



San Diego County Democrats for Environmental Action  
**Minutes for March 23, 2016 Meeting**  
La Jolla Village Square Community Room  
8657 Villa La Jolla Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92037

**Minute Taker** – Cara Furio, Secretary

**Meeting called to order by President Tommy Hough at 7:00 pm**

**Present**

- Tommy Hough, President
- Brian Elliot, First Vice President
- Fred Rogers, Second Vice President
- Brett Fisher, Treasurer
- Cara Furio, Secretary
- Lori Kern, Events and Fundraising
- Richard Ram, Communications
- Alex Kiwan, Board Member at Large

**Members and Guests in Attendance** – 26

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

- Tommy made motion to approve agenda and minutes; the motion was seconded and approved.

**Remarks from Candidates and Elected Officials**

- Gita Appelbaum – candidate for mayor of San Diego, and a new club member

**Remarks from Club President Tommy Hough**

- Seats remain for the club's Roosevelt Dinner table on April 2, 2016.
- Club member Nicole Capretz, who was awarded the first-ever Making a Difference Award by San Diego County Democrats for Environmental Action in September, is to be honored at the county party event.

- Club hike at Mission Trails Regional Park was a fun outing and big success; sets template for future hikes, including a planned outing in mid April in East County.
- The club will have a booth again at this year's Earth Fair at Balboa Park, but we need volunteers. Members are encouraged to contact board member at-large Alex Kiwan if they can volunteer.
- Mark West from the San Diego County Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation will speaking at our April meeting.
- Tommy Hough and members Jason Bercovitch and Ryan Trabuco are running for seats on the San Diego County Democratic Party Central Committee in AD-77.
- Member Ethan Johnson-Moore is running a seat on the San Diego County Democratic Party Central Committee in AD-76.
- Tommy announced he's made two appearances on right-wing 760 KFMB as the "token Democrat" and is speaking up for Democratic values and positions on right-wing media.
- Diane Summers of the Fallbrook Democratic Club will host a fundraiser for Hillary Clinton in San Marcos on March 31.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Treasurer Brett Fisher reported the club has \$2,937.24 in our account.

### **Political Committee**

Fred Rogers, V.P. for Political Action and club second vice president, called for a motion to approve a vote to endorse in the County Supervisor's race in District Three.

- Joe LaCava made the motion; it was seconded and the motion carried.
- County Supervisor Dave Roberts spoke to the club and asked for its endorsement.
- Joe LaCava made a motion to endorse incumbent Supervisor Dave Roberts for County Supervisor, District Three. The motion was seconded and carried to endorse.

Fred called for a motion to approve a vote to endorse Melinda Vásquez for the California State Assembly in District 77.

- Brett Fisher made the motion; it was seconded and motion carried.
- Melinda Vásquez spoke to club and asked for its endorsement.
- Robert Leif made a motion to endorse Melinda Vásquez for the California State Assembly in District 77; it was seconded and the motion carried.

Fred introduced Steve Padilla, candidate for Chula Vista City Council District Three, and Eduardo Reyes, candidate for Chula Vista City Council District Four.

- Fred turned over the discussion over to club president Tommy Hough to preside as candidate forum moderator.
- Steve and Eduardo introduced themselves to the club in opening remarks, discussed their platforms, and fielded questions from club membership via written questions.
- Joe LaCava made a motion for the club to endorse Steve Padilla for Chula Vista

City Council District Three. The motion was seconded, and the club voted to endorse.

- Joe LaCava made a motion to endorse Eduardo Reyes for Chula Vista City Council District Four. The motion was seconded, and the club voted to endorse.

Fred discussed the impending formation of an Interview and Recommendation Board to be chaired through the Political Committee to address post-primary endorsement considerations and requests.

### **Programs and Outreach**

- Brian Elliott, V.P. for Programs and Outreach and club first vice president, said the club would indeed lead an April hike with club member Renée Owens in East County, possibly at El Monte County Park.
- While a number of excellent coastal treks have been proposed, it seems appropriate to plan a hike in East County before the weather gets too hot.

### **Announcements**

- Tommy announced club will precinct walk with D-1 city council candidate Barbara Bry on Saturday May 7.
- Barbara is a club-endorsed candidate whose race has been determined to be a priority not only by the county party, but also San Diego Enviro. Dems., who voted to make Barbara's district a priority race in January.
- The next club meeting will be held April 27, 2016.

Meeting adjourned by Tommy Hough at 9:20 pm.