



Lake County Democratic Club
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FPPC #850642

Lake County Democratic Club Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2014 – Social Hall of United Methodist Church, Lower Lake, CA.

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Chair, Adckinjo Esutoki. The members pledged the flag.

Officers present: Adckinjo Esutoki, Richard East, John Sheehy, James Evans and Carlene Leskar. 19 members and 1 non-member signed the official role.

August minutes: Approved as submitted.

September agenda: Approved as submitted.

Officer Reports –

- Chair: Adckinjo Esutoki emphasized the importance of signing in. * Reported that key deposit from Lower Lake Community Center was received. * Urged members to support CADEM 2014 with donations – www.cadem.org.

CA VOTE 2014, a project of CADEM to provide democratic election information – www.cavote2014.com.

Chair welcomed new members who were present: Quincy Jackson, Virginia and Tom Jordan, Tom Swihart, Bruno Sabatier.

Chair announced the California Democratic Council (CDC) is presenting a free workshop on Sept. 27th in La Jolla – How to Run a Good Meeting and Grow Your Dem. CDC provides free training for Club and Committee treasurers as well as other useful services. Check out their website – www.cdc-ca.org.

- Vice Chair: Richard East gave update on WalMart expansion.
- Secretary: Carlene Leskar gave update on the Way to Wellville, a national healthy challenge contest. On Aug. 14 it was announced that Lake County is one of five winners in the U.S.
- Treasurer: John Sheehy reported the Club's balance is \$7,418. We had 7 membership renewals, and 3 new members joined.

Vice-Chair Rich East introduced the guest speaker, Sorhna Li Jordan, who is a candidate for Assessor/Recorder. Ms. Jordan pointed out that her opponent, Richard Ford, is often perceived to be the presumptive candidate of choice since he is "already in place." According to Ms. Jordan, this is a misconception; Mr. Ford is not in the same office as the

current Assessor/Recorder. Mr. Ford is an accountant; whereas Ms. Jordan has a background in economics and law, two areas more closely related to the requirements for this position.

Ms. Jordan is looking for Lake County residents who would be interested in having house parties for her. If interested you can contact her through her website. www.votesorhna.com.

At this time Chair introduced candidates in other races who were in attendance: Bruno Sabatier for Clearlake City Council, John Brosnan for District 3 Supervisor, Quincy Jackson for Clearlake City Council, Jeri Spittler for District 2 Supervisor, Mireya Turner for Lakeport City Council and Mitch Markowitz, Konocti School Board appointee.

Standing Committee Reports –

- **Membership:** Chair Judy Conard (P. Mune, M. Markowitz, J. Brosnan, B. Sabatier). Judy is out of town, however, Adckinjo noted that she has been working on getting a Democratic Youth Group started in Lake County.
- **Voter Services:** Chair Carlene Leskar (J. Conard, S. Howland, B. Curry, L. Rigod). Carlene reported that she has been assisting with getting volunteers for Jeri Spittler's Campaign Office which is also being used as a distribution office for Democratic literature and signs and as a voter registration site. Office is located at 14196 Lakeshore Blvd in Clearlake and is open Monday – Friday 12 to 6. If you can spare 2 or 3 hours of your time to volunteer at the office, please contact Carlene at 998-1142 or calleskar@wildblue.net.
- **Candidates and Issues Endorsement:** Chair Rich East (L. Rigod, M. Markowitz, B. Manners). Rich reported that the committee met last week. They focused on local **Measures O** – *Medical Marijuana Control Act*, **P** – *Freedom to Garden Human Rights Restoration Act of 2014*, **S** – *Healthy Lake Sales Tax*, and **Measure T** – *Lakeport Unified School District Bond*. The following material was provided to the committee by Diane Fridley at the Registrar's Office: Impartial Analyses of the measures, Arguments for and against, and Rebuttals to arguments for and against. (No argument against Measure T had been submitted to the Registrar's Office.)

The following recommendations were made to the membership: **No on Measure O, No on Measure P, Yes on Measure S, Neutral on Measure T**. James Evans recommended that we vote down the recommendations as a whole and consider each measure individually. **MOTION:** accept all four recommendations from the Issues Committee. **Moved, seconded, failed.**

MOTION: James Evans moved that the Club endorse Measure O. During discussion it was announced that the DCC's Issues Committee will be meeting on Sept. 17th @ 6:30 in Judy Conard's office in Lakeport to discuss and hear speakers for Measures O & P. Any dues-paying member of the Lake Co. Democratic Central Committee can attend. **MOTION TO AMEND:** Louis Rigod moved that the Club postpone the vote on endorsing Measure O until after Sept. 17th and add the endorsing of O question to the Oct. agenda. **Moved, seconded, approved.**

MOTION: Becky Curry moved that Club accept the rest of the recommendations as presented by the Issues Committee: No on P, Yes on S, Neutral on T. **Moved, seconded, approved.**

- **Ways and Means:** Chair Jordan asked for additional volunteers for the committee. More members are needed for ample brainstorming ideas for more fundraising events. Our funding mainstays are the BBQ and the Spring Candidates' Event. Sorhna Jordan volunteered for the committee.

Media reports – Carlene Leskar. It was noted by the membership that no notice appeared in the Record Bee for this month’s meeting. Also notices haven’t been posted in the American Observer for years. Carlene will look into both issues.

Ad Hoc committee reports –

- Historian: Louis continuing to collect data. He obtained an old copy of Bylaws adopted in 1990.
- Newsletter: Virginia Jordan and Linda Peralta-Conway. Research is in progress. Virginia says they plan to go online with the Newsletter when it is ready. They have plans to include political cartoons. Any ideas for newsletter content are welcome. You can contact Virginia at balagtas2@sbcglobal.net. Sorhna Jordan also volunteered for this committee.
- Content Manager for website: www.lakecountymunicipalclub.org. For the time being, Adckinjo will continue to serve as content manager since he designed the site and has been adding content to it for two months.

Ongoing Business –

Paula Mune gave the Sept. 4th DCC report. Guest speakers: Victoria Brandon – Yes on Measure S; Daniel McLean and David Leppert – Yes on Measure O; Paul Woods – Yes on Proposition 46. * Legislators’ reports are on the website. * Voted to donate \$250 to the California Democratic Council. * United Democratic Campaign (UDC) Office now open in Lakeport. UDC needs folding chairs & tables and someone for window artwork. * Next DCC meeting Oct. 2 in Lakeport.

Becky Curry updated the Club on the UDC Headquarters in Lakeport. The Open House was Sept. 3rd; Sen. Mike Thompson was the guest speaker. Joy Swetnam is managing the coverage; hours are Wed. - Sat. 12-6. The office can be used for phone banking if any of the candidates wish to do so.

Becky also gave an update on the BBQ. Unfortunately, Betty Yee has a conflict and had to cancel. It’s too late to find another keynote speaker, but we still have several legislators speaking: Mike Thompson, Noreen Evans, Mariko Yamada, Fiona Ma, Bill Dodd and Mike McGuire. **Silent auction items are still needed!!** If you have an auction item, call Becky to make arrangements for pick up, or you can drop the items off at either the UDC HQ in Lakeport or Jeri Spittler’s Campaign Office in Clearlake (In Kind Donor Forms available at both offices.) Tickets can be purchased in advance online through ActBlue. There is a link to ActBlue on the website – www.lakecountymunicipalclub.org. Tickets purchased online will be held at the door.

Carlene reported that the Clearlake Democratic Distribution Office/ Jeri Spittler’s Campaign Office still needs volunteers; hours are Mon. - Fri. 12-6. Jeri has generously offered to share her office with the Democrats so that we have a base on the South side of the Lake to register voters and distribute literature and signs. Hopefully, those of you living in and around Clearlake can volunteer some time. Contact Carlene @ 998-1142 or calleskar@wildblue.net. There are also sign-up schedules in the office – 14196 Lakeshore Blvd.

Becky gave a Fair Review and thanked everyone who volunteered in the booth. Our booth registered 15 democrats. Still need 35 more Dems to receive our “bounty” from the CDP.

If you are interested in working for John Garamendi/ Bill Dodd’s Lake County Field Office, contact Wesley Sagewalker at (209)768-2372. However, they have filled the Field Organizer position – Gilberto Ramirez. Bill Dodd’s Lake County

Issues Committee will be meeting Sept. 17. If you have anything that you would like brought to Bill Dodd's attention, please email your thoughts to Becky at jb624@mchsi.com. She serves on that committee.

New Business –

The Sate of Jefferson (SOJ) is a serious movement, and it has come to Lake County. Their representatives have met once with our Board of Supervisors (BOS), and a 2nd meeting has been scheduled. **MOTION:** Becky Curry – post a “No on SOJ” petition to our website. **Moved, seconded, approved.** It was also recommended that we communicate the Club's position to the BOS with a letter signed by the Club Chair.

Adckinjo re-emphasized the importance of giving our support to CDC. They trained our past Treasurer, helped us design our website and continue to provide technical support for all our websites – at no charge. In his position as Vice-President of Finance of the CDC, Adckinjo has been tasked with fundraising. **MOTION:** James Evans – Club should match DCC's donation of \$250 to the CDC. **Moved, seconded, approved.**

Announcements –

Second Sunday Cinema, Clearlake United Methodist Church, Sept. 14th @ 5:45: *Speaking Freely* and *Terror Storm*.

M.A.T.H. – Middletown Area Town Hall meeting on Sept. 11th to discuss Measures O & P.

Clearlake Super Hero Day on Sept. 14th. Hosted by St. Helena Clearlake Hospital and Lake County Office of Education.

7th Annual Aids Walk in Library Park, Lakeport, Sept. 13th.

Moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carlene Leskar, Secretary

Next meeting will be on Oct. 14th @ 6 p.m.

Lower Lake United Methodist Church

16255 Second Street, Lower Lake