



Official Minutes

Wednesday, May 13, 2009 7:00PM to 8:40PM

Democratic Club of the Santa Clarita Valley
26523 Huntswood Lane, Santa Clarita, CA 91387
Phone: (661) 295-9318; Website: www.scvdems.org
Email: scvdems@gmail.com

Meeting held at the Railroad Cafe
24307 Railroad Ave, Newhall, CA 91321

Minutes: by Todd Hoover, Recording Secretary

PRESENT: Mike Cruz, Bruce McFarland, Bob Levine, Carole Lutness, Harrison Katz, Jonathan Kraut, Kristin Ingram-Worthman, Steve Brooks, Marianne Bailey, Michael Ballard, Minerva Williams-Hoover, Patti Sulpizio, Sandra Cattell and Todd Hoover. **VISITORS:** Lyle Wohlfarth and Mindy Bish, Owner of the Railroad Café.

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER and QUORUM** was established by Mike Cruz, President.
- 2) **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** for April were approved with two amendments one to add “**Carole**” before Lutness on page 2 line 32 and to correct spacing on page 2 line 48 “the club ‘e’ ndorsed” to “endorsed”.
- 3) **NEW MEMBERSHIP:** **Bruce McFarland** joined as a new member. **VISITORS:** Lyle Wohlfarth UC Davis Journalism student and Mindy Bish, Owner of the Railroad Café.
- 4) **TREASURY:** **Jonathan Kraut** reported that there is currently \$836.50 in the State Account and \$50 in the Federal Account.
- 5) **DPSFV** **Bob Levine** reported on the May 4th DPSV meeting:
 - Fundraiser for slate mailing for upcoming election: \$17,000
 - New computer program for phone banking being tested
 - E-board blast coming out
 - DPSFV Picnic on May 31st
 - Ilene Haber gave report on the first 100 days of the Obama administration
 - Support resolution supporting inclusion of sexual orientation and LGBT couples in the federal census
- 6) **LACDP** **Kristin Ingram-Worthman** gave brief summary on the last LA County Central Committee Democratic Party’s meeting:
 - Elected members of the LACDP E-board
 - Approved various resolutions, 1) Resolution to counting LGBT couples on the US Census; 2) and 3)
 - The representatives for each assembly district (AD) chose outstanding Democrats from their AD for the Man and Woman of the Year for the Roosevelt Awards. For the 38th AD Carole Lutness and Chad Jones were selected.
- 7) **HEALTHCARE GUEST SPEAKERS:** The guest speakers that had been scheduled to discuss certain healthcare issues did not show up, Minerva will follow through with the rescheduling.

- 8) **APRIL DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE, Sacramento, CA:** Mike Cruz asked attendees of the April Democratic conference to each give impressions of their experiences:
- **Bob Levine** – Went to the caucus meetings for seniors, business professionals and the progressives. He said the Business Caucus was very unprofessional and it was a shambles. They started late and had no agenda. The progressive caucus had issues also. Thousands trying to register at the same time. He was voted in as Secretary for the Business Caucus. Many people just voted and left. The next day there were speeches by government officials. The third day attendees voted on the Propositions. It ended around 3:00.
 - **Harrison Katz** – Said his experience was a little different. He was primarily helping Eric Bauman. Even though his opponent dropped out, Eric insisted on going through all the caucuses. He was doing a lot of running around. On Saturday they had elections. Eric was elected Vice Chair of the State Democratic Party and he intends to run for Chair in the future.
 - **Kristin Ingram-Worthman** Went to Progressive Caucus. Karen Bernal ran for Chair and won. They had to fill out two ballots. They made a change so there was only one chair, instead of separate chairs for north and south. Instead of Secretary/Treasurer they decided to separate the roles from that one job into two. Darren Parker won the African American Caucus. Ted Carson won the Labor Caucus. Hillary Crosby won as State Party Controller. The Resolutions Committee met for hours and hours, exhaustive work.
 - **Steve Brooks** - Went to the Progressive Caucus. Half of the attendees had left by the time they finished with the Bylaws. The Secretary and Treasurer reported, "That there was nothing to do". Many other people said there were big jobs in their own clubs. The Treasurer said he had "one sentence report". By the time the voting was over half the people had left.
 - **Patti Sulpizio** - Was told by the Democratic Caucus to get all delegates to vote. She said that the current candidates did not mention their positions regarding the State Propositions. .
 - **Michael Ballard** -- Went up on Thursday. He took the "Capitol Tour". He noted that the notebook computers used in the two houses do not match. His hotel was a block and a half from the convention. The first caucus's session was for the LGBT. He surprised how many openly gay political people there are. At the Irish Caucus there were about 70 to 80 people. The room was too tiny. There were a number of electeds there. He attended the Art Torres' Dinner. They put on a great slide show about Art's history in politics. It emphasized how many politicians started out in Art's office that now holds office. He attended the tour of the Governor's Office. The mansion had many interesting historical aspects. The California Corrections Peace Officers had a neat band Sunday morning. There were complaints that the vocal group sang songs that were specifically Christian and did not thus adhere to the separation of church and state. In addition, many attendees did not know the process for participating in the discussion.
 - **Bruce McFarland** Took pictures. He said they should appear on Newsbyte.com. He also went to Art Torres' Dinner. At the press conference he got some good shots of Boxer. The Progressive Caucus was interesting. People were complaining that Brad Parker had changed the rules. People were upset that new rules and bylaws were put into effect with no prior notice. Everyone was upset with Brad. He did VERY poorly. Eric Bradley was knowledgeable, but Crosby had a more impressive voice. She is a CPA and he is not. She did not know much about the money, but could definitely learn. He was surprised to see how many people had questions. Darrell Steinberg was there also. He got some good shots of Mark Leno also. He mentioned Carole Lutness had stood her ground, worked the room, and proved to be very influential.
 - **Carole Lutness**; She had two missions. One was to the State Propositions and the second was to change the 2/3rd Ballot requirement. There were 250 signatures. They had five different versions of the 2/3 proposition go to resolutions. Burton's one was the one that passed. "It would only apply to the budget but not for revenue enhancement. Without capacity to have it with revenue it is useless". She explained further how important this was. She said Bob Mulholland told her the party is not sure if public is ready for a 2/3's majority. Carole says that they will still have to fight for this. "The Party is going to do some polling of the public. We have to do everything possible to overthrow the current procedure. The second thing was the campaign for "No on the props". She had to lobby for the whole weekend. "They're all very conflicted. Make sure Republicans don't claim the propositions failed because folks don't want taxes". She wants us to write letters to The Signal; people must send letters@the-signal.com. "Had a coup in the Progressive Caucus; the Northerners took over the Labor,

Women's and Progressive Caucuses. They had more delegates up North. We have to work together. The governor's race and overthrowing Maldonado's open primary are also extremely important. Signatures must be gathered for the June and November ballots". There is a clean money initiative for 2010. There was a floor fight. She said this staff person told her "if they want any help from us you'd better stop what you're doing." She said the staff person identified himself as being from the Assembly Dems. She went to assembly members and told them. "Is this what we do now, threaten and extort!" exclaimed Carole Lutness. She said she is going to meet with Karen Bass to mend fences after this Tuesday. She asked, "How do we build a budget without getting threatened by the Republicans? The Art Torres lunch was touching".

- **Bob Levine** - He added that a member of the progressive sent out emails "acting like spoiled children". This rant was very damaging."

8.) **OLD BUSINESS Mike Cruz** – He reminded everyone about the **Santa Clarita Valley Community Hiking Club's** condor watching hike. He said to email Bill Bailey if interested. A flyer was passed out. It is a couple miles, but hiking is optional.

Sandra Cattell mentioned that the **Sierra Club** has meetings at St. Stephens' Church, all are invited.

9.) **NEW BUSINESS: Senate Bill 810** sponsored by **Sheila Khuel** was passed twice, vetoed twice. This bill deals with universal healthcare and is consistent with the same bill at the national level. **Sandra Cattell** moved that we endorse this bill and **Jonathan Kraut** seconded the motion. It was then voted on and passed unanimously.

Steve Brooks mentioned that they are gathering signatures on a measure to recall Schwarzenegger.

Minerva Williams, Correspondence Report. All copies are on file, if requested to review. Look in the CALENDAR for other events, parties, and candidate information. Posted on <http://www.scvyoungdem.org> and <http://www.scvdems.org> website.

- Minerva – Request from **Marcy Winograd** running for Congress against Jane Harmon. Winograd works with the Progressive Democrats of America and is a sponsor for healthcare. Endorsers contact Winograd Campaign or Minerva.
- Looking to have a venue for a **Tom Hayden** possibility.
- **Ted Lieu** is running for Attorney General. He is interested in having coffee or tea with supporters on a Saturday or Sunday. Those interested need to arrange in advance, request is for 20+ people. Contact Minerva
- **Kamala Harris** sent email regarding her campaign. Club might try and to get all candidates together. Cruz says to table for next month's agenda. <http://www.kamalaharris.org/>
- **Paul Koretz needs phone callers, he is running for LA 5th District City Council seat. Election May 19th.**
- **Jack Weiss, running for City Attorney, Dem in the race, needs weekend callers. Election May 19th.**
- Notice from Latino community. **Ruben Villarreal passed away.** We agreed to send a letter of condolence.
- **LACDP Voter Registration.** People needed for New Citizens' Orientation May 14th & 28th, & June 6.
- **The 11th Annual 2010 Campaign DPSFV** office needs volunteers, Santa Clarita Valley office a possibility?
- **Judy Chu** needs help running for office, tabled for next month's meeting
- Reception for Carrow is in for school board on June 3rd at the Athletic Club. \$250
- **Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital**, new fundraising and educational programs, sponsorship for golf tournament.
- Percy Severn is offering **Santa Barbara Alternative to Violence Workshops** for conflict resolution.
- **Attorney General Candidates BBQ** for at Rosenmund Ranch in Oxnard.
- Tomorrow – Career Fair in Pasadena **Golden Futures Career Fair.**
- **Last FilmFest 43** sponsored by **Assemblyperson Paul Krekorian.** It will be a free night of movies. He is doing this to see how many people will come. Come be treated as a star, Paparazzi's will be there. It will be May 15, Friday 6:30PM to 9:30PM.
- The **NWPC Leadership Conference** in August. Registration forms available.

- **Comedy Night Fundraiser**, Sun May 17 at V-Lounge WLA Democratic Club, overturn 2/3 Ballot Rule. \$35.00

Patti Sulpizio – They are still looking for poll workers and people to registrar voters for 19th May.
Please contact her <pattisoul@aol.com>, directly for questions or call 562-466-1323; 800-815-2666

VOTE May 19th, for poll location please visit www.lavote.net or
Call (562) 466-1324 or (800) 815-2666

10.) **ADJOURNMENT: Mike Cruz** adjourned the meeting at 8:40PM.

Respectfully,

Todd Hoover,
Recording Secretary-Webmaster
Democratic Club of the Santa Clarita Valley