



Democrats of Greater Riverside

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Minutes

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, 3/17/21 - 7:00 pm

Zoom

- 1) Welcome and call to order
- 2) Determination of a Quorum

x	Trish Morgan, President	x	Monrow Mabon, Vice President
x	Christine Roberts, Secretary	x	Freya Foley, Policy & Research Chair
x	Sheila Kay Riley, Membership	x	Carol Johnson Castaneda, Treasurer
x	Stevie Taken, Finance Chair	x	Bonnie McFarland, Communications Chair
x	Sheila Kay Riley, Elections Chair		Rebecca Kitchings, Audit Chair [Not a Board Officer]
x	Bonnie McFarland, Rules Chair		

- 3) Reading and acceptance of Agenda: M Riley/S Foley; Unanimous approval
- 4) Reading and acceptance of minutes of prior month. Accepted as presented
- 5) Program - Democratic City Council Candidates' Forum

Vice President Morgan introduced candidates who had received questions in advance of the meeting. Questions ranged from solutions to the housing crisis, to identifying and offering solutions for a particular ward need or problem. Candidates present were:

Ward 2: Aram Ayrapetyan, Clarisa Cervantes, and Desai Ashesh (notified he did not qualify prior to meeting)

Ward 4: Monrow Mabon

Ward 6: Jim Perry, incumbent

Following the Forum, President Morgan explained the club can offer endorsement recommendations to the County Democratic Party, but only the CDP can actually endorse. The club members can either vote to recommend a candidate or vote to decline to recommend a candidate tonight.

Discussion followed on pros/cons of recommendations, especially in Wards where more than one Democratic candidate is running.

Vote Results: Ward 2 - 10 votes not to recommend; Ward 4 recommends Monrow Mabon, 19 votes; Ward 6 recommends Jim Perry, 18 votes. Secretary Roberts pointed out that members are free to support and campaign for whomever they wish. Chair Riley said she will send out candidates' contact information to the membership.

6) Officers Reports:

- a) President Morgan - Members will be receiving a survey regarding what activities/community service/causes we should do.
- b) Vice-President Mabon - Continuing to try to increase membership through networking. Proud to introduce his wife as a new member.
- c) Treasurer - The monthly report was placed on file.
- d) Secretary - No report

7) Committee Chair Reports

Membership - We currently have 71 members with 49 needing to renew. Chair Riley continues to contact existing and former members through a variety of social media.

Communications - Reaching out to those who volunteered to assist with club's Twitter account

- a) Finance - President Morgan reminded members that seed money is used to support candidates and asked for input on fundraisers.
- b) Elections - Re-iterated information on filing, endorsing and voting deadlines and on how to assist Councilwoman Gabby Plascencia against the recall effort against her.
- c) Policy and Research - Redistricting SoCalBlue handout will be posted on DGR website and Facebook page. Commissioner Kennedy being invited as guest speaker in May about the redistricting process. Members should be following

developments in Immigration, Voters' Rights, the crime bill, and the filibuster. HR1 addresses gerrymandering and other attempts to limit voting. Indivisible hosts Fired Up Fridays to discuss current issues and invited interested people to sign up through Eventbrite. Members were urged to contact Diane Feinstein regarding her legacy and ask her to vote against the filibuster.

d) Rules and Compliance -

Need to make changes in language based on County and/or State Party requirements in order to be chartered. This includes precise wording in non-discrimination statement; new notification procedure for members and candidates regarding endorsements; and someone must be a Member in Good Standing for 30 days to be qualified to vote; and voting to recommend endorsement requires 50%+1, which passed by 11 votes. Changes to rest of bylaws and new super majority for endorsements passed by 16. Those against 0.

e) Audit report - none

8) Unfinished Business-none

9) New Business-none

10) Announcements: Ellie Kierpiewski is running for Region 19 Director and is asking for ADEM endorsements.

Currently the D.A. and Registrar are in a dispute over 90 missing ballots; League of Women Voters and RCDP also involved.

Next Meetings -

E-Board: April 6, 2021 @ 6pm - Zoom. Those interested in running for a DGR office or committee chair are encouraged to attend to see duties required of each position.

Membership: April 21 @ 7 p.m.-Zoom Link will be on our website and via email. Everyone is urged to RSVP in advance.

Adjournment at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Christine Roberts

Christine Roberts, Secretary