

## **Candidate Questionnaire for San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee** Primary Election, June 7, 2016

Please return this questionnaire electronically to contact\_us@phdemclub.org **no later than Sunday, April 4**<sup>th</sup>. Candidates who do not return the questionnaire by the due date will not be invited to appear at our April 12th endorsement meeting. Questionnaires will be made available to our members online.

Candidate name:	JON GOLINGER
Contact person:	Contact me personally
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Please write a brief response ( $\leq 200$  words) to each question.

1. Why are you running for the DCCC and what do you hope to accomplish if elected or re-elected?

I believe San Francisco is a special place worth fighting for. That's why I love it, that's why I live here, and that's why I've worked so hard for the last fifteen years to protect San Francisco's beauty, diversity, environment, and unique character. I'm running to help reclaim the San Francisco Democratic Party from the real estate industry and corporate lobbyists who have taken it over to serve their own interests. At this critical time for our city, we need the San Francisco Democratic Party to wake up, stand up, and become a leading voice for an affordable, livable, and diverse city that's open to everyone -- not just the elite and the privileged few.

The San Francisco Democratic Party needs to lead the way and fight to close the massive income inequality gap, stop evictions and create affordable housing, support real criminal justice reform, strengthen environmental protections and protect our Bay and waterfront, stand up for labor and workers' rights, and stop big money and corporate lobbyists from dominating politics.

2. Please describe your current and past community activism.

For the last fifteen years, I have been working hard to preserve San Francisco's neighborhoods, environment, and unique character and I'll work just as hard for the SF Democratic Party if I am elected to serve on its governing body. I worked with the Sierra Club and Save the Bay to stop the SF Airport from paving over two square miles of the Bay for new runways. I led the battle to pass 2004's Proposition I, which votes approved to require MUNI to replace its dirtiest diesel buses with cleaner hybrid-electrics. I fought to stop a shopping mall from being built by the Mills Corporation at Piers 27-31 – instead we have a cruise ship terminal that brings in visitors from around the world to SF every week. I led the battle to protect Coit Tower and pass the Coit Tower Preservation ballot measure that forced the city to stop neglecting Coit Tower and its historic New Deal-era murals, to spend \$1.7 million to restore Coit Tower and the murals, and to start treating the murals as the San Francisco treasure that they are. I led the No Wall on the Waterfront campaign to defeat the 8 Washington high-rise luxury condos and the battle to pass Prop. B in June 2014 to give voters the power to protect our waterfront by requiring voter approval for any waterfront height limit increases.

*Currently I serve on the Port's Waterfront Land Use Review Working Group, which is advising the Port on how to manage our waterfront in the face of rapid climate change and sea level rise. As the climate heats up and the Bay rises, environmental protection measures on the local level to address climate change and deal with sea level rise have to be a top priority for San Francisco.* 

3. Would you support closing the campaign finance loophole that allows candidates running for their party's Central Committee to raise unlimited funds, while other candidates for local elected office are limited to \$500 per donor? Why or why not?

Yes. San Francisco voters have made clear they want \$500 contribution limits in SF to reduce corruption and limit the immense influence of big corporations, powerful lobbyists, and wealthy interests and individuals on our elections and the actions taken by our elected officials.

4. Please name the 3 endorsements of which you are most proud.

State Senator Mark Leno Former Assemblyman Tom Ammiano Former City Attorney Louise Renne

5. Please indicate, and explain, your position on the following past ballot propositions.

Proposition G (2014), Additional Transfer Tax on Residential Property Sold Within 5 Years of Purchase

• *Supported* because Prop. G would have limited the out of control real estate speculation that results in so many San Franciscans being evicted from their homes.

Proposition F (2015), Short-Term Residential Rentals

• *Supported* because Prop. F would have ensured that reasonable rules for AirBnb were adopted and enforced to prevent evictions and preserve affordable housing.

6. The population of SF is up, but Democratic Party registration and turnout have mostly been down in recent years. What specifically will you do to improve the Party's registration efforts and organization in District 10?

I would make registration of new Democratic voters the #1 priority of the SF Democratic Party, which has lost its way under the current leadership of a real estate lobbyist. According to the California Secretary of State, the number of registered San Francisco Democratic voters has dropped by 13,412 voters over the last four years since the real estate lobbyist and the current group took over the SF Democratic Party, while Democratic registration in other California counties such as Los Angeles has gone up over the last four years.

One reason for this is that, while the Republican Party represents the interests of big corporations, the Koch Brothers & the wealthiest 1%, and Trump/Cruz right-wing views, the Democratic Party is supposed to stand up as the voice and champion of everyday people. That's why I'm a Democrat. But having a corporate lobbyist for the real estate industry who is paid to block efforts to reform the Ellis Act and lobby at City Hall to oppose eviction protections for tenants, in charge of the San Francisco Democratic Party undermines the SF Democratic Party's ability to show it will stand up for regular people. I will support a new Chair who is independent of the real estate industry, is not a corporate lobbyist, and is committed to reforming, strengthening, and energizing the SF Democratic Party so that we bring new people into the Party instead of continuing to lose registered Democrats by the thousands for another four years.