

General Meeting
April 21, 2024, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

NEW MEMBERS
David Rubin
Sally Rubin
Paulette Terry
RENEWING MEMBERS
Marsha Brown
Robin Ermolik
Thomas Hewitt
Doug McClelland
Shannon Skinner
Wanda Turner

Zoom Link: [redacted]
[redacted]

I. Call to Order

II. Agenda Review

- a. Any changes to the agenda.
- b. Approve Agenda: Motion _____ Second _____ Approved by acclimation _____

III. Approve Minutes of March General Meeting

- a. Approve Minutes: Motion _____ Second _____ Approved by acclimation _____

IV. Announcements:

- a. Linda Smith: Everyone is invited to join us after the meeting for an early dinner at Jalisco’s Restaurant located at 8335 Brentwood Blvd <https://www.jaliscosmexican-restaurant.com/> Please RSVP at the meeting so we can give them a count of how many are coming so they can arrange the tables.

V. Guest Speaker

Ellen McDonnell
Contra Costa County Public Defender

VI. Carolina Villaseca – President

- a. I will be offering a class on the following:
 - i. How to send e-mails to support our endorsed candidates.
 - ii. How to write a letter to the editor
 - iii. How to write to City Council
 - iv. How to write to the BUSD School Board
 - v. How to call into City Council
 - vi. How to give public comment at school board and city council meetings

VI. Ian Cohen – Vice President (not present)

- a. May - Moms Demand Action, Michelle Sinnot Petersen
- b. June through Nov are currently open. Planning to talk to Mark Foley for a BART update in June.
- c. Dec - Accomplishment party!
- d. If you have a person who would like to come and speak (speaker aligns with democratic values and the goals of the club) to our club, please contact Ian Cohen at (510) 650-6444 or via email: ianscohen@hotmail.com

VII. Membership – Elinor Bell, Co-Chair

- a. Membership stats: 80 members as of 3/27/2024; 9 new (see box above) and renewing since the March meeting.
- b. Outreach efforts: Looking for volunteers to improve outreach efforts beyond the Supporters/Members list and Farmers Market.
- c. Continuing to update interest forms. As new forms come in, the names of interested people will be sent to Board officers and committee chairs.
- d. FYI --- Membership dues of \$20 (\$5 for students) runs 12 months from January 31 to February 1 of the following year. After joining, new members must wait 30 days to be able to vote on any official MCDC business such as election of officers, changes to bylaws, and candidate endorsements. Renewing Members in Good Standing may vote as soon as dues are paid. If you are not a registered Democrat, you are considered an

Associate Member and are welcome to participate in any aspect of the Club; however, you may not vote on official MCDC business.

- e. Three ways to join --- credit card at <https://www.marshcreekdems.org/all-products>, or Venmo MarshCreekDems (3416), or check sent to Thuy DaoJensen/MCDC, P.O. Box 521, Brentwood, CA 94513

XII. Swing Left – Doug McClelland-

- a. How to use the Swing Left website.
- b. The next version of the National Impact Fund recommended by Swing Left includes:
 - President Joe Biden
 - Eventual Democratic Senate nominee in Michigan
 - Montana Senator Jon Tester
 - Wisconsin Senator Tammy Baldwin
 - Rep. Mary Peltola, AK-AL
 - Rep. Emilia Sykes, OH-13
 - Ashley Ehasz, PA-01
 - Pennsylvania State Fund
 - Adam Gray, CA-13—Marsh Creek Swing Left is working with this group in Lathrop
 - Swing Left
- a. Add Josh Harder & Jessica Morris

VIII. Voter Outreach: Linda Smith

- a. Postcards for Virginia and Georgia for state primaries to increase turnout and solve voter problems before November ballot. Letters mailed May 1, 2024. Only concentrating on the biggest primaries as some states have multiple primaries. We have over 500 postcards.
- b. Letter Writing for November Elections in Swing States of Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania has begun. Letters are due October 1, 2024.
- c. Postcard/Letter Writing Parties will be held on Wednesday's May 22nd, June 5th, June 19th, June 3rd, July 31st, Aug 14th, 28th.
- d. Contact Linda at lismithtech@gmail.com to make postcard sample or pick up letters.
- e. Farmer's Market – Help staff our booth on Saturdays from 9 am to 12 noon at the corner of 1st and Oak in front of Bank of America. Email marshCreekDems@gmail.com to volunteer. Looking for someone to set-up on the May 4th, May 11th

IX. 2025 Mac & Cheese Fund Raiser: Linda Smith

- a. 2nd Annual Mac & Cheese Cook-Off – Sunday, January 19, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Brentwood Community Center. To enter the competition, e-mail MarshCreekDems@gmail.com

IX. Webmaster – Joe Ely

X. Social Justice – Ray Cole, Chair

- a. Banned book reports: an overview of two frequently banned books and why they are being challenged.
 - 1. The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison
 - 2. Flamer by Mike Castro
- b. Proposition 1: I would like to find someone to take on the topic of Prop 1 as a focus area for the committee. This is a proposition that was endorsed by this club and very narrowly passed by something like .2% of the vote. It has the potential of changing the way the state addresses mental health issues and will be a test of how well the state can implement and perform in this area.

XIII. Issues and Legislation – Bill Nusbaum, Chair

- b. Meetings are held via Zoom on the first Saturday of the month at 11:30 am.
- c. Next meeting is Saturday, May 4, 2024, 11:30 am. If interested in joining, email Bill Nusbaum at billnusbaum13@gmail.com.

XIV. DPCCC District 3 Update 2024 Primary – Carolina Villaseca, DPCCC District 3 Director

Total County Turnout: 37.94% of all registered voters

All of Contra Costa County: Republicans voted 48.25% Democrats 43.11%

Presidential Race: Joseph Biden 140,780 votes Donal J Trump 43,941

Federal Senatorial Race: Adam Schiff 33.91% Steve Garvey 24.88%

Federal Representatives: John Garamendi 81.01%, Mark DeSaulnier 65.61%, Josh Harder 41.68% (he had 3 R opponents)

State Senatorial Race District 9: Thom Brogue (Rep) 34% Chris Cabaldon (D) 25.10%

State Senatorial Race District 3: Tim Grayson 60.99% Marisol Rubio 38.53%

State Assembly Race District 11: Lori Wilson 42.5% David Enis (Rep) 33.39%

State Assembly Race District 15: Sonia Ledo (Rep) 31.8% Anamaria Farias 30.3%

County Board of Supervisor District 5: Mike Barbanica 38.7% Shanelle Scales Preston 35%

XV. Carolina Villaseca, Chair of Publications and Social Media Committee

- a. Please show our beautiful website and FB page to 3 friends.

XVI. Treasurer’s Report– Thuy DaoJensen, Treasurer

Marsh Creek Dems Treasurer's Financial Statement		
Date	Description of INCOME	Amount
April 10 - May 7, 2024		
	BALANCE as of April 10, 2024:	\$ 5,205.40
25-Mar-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$48.25
	Total INCOME	\$ 5,253.65

Check #	Description of EXPENSES	Amount
1112	Survey Monkey fees (2 months)	\$198.00
	Total EXPENSES	\$198.00
	BALANCE as of May 7, 2024:	\$ 5,055.65

XVII. For the Good of the Order (comments/suggestions)

XVIII. Adjournment