



**2024 New and  
Renewing Members:  
29 – See item VIII**

## **General Meeting Minutes January 21, 2024, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**

Room and Zoom

Any Questions: MarshCreekDems@gmail.com

### **I. Call to Order and Introductions (New members, Dignitaries) (3 minutes) 2:00 pm**

#### **A. Zoom:**

1. All Zoom Attendees will be muted
2. Please rename your Zoom to your first and last name.
3. To ask questions: Raise Hand

### **II. Minutes for November (3 minutes)**

- A. Motion to Adopt November Minutes: Motion BN 2<sup>nd</sup> EB by acclamation

### **III. Agenda Review (3 minutes)**

- A. Any changes to the agenda?
- B. Motion to Adopt Agenda: Motion CV 2<sup>nd</sup> BC by acclamation

### **IV. Shannon Skinner – President (5 minutes)**

- A. General update: All MCDC committees are looking for additional help
- B. Mac & Cheese Cook-Off
1. Sold 84 tickets - 78 Attended
  2. Cook-off Results - 9 Chefs
    - a) 1st Place Tie – Maria Garcia & Jennifer Anderson
    - b) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Tie – Barbara Coffman & Mike Kleeman
    - c) 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Melissa Van Ruiten

## **3. Profit \$3710**

- a) \$371 donated to The Martin Luther King Jr. Center in Oakland
- b) \$3339 will be donated to candidates endorsed for November election.

### **V. Upcoming Activities: (3 minutes)**

- A. **February 10** – Literature Drop for Monica Wilson - Please join us to drop literature for candidate Monica Wilson for Assembly District 15 on **Saturday February 10th**. We will meet at **10:00am at Brentwood Public Library** upstairs on the 2nd Floor.
- B. **Endorsement Forum** – Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> by zoom at 7:00 pm. We will also host an Endorsement Forum on **Wednesday January 30th at 7:00pm** via ZOOM for the following candidates who have asked for our endorsement:

#### **CA Senate District 3**

Rozzana Verder-Aliga

#### **CA Senate District 9**

Marisol Rubio

#### **CA Assembly District 15**

Monica Wilson

Anamaria Avila Farias  
**County Board of Supervisor District 5**  
Shanelle Preston-Scales

We may also have other opportunities to help flip 3 House seats as requested by Representative John Garamendi:

- 1) Jessica Morse CA D3
- 2) Help defeat Duarte in CA D13
- 3) Adam Gray CA D22

C.

**VI. Carolina Villaseca – Vice President (3 minutes)**

- A. If you have a person who would like to come and speak to our club, please contact Carolina Villaseca at (216) 570-1270 or [mcvillaseca@yahoo.com](mailto:mcvillaseca@yahoo.com)
- B. Speaker Line up:  
**Feb** - Rep. Josh Harder, DC CA 9 tentative as his wife is having their baby. We will also have Mr. Loki Mulholland son of Joan Trumpauer Mulholland, original Freedom Rider. He is an award winning documentarist and author. He has produced 9 documentaries about the civil rights struggles and history including and upcoming documentary at the end of Feb/beg of March called Dying to Vote. We look forward to scheduling a screening.  
**March** -  
**April** - Ellen McDonnell, CCC Public Defender  
**May** - Moms Demand Action, Michelle Sinnot Petersen

**VII. Today's Guest Speaker – (15 minutes)**

**Collin Coffey**  
**East Bay Regional Park District**  
**Board of Directors – Ward 7**

This year is the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the East Bay Park District. Collin represents Ward 7 which covers all of Northern and Eastern Contra Costa from Hercules to Brentwood and up in the Delta to Bethel Island

Priorities for 2024 include expanding public access, infrastructure maintenance of existing trails and facilities, further trail development natural and cultural resource conservation, fuels management and continuing land acquisition.

Brentwood and Oakley do not pay the standard property tax that the remainder of the County pay into the Park District. We do contribute to a Bond Measure that was issued in 2008 that is used for land acquisition,

We are unique in that Contra Costa and Alameda County in that we do not have our own park departments. The advantage is the East Bay Regional Park District is independent of any other jurisdiction and is operated by an independent board.

They are working on a ten-year plan for the district. They are going to ask for a lot of community input by having sessions – general population opportunities.

They have acquired title to the Concord Naval Weapons Station in the Concord Hills -2500 acres. The park has been named Thurgood Marshall Regional Park Home of the Port Chicago 50. Every Sunday in February from 9 – 1 they are going to have public walk and talks out in the future park. A naturalist will

give a talk about the area. Go the EBparks.org – and you can register for the event. This most likely would not be allowed today in the former confederate south.

The programming our naturalists do is very social justice oriented. We talk and educate about systemic racism that exists today.

#### **VIII. Membership – Elinor Bell, Co-Chair (3 minutes)**

- A. We closed 2023 with 90 members. So far, we have 27 members for 2024.
- B. 2024 Members – 29
  - 1. Kevin Armonio, Phil Arnold, Elinor Bell, Roy Bell, Barbara Coffman, Bob Coffman, Ray Cole, Suzanne Cook, Walter Cook, Nicholas Coulon, Thuy DaoJensen, Phyllis Drummond, MaryEllen Fontana, Jaqueline Brooks Hanel, Tamela Hawley, Troy Jensen, Brenda King-Randle, Mike, Kleeman, Angela Lowrey, Jovita Mendoza, Yolanda Mendrek, Susannah Meyer, Maria Perrone, William Randle, Harry Thurston, Valerie Thurston, Melissa Van Ruiten, Carolina Villaseca, Lisa Woerner
- C. Membership dues of \$20/person (\$10 for students) runs for 12 months from February 1 to January 31 of the following year. After joining, new members must wait 30 days before being eligible to vote on any official MCDC business such as election of officers, changes to bylaws, and candidate endorsements.
- D. 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 Renewing Members become Members in Good Standing and may vote as soon as dues are paid. New members become Members in Good Standing and may vote 30 days after their dues are paid.

#### **IX. Voter Outreach: Linda Smith (5 minutes)**

- A. Farmer’s Market Update – Thanks to Suzanne cook, Sue Higgins, Carolina, Carole Main, Liz Fuller, Joe Ely, Diane Alexander and Ray Cole for staffing our booth.
  - 1. We always need help – Shift is 9:00 am – 11:30 am.
  - 2. Liz Fuller is chairing the volunteer signup
  - 3. Ray Cole saves out spot at 7:30 each Saturday 😊
- B. We will soon be writing postcards at the end of March to Swing States and for local candidates
- C. We will also have Texting and Phone Banking Parties. Stay tuned.

#### **X. Webmaster – Joe Ely [www.MarshCreekDems.org](http://www.MarshCreekDems.org) 4,371 Visitors this year**

#### **XI. Social Justice – Ray Cole, Chair – E-mail Ray at [raycole6s@outlook.com](mailto:raycole6s@outlook.com) to join the committee**

- A. We have 3 members – responsibilities have been divided up – Dr. Roberts – Educational issues Ray – LBGTQ We have divided up attending school board meetings. Carolina - DEI
- B. We would like to add to the current committee, specifically for homelessness and immigration.

#### **XII. Issues and Legislation – Bill Nusbaum, Chair (3 minutes) –**

- A. Next Meeting is Saturday, February 3rd, 11:30 am
- B. Meetings are held via Zoom on the first Saturday of the month at 11:30 am.
- C. Results of Issues Committee Survey We had 78 respondents. (Survey Attached)

#### **XIII. DPCCC District 3 Update – Carolina Villaseca, DPCCC District 3 Director (3 minutes)**

#### **XIV. Carolina Villaseca, Chair of Publications and Social Media Committee (3 minutes)**

- A. **Contact Carolina** at (216) 570-1270 or [mcvillaseca@yahoo.com](mailto:mcvillaseca@yahoo.com).
- B. We are continually posting important items on Facebook regarding news and calls to action. Send any call to action to Carolina at [marshcreekdems@gmail.com](mailto:marshcreekdems@gmail.com). Check our Facebook page often for our frequent updates, and post your comments and “likes” whenever you can

**XV. Swing Left – Doug McClelland (5 minutes) – Update**

Swing Left is doing walks to get out the vote and meet the people.

**XVI. Elections Chair, Valerie Thurston**

- A. MCDC Elections January 21<sup>st</sup>:
  - 1. President- Carolina Villaseca
  - 2. Vice-President- Ian Cohen
  - 3. Secretary- Jacqueline Brooks Hanel
  - 4. Treasurer- Thuy DaoJensen
- B. Officers for 2024 were approved by acclimation.

**XVII. New Business**

**XVIII. Treasurer’s Report – Thuy DaoJensen, Treasurer (5 minutes)**

**Marsh Creek Dems Treasurer's Financial Statement  
January 8 - February 4, 2024**

Date	Description of INCOME	Amount
	<b>BALANCE as of January 8, 2024:</b>	<b>\$ 1,773.43</b>
8-Jan-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$19.12
8-Jan-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$260.67
8-Jan-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$105.91
8-Jan-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$57.66
8-Jan-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$115.62
8-Jan-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$67.37
8-Jan-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$236.99
8-Jan-2024	VOID check #1091 (donation to MCDC from Shannon)	\$83.53
10-Jan-2024	CHECK deposit of (2) membership dues	\$40.00
10-Jan-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$193.00
12-Jan-2024	SQUARE deposit	\$19.12
15-Jan-2024	CASH & CHECK deposit of Mac & Cheese event	\$970.00
	<b>Total INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 3,942.42</b>

Check #	Description of EXPENSES	Amount
1101	Supplies for Mac & Cheese, 2 year WIX renewal	\$626.14
1102	Food for Mac & Cheese	\$135.43

	Total EXPENSES	\$761.57
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**BALANCE as of February 4, 2024:** **\$ 3,180.85**

**XIX. For the Good of the Order (comments/suggestions) (3 minutes)**

**XX. Adjournment 3:21 pm**