

**Minutes of the Executive Board of
The Democratic Club of Sunnyvale**

Date: January 25, 2010

Time: 7:05 p.m.

Place: 778 Steuben Drive, Sunnyvale

Directors Present: Nancy Smith
Norine Krueger
Vimala Balan
Margaret Okuzumi
Richard Kolber
Mike Serrone
Carol Weiss

Directors Absent: None

Call to Order:

Ms. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and announced that all directors were present and that the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with its business.

Welcoming of new members and brief orientation.

The new members welcomed to the Executive Board were Ms. Weiss (Secretary), Mr. Kolber (Membership) and Mr. Serrone (New Media)

Minutes:

Resolved that the minutes of the November 16, 2009 Executive Meeting be approved. It was so moved by Ms. Balan and seconded by Ms. Okuzumi.

Update on IRS Status:

Ms. Balan and Ms. Smith reported on their visit to the IRS San Jose office. The SJ Office was unable to answer their questions concerning form 1120-POL regarding political clubs receiving non-profit status. The letter requesting a change in the fiscal year of the Club to coincide with the calendar year is being forward to the Cincinnati office by the IRS staff in the San Jose office.

Action item: Ms. Balan and Ms. Smith call the Cincinnati office to ask if that office has received our letter.

Ms. Smith explained the differences between qualified and non-qualified political organizations. Non-qualified political organizations are subject to federal IRS codes and must file a 1120-POL form. Qualified clubs register with the state in which they operate and are subject to rules in the state, in this case the Fair Political Practices Commission

(FPPC) of California. The advantages of becoming a qualified club with FPPC are as follows:

it enables the club to get an FPPC # (Fair Political Practices Committee);

- a) it enables the club to purchase insurance at a much cheaper rate; note: DCS is chartered by the California Democratic Party but that does not entitle the club to cheaper insurance;
- b) it enables the club to join CDC (California Democratic Council), This in turn qualifies the club to receive banners, fliers and other assistance from CDC.
- c) it enables the club to join CDC (California Democratic Council), This in turn qualifies the club to receive banners, fliers and other assistance from CDC.

The disadvantage of becoming a qualified club is that the filing requirements are more stringent, quarterly or more frequently instead of annually.

Action item: Margaret will contact Jim Thurber and Herb Engstrom regarding whether being a qualified political organization is a requirement for membership in the CDC and will and report to the Board at its March 1 meeting.

Update on Meeting Space:

The DCS can continue, for the foreseeable future, to have its general membership meetings at the Willow Ranch Community Room; however, the meeting date might possibly need to be changed to the fourth Saturday of the month. The February meeting will be held there.

Action item: Ms Krueger is checking into the club's meeting in the Community Church meeting room.

Action item: Mr. Serrone is checking into the club's using the Fairbrae Swim and Tennis Club's meeting room.

Action item: Reports to Board on meeting space at the March 1 meeting.

Finance Report:

Ms. Balan reported that the Club has approximately \$1593. in its account.

New Media:

Action item: At the March 1 Board Meeting, Mr. Serrone will report on what the new media process will be.

Meeting information is currently posted on Meet Up, on the Democratic Party website, on Facebook and the Club website, There is a LinkedIn group, but it will be deleted.

Future Meeting Topics:

Suggested topics for Ms. Okuzumi to research for upcoming membership meetings:

- a) Sunnyvale City Manager to speak about the downtown project;
- b) Nexten to give an interactive presentation on the California budget;
- c) Joint panel discussion with Dave Cortese and Assessor Larry Stone;
- d) Radio Sunnyvale
- e) Bruce Hahne to discuss “framing”.

The consensus was that since the downtown project is such a current and hot topic, it should be scheduled at a future date to allow sufficient time for publicity.

Calendar:

February 5 – Fundraising Dinner – Otto Lee

February 20 – General Membership Meeting at the Willow Ranch Community Room

March 1 – Executive Board Meeting

March 13 – SCCDP Council of Clubs

March 20 – Pre-convention endorsement meeting. Norine and Nancy are delegates.

March 20 – General Membership Meeting

March 29 – Executive Board Meeting

April 17 – State Democratic Convention in L.A.

April 24 –Earth Day

Tabled until the next meeting:

Insurance for the directors and officers of the club.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee, upon a motion by Ms. Kruger, seconded by Mr. Kobler, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol L. Weiss