

Minutes
San Francisco for Democracy Membership Meeting
Mission District Police Station
July 21, 2010

President Tim Durning called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Tim announced that Debra Walker, candidate for the Board of Supervisors and John Risso, candidate for re-election for the College Board, were in attendance.

Members Present: Maxine Anderson, Tom Brown, Susan Bryan, Glen Davis, Denise Dorey, Tim Durning, Terrie Frye, Howard Grayson, Greg Kamin, Maggie Rubenstein, Debra Walker and Peter Wong

Non-members present: numerous non-members attended this meeting, many of them to speak against Proposition 19. (see PAC minutes below)

I. Afghanistan War policy:

--Presentation by Rebecca Griffin, Political Director of Peace Action West, urging an end to the Afghanistan War. Rebecca talked about the failure of the counter-insurgency policy and gave an update on members of Congress who do not support continuation of the war effort. She said her group has been in contact with Speaker Pelosi who has been "dropping hints that she's not on board with the Afghanistan policy." She handed out a pamphlet "Congressional Voting Record for the 111th Congress, 2009" Q&A followed.

San Francisco for Democracy PAC
Membership Meeting

Ballots were handed out to 12 members in good standing concerning the possible early endorsement of 4 State Propositions which will appear on the California November ballot.

All votes in format for-against-abstain.

I. Proposition 23: Suspends Global Warming Solutions Act (Prop 32) which requires major polluters to report and reduce greenhouse gas emissions until unemployment drops below specified level for a full year.

--Presentation by College Board Vice President John Rizzo speaking against Prop. 23. John argued that by halting green jobs it would be a job killer.

II. Proposition 19: legalizes marijuana, allows it to be taxed and regulated.

--Presentation by David Goldman, member of SF for Safe Access and patient advocate, speaking in favor of Prop 19. David argued that Prop 19 would not have the bad effects opponents claim. It would reduce the high arrest rate for marijuana possession and provide a legal way for individuals to grow their own marijuana. Without regulation, David pointed out that there is not one medical marijuana dispensary that is testing their medicine. Although it's not perfect, he said it's a good proposition which we should support.

--Presentation by Cathy Smith who runs the MCD (medicinal cannabis dispensary) called Hopenet. Cathy argued that the compassionate medical community would be disadvantaged by Prop 19. There will be higher permit fees and they will put a sin tax on our medicine. Corporations will take over the marijuana business. If you smoke in the same house with our underage children, Cathy suggested your neighbors call the cops on you. David responded that "same space" is defined as the same room based on court president, but detractors argued that's not what appears in the proposition.

Results of ballot count

Early endorsement vote on selected state propositions

Proposition 19: marijuana legalization

--9 **YES**

--2 **NO**

--1 No Endorsement

Proposition 23: suspend air pollution control laws

- 0 **YES**

-- 12 **NO**

-- 0 No Endorsement

Proposition 25: simple majority vote needed to pass a budget

--11 **YES**

-- 1 **NO**

-- 0 No Endorsement

Proposition 26: increase legislative vote requirement to 2/3 super majority for state levies and fees.

-- 0 **YES**

-- 12 **NO**

-- 0 No Endorsement

Meeting adjourned at 8:55

Minutes submitted by Tom Brown