



Minutes of the Regular Meeting Potrero Hill Democratic Club

Held February 3, 2015

The regular meeting of the Potrero Hill Democratic Club (the “Club”) was held at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House on February 3, 2015.

Joni Eisen, president of the Club, called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm local time.

Ms. Eisen asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Monisha Mustapha, the Club’s first vice president, noted a typo in her name on the agenda. With that typo having been corrected, the Club approved the agenda by acclamation.

Ms. Eisen asked if the Club had any comments or changes to the minutes of the January 6, 2015, meeting of the Club. There being none, the Club approved the minutes of the prior meeting by acclamation.

Ms. Eisen announced that the following nominations had been made for the Club’s 2015 officers: for president, Joni Eisen; for first vice president, Monisha Mustapha; for second vice president, Loretta Lynch; for secretary, J.R. Eppler; for treasurer, Carlin Holden; for web master, John O’Neill; and for officers-at-large, Bob Boileau, Kate Gaidos Eppler, and Eliana Lopez. Ms. Eisen then asked if there were any additional nominations. There being none, Ms. Eisen asked if there was a motion to elect the nominees by acclamation. Such a motion was made, seconded and approved. There being no discussion, the nominees were elected to such offices as set forth above.

Ms. Eisen then introduced Ms. Mustapha, who gave the membership report. As of that moment, 40 Club members were paid-up for calendar year 2015, and 60 prior (2014) members had yet to renew. A testimonial was given by an affiliate member of the Club as to why membership in the Club was valuable: “..best, most interesting programs of any club in the city.” Ms. Mustapha reminded members to renew.

Ms. Eisen introduced Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi, who discussed his office’s 2015 plans, projects and priorities, and then engaged in audience Q&A.

Ms. Eisen introduced Larry Bush, Friend of Ethics and editor of CitiReport. Mr. Bush explained certain fundraising and lobbying loopholes, and engaged the Club in a robust discussion. A motion was made and seconded that the Club would send a letter to the Ethics Commission prior to their February 23rd meeting requesting that they seriously consider the Friends of Ethics' fundraising and lobbying concerns, and enact their recommendations. Following discussion of the motion, an amendment was proposed to urge that the Ethics Commission take the requested actions by the end of March. As the amendment was not accepted by the author of the motion, the Club voted on whether to approve the motion. The amendment was approved by a vote of 15 in favor, one against, and no abstentions. After discussion of the motion as amended, the Club voted to approve the amended motion by a vote of 13 in favor, one against, and three abstentions.

Ms. Eisen then made motions to make three amendments of the Bylaws. Her first amendment was (1) an expansion to the description of the webmaster, (2) a correction of the Term of Office paragraph in Article VII to include all offices, and (3) the addition of the phrase “as deemed necessary” in Article X. Her second amendment was to remove the absentee voting provisions of the Bylaws and make such other nonmaterial conforming changes to retain continuity of the document. Her third amendment was to increase the number of officers—at-large to four such officers, from three. All three motions were seconded. As per the Bylaws, the motions will be properly noticed, discussed and voted upon at the next meeting of the Club.

Ms. Eisen then announced that a summary document of Supervisor Cohen’s 2015 priorities was available for review. Following review of the document, a motion was made, duly seconded and approved that the Club request of the Supervisor, in light of her role as chair of the Board of Supervisors’ land use committee, that she describe her priorities for land use in District 10.

Officer-At-Large Bob Boileau then gave an update on the Eden Foods boycott, presenting a letter that he had drafted to ask other clubs to join PHDC in requesting that local markets refrain from selling Eden Foods because of its CEO’s refusal to offer reproductive choice in women’s health insurance.

Second Vice-President Loretta Lynch gave an update on the Club’s attempts to identify and access voters in the neighborhood’s multifamily buildings.

Ms. Eisen gave an update on the 2015 version of the California DISCLOSE Act, and announced that a Grassroots Citizen Summit would take place on February 27 at the Unitarian Church in Palo Alto, 505 East Charleston Road, at 9:00 am.

Ms. Eisen then gave the following announcements:

Assembly Member Allen (R–Orange County) had authored a bill (AB 61) that would legalize the stopping of private shuttles in bus zones statewide, and forego the environmental review of such a policy. The Assembly Member’s address was provided.

Ms. Eisen would be meeting with the developers of the NRG Power Plant site adjacent to Pier 70 on February 12, and requested any comments from members prior to the meeting.

Sunday Streets would occur on the Embarcadero on March 8; Ms. Eisen requested volunteers to register voters. Four members volunteered.

Ms. Eisen then further announced that the next meeting of the Club would take place on March 3, which meeting would include a discussion of the amendments to the Bylaws.

There being no further business before the Club, Ms. Eisen adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



J.R. Eppler, Secretary