

San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee Meeting
Hybrid Meeting Minutes, August 21, 2025

7:07 PM – Speaker

- Congressman Sam Liccardo provided an update on important legislation and actions in D.C.

7:42 PM - Assemblymember Marc Berman Report

- Assemblymember Berman, just home from Sacramento, provided a brief update on what occurred in the California legislature this session. He spoke strongly in support of Prop 50.

7:49 PM - Call to Order

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the August General Meeting Agenda; motion approved with majority vote and no objections.
- Motion made and seconded to approve the July General Meeting Minutes; motion approved with majority vote and no objections.

7:45 PM - E-Board Reports

- Chair Maki welcomed Sally Liber as our newest ex-officio member.
- Chair Maki reported that the e-board:
 - o agreed to co-sponsor 8.28 Fixin' San Mateo Social Gathering in Half Moon Bay.
 - o decided that at this Central Committee meeting we will discuss our mission and ask attendees what actions they will take in support of our mission.
 - o voted to donate 6 tickets from our Latinx \$500 donation to youth.
 - o decided to co-sponsor the 17x17 event and ask members to commit to attend. Please join us on Labor Day from 11am-1pm for a 17-mile-long protest in place from El Camino Real and Claremont in Redwood City to El Camino and Lawrence Expressway in Santa Clara. Protesters stand single file along the west side of El Camino with banners, signs, whistles, cow bells.
 - o <https://tinyurl.com/historic17x17k>
 - o is still looking for a controller. If you are comfortable with numbers and spreadsheets, this may be the job for you. If you think you might be interested, please contact Chair Maki.
 - o are working with Fundraising and Events chair Jennifer Kim on a fundraising event for late September or October; expect to hear something about that soon.
- Many members and alternates have still not paid their dues.
 - o All members owe \$70 and all alternates owe \$35 for 2025-2026. If you have not paid your dues yet, please do so immediately.
- Northern Vice Chair Victoria Sanchez De Alba reported that all clubs have recharted all the clubs expect for the Children's club which is on hold and not recharting this year.
- Southern Vice Chair Maryann Moise reported that she, Victoria, and Chair Maki attended Congressman Liccardo's Zoom meeting on Monday night on behalf of the SMC Dems. Santa Clara Dems were also present. This is a great collaborative group connecting the grassroots groups with the country Democratic clubs.

7:58 PM - SMC Dems Purpose and Your Role

- Chair Maki reminded everyone of our purpose: From our bylaws:
"The purpose of the Committee is to promote and encourage the principles and ideals of the Democratic Party of the United States and to act as the official San Mateo County representative body of the Democratic Party of the State of California as set forth in the California Election Code. The Committee shall be charged with the conduct of all party election campaigns subject only to the direction of the Democratic State Central Committee."
- We promote our values in many ways: one of the main ways is by passing resolutions so if you have ideas for resolutions that will help you get your work done locally, please bring your

requests to us.

- We also do this through resistance and raising awareness.
- We also support election work. We do that through BAC, where we phone bank. We also support through endorsements and candidate recruitment.
- Chair Maki invited members to come up and talk about what they are interested in, what they are working on, and suggestions for getting involved locally.
- Supervisor Noelia Corzo discussed supporting our school districts to take advantage of preschool funding that is available and not every district is accessing. Additionally, ensuring every school district has blended classrooms for preschoolers, not separate classes for fee-based and subsidized students. This is a basic equity issue that we need to tackle and will help us get closer to the amount of childcare we need in this county.
- Sandra Lang suggested having reminders about all the upcoming events that people discuss at our meetings that come out right after the meeting instead of as part of the minutes. Sandra also suggested we work on our messaging to be more relatable to topics that people actually care about.
- Paul Bocenegra discussed the anti-camping ordinances and associated enforcement that we are seeing which impact homeless individuals and our youth. The pendulum of trying youth as adults is swinging back in the wrong direction and we need to discourage this where we see it happening.
- Sally Leiber encouraged activism and asked everyone to come out for 17x17 where we are trying to get 17,000 people to turn out. On 7x7 Kings Day we worked to get 7000 people out in the streets and 22,000 showed up. Let's make 17x17 even bigger.
- Diana Reddy signed up for 17x17 and adopted a portion of Redwood City so reach out if you want to join her group. Diane discussed her founding of the Redwood City chapter of SURJ (Standing Up for Racial Justice). They show-up every Friday at 4:30 at Jefferson and El-Camino to protest. Finally, the DFA club is revamping their website and will have a list of all activities that are happening locally so that will be a good resource to use.
- Katie Baruzzi serves on the Menlo Park Planning Commission and they are a couple years into an approved housing element and they did a lot of upzoning but they do not see that working in terms of development. They are seeing a lot of individual family homes get larger and larger. Think about how everything comes down to having babies and build housing. We can't have representation if we don't have population and we can't have population if we they don't have a place to live. Everything we support and stand for depends on this, so we need to think about how we can do more as democrats to support housing.
- Nancy Goodban discussed the importance of letter writing locally for the big governor race in Virginia. The incumbent Republican governor is termed out and we can turn the entire state blue with a Democrat governor win.
- Helen Wolter discussed whether it would be good for the party to prioritize what issues should be worked on and come up with our top 3-5 issues because there are so many opportunities to be more focused and engaged.
- Chair Maki reminded everyone that she sent out a survey trying to gauge interest by topic and only got one response, so she will send that out again.

8:20 PM - Resistance Task Force (April Vargas)

- April Vargas reported that the Task Force continues to be very active and inspiring.
- They have had 4 events so far.
- They will be at the Cultura Fest in South San Francisco on Saturday.
- Task Force is going to focus our efforts from now until November 4th on the redistricting Campaign.
- To get more info on canvassing and phone banking to pass redistricting email us at contact@smcdems.org or call April at 650-344-1714.
- https://www.smcdems.org/volunteer_opportunities

8:25 PM - Dreamers Roadmap

- Sarahi Salamanca Espinoza, CEO of Dreamers Roadmap, discussed her inspiring personal journey. You can reach her at sarahi@dreamersroadmap.org with any questions. @DreamersRoadmap

8:38 PM - Legislative Reports, Club Reports, Director Report

- Stacey Jimenez reported for Assemblymember Papan
- Joan Dentler, the new District Director for Senator Becker, reported for the Senator.
- Frankie Falzon reported for Assemblymember Stefani
 - frankie@votecatherinestefani.com
 - 415-572-9698
- Raayan Mohtashemi reported for Senator Wiener

9:07 PM - Lightning Round

- Comments by Supervisor Noelia Corzo, Diana Reddy, Sandra Lang, Alexis Lewis, and Chris Sturken

9:15 PM Adjournment

- Chair Maki adjourned the meeting.