

Minutes
Escondido Democratic Club
General Meeting, April 10, 2010

The meeting was **called to order** by President Paul McNamara at **10:30 AM** .

Enough members were present to form a **quorum**.

The membership recited the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**.

A member moved that the **minutes of the March General Meeting** .be approved. Dan Buse seconded the motion which was passed by the membership.

Report of Executive board Actions

Paul McNamara informed the membership that at the May General meeting the controversial subject of the Drivers License Check Points would be examined. It might be a subject upon which the EDC would want to take a position and pass a resolution accordingly.

Paul noted that after the forum of Congressional District Democratic Candidates at the May General Meeting, the members would be voting on which candidates to endorse.

Paul was pleased to tell the membership that the EDC would have two full tables at the Roosevelt dinner that evening, and that it was never too late to get tickets for the event.

Paul noted that the Board had agreed on a final list of taglines that would be presented to the membership later in the meeting.

Report of communications received/acted upon: no communications were reported.

Reports of the Vice Presidents and Committee Chairs: (In order to save time for a long meeting, Paul McNamara made the reports.)

Report of the Treasurer:

Paul McNamara presented the Treasurer's Report--a copy is included with these minutes.

Report of the Vice President for Political Action:

Paul noted that the U. S. . Mayors Climate Protection Agreement would be presented to the Mayor, but we were looking for other groups to joining with us in asking this of the mayor.

He also noted the we were still working towards starting a movie night--showing movies with political or topical issues. We would hope to have a sponsor or sponsors for the movie night, so we could cover the costs of the night.

Paul interrupted the VP reports to allow candidates present to speak to the membership.

Francine Busby said that she had once been stopped in Escondido at a Check Point, and she found it anything but warm and welcoming. She noted all the LTE's in the North County Times that were abusive of Olga Diaz, and supportive of the check points. She encouraged the membership to support Olga by writing their own LTEs supporting Olga, because Olga had demonstrated true leadership. She also noted that during this congressional recess, Brian Bilbray was working on his boat in Panama.

Paul Garver, a candidate for the 75th Assembly District noted the invariable inability of the State Assembly to pass a budget on time cost California taxpayers tons of wasted taxes. He noted the major reason for this was the 2/3 majority required to pass a budget, which he

described as insane. He also noted that we were the only state or nation that did not impose an oil extraction tax--and that his opponent, Nathan Fletcher said that such a tax would increase oil prices--as if only California producers determined the price of crude.

Report of the Vice President for Membership:

Paul noted that we needed volunteers to register help out with voter registration and also help with the booth at the Escondido Street Faire on May 16.

Members are also needed to make up a phone tree to contact prospective members. He also stressed the importance of members paying their dues.

Report of the Vice President for Communications:

Paul mentioned that proposed tag lines would be posted to the website. He also mentioned recent media coverage of the Club, including an SDNN article that quoted Paul and Jason, a NC Times column item about the Club of the Year award, and Rick Moore added from the audience that David Garrick was writing something for the NCT that would appear in the next few days.

Report of the President.:

President Paul McNamara talked about the last meeting of the Council of Clubs. He stressed the need for the Organizing for America (OFA), the Go-Teams, and the various local clubs like the EDC to work together toward the common goal of turning Escondido Blue.

Standing Rules for Club Resolutions:

Rick Bova moved, and Chris Nava seconded that the Standing Rules for Club Resolutions be approved. the motion carried. (Copy included with these minutes.)

Standing Rules for Candidate Campaign Support

Rick Bova moved and Rick Moore seconded that the Standing Rules for Endorsement be approve, as amended by Rick Bova. Rick Bova explained the changes he proposed to the rules that had been posted to the website. After some discussion, the motion passed. (Copy included with these minutes.)

Items brought forth by the membership for the good of the Order.

Grace Sloan, Volunteer Chair, reported on a training session she had attended that stressed the need for voter education, and that the members could form the base of an education pyramid--they could education ten friends about and issue who could tell ten of their friends, etc.

Chris Nava noted that there would be a memorial for Midge Constanza on April 24. She also suggested that any members who were stopped at check points report their stops to the ACLU.

Olga Diaz told the membership that she had a very difficult time in obtaining information on the actual costs of the check points. She noted that there was indeed a cost, a cost in dollars lost to Escondido taxpayers, but also a loss of opportunity of use of the police time.

Allison Marks noted that she had been stopped at a check point, told the officer that her purse was in the back seat, and been waved on.

Olga Diaz noted that the check points indicated that those stopped showed a 96% compliance with driver's license requirements.

2: Standing Rules for Resolutions Escondido Democratic Club

1. Club resolutions may be considered at any properly noticed club meeting, provided that a quorum is present and that the notice of the meeting (normally contained in the Club website and emails) included notification of the resolutions to be considered. (A quorum is as defined for a general meeting in the Club bylaws.) To be eligible to vote for a resolution, a member must have been a member in good standing at least 25 days prior to the meeting. Proxy voting and absentee voting is not permitted.
2. An affirmative vote of at least 60 percent of the club members present and eligible to vote shall be required to pass a resolution. (Note: The vote required is measured by all those eligible members “present,” not just those “present and voting”.)
3. Voting on any resolution shall be by secret ballot when requested by any member eligible to vote.
4. A Club member may make a motion to begin the process under which the Club considers a resolution. The Club executive board may also initiate a resolution and recommend it to members.
5. Members shall be provided the text of the resolution in advance (usually through the Club website and emails) and also in printed form at the meeting at which a final vote is taken.
6. The Executive Board shall consider and provide to members its opinion of resolutions.
7. Normally, a resolution will be suggested at one Club meeting, considered by the executive board and placed on the agenda for a vote at a second Club meeting. Resolutions with urgent time considerations may be voted upon at a single meeting with the concurrence of 2/3 of eligible members present.
8. As a chartered Democratic Club, EDC will not normally resolve to take positions in conflict with those taken by the San Diego County, California, or National Democratic Party. However, such positions are not prohibited.
9. These rules may be suspended by a 2/3 vote of those present and voting, provided that a quorum is present. These rules may be amended by a 2/3 vote of those present and voting at any properly called club meeting, provided that a quorum is present, and provided that notice of the proposed amendment was included with the notice of the meeting.

3: Standing Rules for Campaign Support Escondido Democratic Club Approved by members April 10, 2010

The Escondido Democratic Club shall provide access and be cooperative with all Democratic candidates and ballot initiatives. The measure of the rule is its inclusivity of all candidates or initiatives that have been properly vetted. The EDC Board reserves the right to exclude support to extreme candidates and to initiatives that do not represent in the Board's opinion the objectives of EDC and the San Diego County Democratic Party.

EDC shall offer its support by allowing vetted Democratic candidates and advocates for acceptable initiatives to speak to Club members, distribute literature at club meetings and events, and by allowing them to submit messages to Club members, using our communication vehicles (the Website and the email messages).

The Club shall safeguard its membership list, and under no circumstances is the list to be given to any candidate or initiative campaign.

Any Democratic candidates, vetted or not, shall be allowed to introduce themselves, their campaign, and positions at a club meeting.

Any candidate or ballot initiative group excluded by the EDC Board, may ask the Board for a formal vetting upon presentation of signatures of 20 EDC members in good standing. The board will then create an ad hoc committee to create and execute the vetting process. The committee will report their results to the board at its next meeting for its consideration.

Once endorsed, the Club can support candidates/initiatives by:

1. Notifying our list of campaign activities and fundraising efforts.
2. Distributing fundraising envelopes at EDC meetings. Allow campaign volunteers to speak to meetings for fundraising purposes.
3. Facilitating a campaign presence at community events, such as the twice-a-year Street Faire, through use of the EDC booth. If no candidate has yet been endorsed by the EDC in a race, any and all candidates for that race may use the EDC booth.
4. Working with the GO Team on precinct walking.

EDC may declare a priority campaign only for a candidate. The following are criteria for such a designation. The candidate must:

1. Complete and submit the approved EDC questionnaire.
3. Demonstrate a depth of knowledge and understanding of the issues facing Escondido residents.
4. Show a level of community involvement.
5. Demonstrate an ability to conduct a vigorous campaign.
6. Belong to the Escondido Democratic Club.
7. Appear for interview by the Political Action Committee, which will make recommendations to EDC Board.

If endorsed and designated as a priority campaign, the Club can support candidates by intensifying the “ask” in all the above activities, and by: Aggressive phone banking to members and friends to encourage attendance, volunteer participation, and donations. 2. Developing plans to supplement the activities of campaigns, including independent mailings or phone banking to faithful Democratic voters.

3. Staging high-level donor events for members and friends.
4. Direct donation of funds in amounts recommended by the executive board and approved by members.

Donations to candidates whose campaigns are priority, or strategically critical (the SDCCDP’s designation for priority races), shall be given special consideration for donations. Donation requests from candidates will be weighted in favor of priority level campaigns. Approval for donations requires the recommendation of the executive board and a majority vote of the membership.

