

Minutes  
Escondido Democratic Club  
General Meeting,  
April 9, 2011

The meeting was **called to order** by President Paul McNamara at **10:36 AM**.

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

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

**Approval of Minutes:**

Jason Everitt moved to approve the minutes of the March, 2011, General Meeting minutes. Dan Buse seconded the motion, which was passed.

**Executive Board Actions:**

Paul McNamara described the realignment of responsibilities that the Board had voted to recommend to the general membership at their March Board meeting. He recommended that Jeff Gifford become the Vice President for Membership, giving up his present position of Treasurer. The Treasurer's position would be assumed by Butch Norwood, who has a background in accounting. The current Vice President for Membership, Jason Everitt, would become the Director for EDC Political Action in Community Issues, as Jason has an extensive background in public policies. Paul McNamara moved to nominate the members for these position accordingly, the membership would vote to make the changes permanent at the May General meeting.. Rick Moore seconded the motion which carried.

Paul reminded the members about the upcoming, April 16, SDCDP Roosevelt Dinner. He encouraged members to attend.

Paul noted that the City of Escondido Mayor and City Council were starting a push to make Escondido a Charter City. Jason Everitt explained that there were two types of cities in California, General Law cities (which is what Escondido is currently) and Charter Cities. Charter Cities have much more leeway to make their own rules about such matters as employment requirements--a General Law city's contractors must pay living wages to their employees. Not so with a Charter City. Jason pointed out that this was a way to go after unions, and that it would make it easier for the City of Escondido to nullify the Growth Management and Neighborhood Protection Act (Prop. S) in Escondido. He encouraged members to attend the Wed., April 13, 2011, 4 p.m. meeting of the Escondido City Council when the issue would be discussed. Allison Marks pointed out the infamous City of Bell was a Charter City.

**Report of communications received/acted upon:**

No communications were received.

**Treasurers Report:**

Paul McNamara presented the Treasurer's report. A copy is included with these minutes.

**Vice President for Political Action Report:**

Paul McNamara announced that the recognition of the young volunteers awards would be made at the May General Meeting.

Paul noted that two of the open Director positions under the V.P. for Political had been filled. Rick Bova would become Director for Increasing EDC members activity in other Democratic Party organizations. And, as noted before, if approved by the membership, Jason Everitt would become the Director for Positioning EDC in Community Issues. Paul noted that there was still a need for a Director for increasing EDC members activism, and coordinating that activism with groups like OFA.

**Vice President for Membership Report:**

Paul McNamara reminded members to pay their dues.

He announced that Steve and Judy Slane would no longer be Refreshment Chairs, and thanked the Slanes for their outstanding service. He hoped that a member or members would volunteer to take their place.

Paul also noted that the EDC needed a volunteer to Chair the Street Faire Committee.

Paul informed the members that Movie Nights were still planned, and that the club needed someone to volunteer their backyard as a venue, when the weather became warmer.

**Vice President for Communication's Report:**

Rick Moore said he was still working on a new logo for the EDC. He asked the members if anyone knew of a professional graphic artist who would volunteer their services.

Rick encouraged the members to call him if they were having difficulty with the EDC Facebook page. He explained how a member could get to the fan page directly through Facebook rather than from the EDC website.

**Report of the President:**

Paul McNamara felt that as the Escondido triple A Ballpark project was becoming very unlikely to occur in the next few years, he would entertain a motion to table the issue. Jason Everitt so moved. Chris Nova seconded the motion which passed.

**Items brought forth by the membership for the good of the Order:**

A member noted that a former Asst. Sect. of Labor under Clinton, Marty Manley, had started a Blog that was defending Public Sector Unions.

Jose Fragoza announced to the membership that the Escondido and Escondido High School Boards would be holding a joint meeting at 7 pm, Wed. , April 13, at the Escondido School District office. The meeting would be about the possible unification of the two districts. He encourage members to attend the meeting and support unification.

Roy Garrett, a new member, described how the current Escondido City Council was planning budget cuts to Community Services that would result in the closure of the city's pools, the skateboard park, and the East Valley Community Center/Library. He decried the lack of vision of the Council, and described how difficult this would be on the

youth of the City. He pled with members to attend a meeting at the Mathis Center on Tuesday, April 12, at the Mathis Center. He said those who attend should come willing to work circulating petitions, etc. He also asked the members to attend the Wednesday, April 13, City Council Meeting, and speak against those cuts. He said the decision on the budget would be made in less than one month.

Michelle Ann Mareck asked any members who were interested in Latin American issues, NAFTA, etc., to sign up on her e-mail list, and she would send them information.

The business meeting **adjourned at approximately 11:10 am**, and was followed by a presentation by Mel Takahara of The Salvation Army about the history and current status of the "safety net" in general, and in Escondido.