

Three Rivers Democratic Club – Meeting Minutes

Date: Nov 11, 2025

Location: Virtual Meeting

Meeting Called to Order by: Lee Miller

Time: 6:33pm

Overview

The Three Rivers Democratic Club meeting focused on **Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)** efforts in Sacramento, updates on **fundraising and chartering**, and **volunteer opportunities** for upcoming Democratic events.

Guest Speaker: Paula Lee, League of Women Voters, Sacramento County

Key Discussion Topics

1. Congressional Seats and Labor Politics

- Ric Barreto discussed the possibility of “musical chairs” among congressional seats and shared his experience as a legislative political director for a federal union.
- Members expressed interest in learning more about the labor endorsement process and building understanding of labor politics.

2. Introduction to Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)

- Lee Miller introduced **Paula Lee**, Member Director of the **League of Women Voters**, who presented the benefits of RCV for Sacramento City and County elections.
- Paula Lee shared her screen and presentation outlining the League’s support for **Ranked Choice Voting and Proportional Representation**.
- A new section will be added to the clubs website for training materials. Lee will upload the RCV presentation over this weekend along with other presentations given at previous meetings.
- Paula noted that **Better Ballot Sacramento** is leading local RCV efforts, endorsed by several organizations.

3. Benefits and Mechanics of RCV

- Paula Lee described RCV as a system where voters **rank candidates by preference**, leading to:
 - More representative elections
 - More positive campaigns and less negative advertising
 - Greater voter engagement
 - Cost savings by eliminating primaries
- She shared a **4-minute video by Robert Reich** explaining how RCV works and its advantages:
 👉 [Watch here](#)

4. Challenges and Strategies for Implementing RCV

- RCV adoption requires support from the **Long Ledge Committee** and the **Mayor's Office**.
- Challenges include misinformation about costs and voter confusion.
- Paula Lee emphasized the need for outreach to **underserved communities** to ensure understanding and inclusion in the process.
- Ric Barreto suggested making RCV a **campaign issue** in the Board of Supervisors elections.

5. Progress and Next Steps

- Paula Lee encouraged members to:
 - Join the **Better Ballot Sacramento** mailing list. 👉 [Sign up here](#)
 - Contact their **City Council** or **Board of Supervisors** members to support putting RCV on the ballot.
 - Work with neighborhood associations to spread awareness.
- Four to five City of Sacramento council members are already showing solid support for RCV.

6. Club Updates and Chartering Update: The club hired **Sunrise Political Solutions** for FPPC filing.

- **Membership Dues:** \$20 per year (hardship waivers available — just reply to this email, no questions asked).
 - Pay via website: [Three Rivers Dems Website](#)
 - Direct ActBlue link: [ActBlue Payment Link](#)
- **Fundraising**

- **Fundraising:** The club is partnering with **Campaign Store 2026** to offer American-made campaign merchandise.
 - [Fundraiser Products](#)
 - [About Campaign Store 2026](#)
- New flyers are available here:
[Club Flyers \(Google Drive\)](#)

7. Volunteer Opportunities and Upcoming Events

- **Pre-Endorsement Conference – January 17**
Location: *Valley High–North Laguna Library*
 - Volunteers needed for **set-up (10:30am – 11am)** and **clean-up**. (12:30pm – 1pm)
 - **Reply to this email** if you have any questions or want to volunteer to help at the Pre-Endorsement Conference.
 - Candidates from Congressional Districts 3, 6, and 7 will be present.
 - There will be time to ask the candidates questions.
- Members were encouraged to attend the **Sacramento County Democratic Central Committee** meeting on **November 13** at **Hi-North Laguna Library (7400 Imagination Parkway, Sacramento 95823)** at **6pm**, to learn more about county operations.
- The club is actively seeking **candidates for Rancho Cordova City Council (especially District 5)** and potential challengers for **Pat Hume**.

8. Closing Remarks

- **Lee Miller** thanked members for attending and encouraged them to stay engaged through:
 - Facebook: [Three Rivers Dems Sacramento](#)
 - Website: threeriversdems.com
- **Brian Sittner** emphasized the importance of regular communication and welcomed member suggestions. Email Brian with your ideas for social media posts at: BR.Sittner@yahoo.com
- **Orlando Fuentes** Region 4 director, asked about congressional races; **Brian Sittner** noted that **Tyler Vandenberg** is running in **CD6**.

Action Items

- **Lee:** Reach out to the **Rosemont Community Association** to connect them with RCV efforts.
- **Everyone:** Visit Better Ballot Sacramento and [sign up for updates](#).

- **Everyone:** Email or call your **Board of Supervisors** or **City Council members** to support putting RCV on the ballot.
- Short email to send your Board Member or city council member. Adjust as you see fit:

Subject: Please Support Putting Ranked Choice Voting on the Ballot

Dear [Councilmember/Supervisor Last Name],

I'm writing to urge you to support placing **Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)** on the ballot for our local elections. RCV gives voters more choice, encourages positive campaigning, and ensures elected officials have true majority support while saving taxpayer money by eliminating costly runoffs.

Cities across California and the country have already implemented RCV successfully, and it's time Sacramento residents have the same opportunity to make our elections fairer and more representative.

Please let voters decide—put Ranked Choice Voting on the ballot.

Thank you for your leadership and service to our community.

Sincerely,

[Your Full Name]

[Your Address or Neighborhood (optional)]

[Your Email / Phone (optional)]

- Identify and encourage **potential candidates** for Rancho Cordova City Council (especially District 5). Lee at Zakboy714@gmail.com
- **Everyone! Volunteer** to help with set-up and breakdown at the **Pre-Endorsement Conference on January 17**. Reply to this email

Meeting Adjourned: 7:40pm

Minutes prepared by: Rehana Rehman, Secretary