event. The event broke all previous fundraiser event records in the amount of money raised. The Indigo Awards are our only fundraiser of the year, and all of the money we raise from this event will be spent getting students who are new to politics involved in the campaign and advocacy work we do, such as by sending them on campaign invasions around our communities and the country. We work hard to ensure that any UC Davis student's financial situation is not the reason why they are unable to access the Democratic Party.

During the summer they were able to be the margin of victory for Mia Bonta’s Assembly campaign walking shoes and knocking on hundreds of doors in August. They collaborated with other regional Young Democrats chapters for phonebanks against the recall. In September, They returned to campus for the first time since the pandemic started. They had more than 25 DCDers participate in their first phone bank of the school year for Virginia with Sister District, and they made over 1500 calls in one day. They also hosted a letter-writing event where they were able to write over 140 letters to Virginia in a single morning at the Davis Farmers Market.

Their work is not limited to campaigns. they have played active roles in several statewide

bills that have benefited their fellow students across the state. From last year’s AB 1456 (Cal Grant Reform Act) and AB 928 (Transfer Student Achievement Act) to this year’s SB 886 (Student and Faculty Housing Act), DCD has shown up for key bills and lobbied the legislature to get them passed. DCD also made up the majority of the UC Davis delegation to the recent UC Student Association Student Lobby Conference.

 They have hosted countless elected officials at our general meetings the last two quarters including: Congressman Mike Thompson, Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Davis City Councilmember Lucas Frerichs, and Davis Mayor Gloria Partida. Their endorsement process for 2022 is in full swing, with their members already voting to endorse Cynthia Rodriguez for Yolo County District Attorney, Lucas Frerichs for Yolo County Supervisor District 2, Congressman Mike Thompson for CD-5. Their membership is stronger than ever, with dozens of new regular members showing up to their weekly meetings and gaining voting status within their first few months on-campus at UC Davis. Their advocacy work in their state’s Democratic Party does not end in Davis. Current and past DCD E-Board members were recently elected as the new President of the California College Democrats (Adriana Leal) and Vice Chair of the California Young Democrats Labor Caucus (Michelle Andrews). The end of the presentation talked about their strong affiliation to their alumni association, which has numerous electeds and political Democratic party aids and staffers. Many of these people had close ties to the DDC as students in the past. In view of the past support, the Davis College Dems president asked for a 1000 dollars platinum sponsorship. In response to the presentation, Stephan Souza stated that this was the best pitch ever presented to the DCC board ever given is our history.

President Souza went on to say that this item will be taken up after the Treasurer's report.

YOLO COUNTY DEOMOCRATIC PARTY

Linda Deos reported at the last meeting they are doing endorsements meetings for the upcoming June Election. A person of note that turned out was Congressman Mike Thompson. Others were mentioned.

She said there is a YCDP fundraiser on April 3rd to support Mike Thompson, which is being held on a spacious almond ranch to accommodate those concerned about COVID. The event will be from 3 to 5pm. Linda fundraiser on April 3rd to support Mike Thompson to ranch 3 to 5pm. She went over the various levels of sponsorship.

Linda has been asked to participate in a Davis High School political round table. She will be Representing the Democratic Party. Her Republican counterpart will be participating.

Linda next went over the slate mailer that the YCDP is preparing to mail out for the June primary.

INDIVISIBLE YOLO

Indivisible and Sister District are both reaching out to voters in Virginia for Elaine Luria in Virginia in a phone banking effort. They are looking for volunteers.

Sister District is applying for membership as a Yolo County Chartered Democratic club.

Lastly Lucas Ferrichs and another Democrat are running for supervisor and both are seeking the endorsement from both of these organizations. Linda will inform us of which candidate they choose to endorse.

Linda Deos did not have anything to report on the organization.

Linda Deos reported that Sister District is meeting to become a registered Democratic Club in Yolo County.

TREASUERS REPORT

Ameer reported that we ended the Treasures Report ending 13,316. We received checks totaling 5,204, which brings our total to 18,520. We have an outstanding printers bill for 1000 so, we should have a total of $17500 for the end of February.

Rick Gonzales and Bob Bockwinkel are burning the phone lines for donation to the club. So, club members should expect a phone call from them to renew their membership. They will be asking for a little more for members to step up their membership.

Since the club has plenty of money President Souza asked for a motion to sponsor the Indigo Awards and the Davis College Dems.

MOTION/VOTE

Carl Schmid spoke to the motion. He would like the DCD to turn their fantastic presentation into a newsletter article. This was enthusiastically agreed by Michelle Andrews for the DCD. Carl made a motion to sponsor the Indigo Awards at the $1000 platinum support level. Bob Bockwinkel seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously with no objections or abstentions.

The newsletter receives a great article for its pages. The club should end the month with $16,800. The post office account has money in it, so all is well. We should get more money as people renew their dues.

Michelle Andrews thanked the club for its generous sponsorship and promised Carls the best thank you article that he has ever seen. [Also the DDC gets an event for its general membership to attend with 6 tickets it can hand out.]

BOARD MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Bob state that he has no new people to nominated to the board. He was very happy to report that Gary Hopkins has filled the vacant membership chair position

Club Officer Slate

There has to be a March election of Officers. The following is from the club newsletter: "Club officers are elected for a two-year term and the term of office for the current Board is expiring.  The following members have been nominated for the indicated offices:  CC Club officers are elected for a two-year term and the term of office for the current Board is expiring.  The following members have been nominated for the indicated offices:  Stephen Souza; President, Rick Gonzales; Vice President., Richard Yamagata; Recording Secretary, Ameer Asawaf; Treasurer, Giles Giovinazzi; Publicity/Corresponding Secretary and Gary Hopkins; Membership Chair.  Club Members are invited to nominate members for election to these same offices and to vote in the forthcoming election.  If you wish to nominate a Club Member for election to any office, please contact Bob Bockwinkel (530-219-1896).  Under the unusual circumstances of COVID, this election meeting will be by Zoom during the regularly scheduled March 1 Board Meeting.    As a separate matter, the Board welcomes your participation.  2022 promises to be a pivotal election in determining our country’s future making your participation vital.  If you wish to make a difference in the outcome of these elections, please consider joining the Board.  Club Members are invited to nominate members for election to these same offices and to vote in the forthcoming election.  If you wish to nominate a Club Member for election to any office, please contact Bob Bockwinkel (530-219-1896).  Under the unusual circumstances of COVID, this election meeting will be by Zoom during the regularly scheduled March 1 Board Meeting.    As a separate matter, the Board welcomes your participation.  2022 promises to be a pivotal election in determining our country’s future making your participation vital.  If you wish to make a difference in the outcome of these elections, please consider joining the Board."

There is a slate of officers that are nominated by the board.

MOTION

The motion was framed by President Stephen Souza: The club will figure out how to have a secret ballot if there are nominations from the floor as allowed by the by-laws. If the slate put forward by the board is accepted by all that take part in the election, this will not be necessary. The slate is:

Stephen Souza; President,

Rick Gonzales; Vice President.,

Richard Yamagata; Recording Secretary,

Ameer Asawaf; Treasurer,

Giles Giovinazzi; Publicity

Giles Giovinazzi; Corresponding Secretary

Gary Hopkins; Membership Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITEE

The new membership chair Gary Hopkins reported that the club has collected $11,548 in dues and that 78 members have renewed and paid their dues for this year. So, we are at half the membership has renewed. We are mailing out 197 newsletter and we currently have 199 people on our membership list.

We next need to renew the non-elected board members to the board. We have elected the officers, but have not renewed the remaining board positions.

MOTION/VOTE

The motion to renew all board members present for two years was made by Carl Schmid. The board members present were Carl Schmid, Bob Mar, Jan Agee, Jonathan Howard. The motion was seconded by Jonathan Howard.

The motion was approved with no objection and it passed unanimously.

Not present and scrubbed from the general board list for re-election are: Francois Kaeppelin, Dave Griffin, Sean Raycraft

The new quorum requirement for DDC Board Meetings will now be 6 members. We also have 4 active ex-officio board members: YCDP Chair Linda Deos, Davis College Dems President Michelle Andrews, Past YCDP Chair Bob Schelen, and DDC member Bill Julian.

GENERAL MEETINGS

President Souza stated that the club is planning its first in person event in 3 years. We are aiming for a date around May 14-15 and the event will be a Champagne Brunch. Bob Schelen will find the club a keynote speaker. The event will more than likely be at Bill Julian's house or at Natsulas Gallery or if all else fails be at Stephen Souza's home.

NEWSLETTER

The last newsletter was well received. An article reintroducing Mike Thompson was written by Mindy Brazil, which was followed by an article about the redistricting that allowed Mike to become are representative again by Don Saylor and lastly an exciting 2 page article by Alan Hirsch reporting John Garamendi's speech in the park about ongoing threats to our democracy.

For the next newsletter Carl now has an article by Michelle. He is currently awaiting on an article by Bob Schelen. He has another article by Moses about Cynthia Rodriguez. Jonathan promised to submit the article. David Shapira promised to write about his wishes to become involved with the Yolo/Davis Democrats as an Arizona transplant resident. Lastly it was suggested that the club publish something about the Ukraine.

FINISHED/UNFINISHED NEW BUSINESS

[Unfinished business is the approval of the February 2022 minutes, The March General Election Results Announcement and the April 2022 Board meeting minutes. This note is from G Richard Yamagata, recording secretary.]

SOCIAL MEDIA/WEB SITE

Giles Giovinazzi reported social media updates are running smoothly. Giles wants to publish something about the Ukraine on the Facebook page.

MEMBERSHIP EVENT

We revisited this item and Bob Marr promised to locate a source for champagne. We are examining the previously mentioned sites. The event will be on May 14 - 15. Bob Schelen promised to deliver Willy Brown to the Champagne Brunch.

We will proceed to Kudos.

KUDOS

President Souza thanked Bob Bockwinkel and Rich Gonzales for their fundraising efforts on behalf of the club. He described their efforts as spectacular. Bob in reply, said that $14000 is pledged to the club for the remainder of the year. He says we will receive 25500 for the year of 2022.

President Souza also gave Kudos to the Davis College Dems for all that they do, including tonight's presentation and results.

President Souza gave kudos and thanked all of the officers for willing to be re-elected and thanked Gary Hopkins for stepping up to fill the office of Membership Chair.

Gary Hopkins gave Kudos and thanked Rick and Bob for all of their fundraising efforts

Bob Schelen gave kudos to Sister District for becoming the newest chartered Democratic Club in the county, He also gave kudos to Stephen Souza for agreeing to lead the club for another 2 years. He also thanked all the officer to stand for re-election and namely mentioned Richard Yamagata as recording secretary and sender of e-mails and Carl Schmid as newsletter editor. He also gave kudos to Gary Hopkins becoming the new membership chair.

[As writer of these minutes, though they are included as the officers that are re-elected, I would like to give kudos to Ameer, our treasurer. Without his efforts we would not be able to operate this club in this age of campaign finance compliance costs. He is very important to the club. Also Giles as Publicity/Corresponding Secretary has lots of duties and he has done a lot to make our presence in social media the great platform that it is. G Richard Yamagata]

FUTURE MEETINGS

We will continue to meet using ZOOM, the first Tuesday of each month until the May 2022 Meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are none.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

Minutes respectfully submitted by G Richard Yamagata April 5, 2022.