



Meeting Minutes Agenda

March 21, 2021

Conducted online via Zoom

Any Questions: MarshCreekDems@gmail.com

New 2021 Members: Collin Coffey, Marcita Enis, Robin Ermolik, Ben Kellogg, Carol Tomei, John Tomei

Renewed Members: Beverly Brown, Marsha Brown, Chuck Carpenter, Ellie Householder, Brenda King-Randle, Annette Lewis, Carol Main, Diana McElroy, Brian Oftedal, William Randle, David Shaeffer, Sarah Shaefer, Steve Shear, Susan Shear, Marsha Tellier, Bonnie Tucker, Carolyn Yoshino

I Call to Order and Introductions (New members, Dignitaries) (3 minutes) 2:06

- A. All Attendees have been muted.
- B. Please rename your Zoom to your first and last name.
- C. At the end of the presentation, our speaker will take questions.
 - 1. Use Chat or click Reactions and Raise hand

II Approve Minutes from February 21st meeting

Motion CV 2nd TDJ (2 minutes)

III Agenda Review (3 minutes)

- A. Any changes to the Agenda
- B. Motion to Adopt Agenda: Motion HT 2nd MF

IV Announcements: Shannon Skinner, MCDC President (3 minutes)

A. Breaking the Silence – An intergenerational Call for Unity and Action

<https://vnpeacecomm.blogspot.com/2020/11/breaking-silence-visionary-sermon-by-dr.html>

B. Three Calls to action:

1. Stand with me in Solidarity with our Asian American and Pacific Islander friends and family. If you would like to donate or volunteer to an AAPI organization, please ask and we will send you a list of organizations on the ground doing the work.

2. Did you know that rare disease drugs take an average of 15 years to get to the people who need them? This is way too long for the 30 million Americans living with rare diseases. I'm asking a call to action on the STAT Act (Speedy Access Today Act of 2021) HR1730/S670 . This is a bipartisan bill that was created with the input of the rare disease community aimed at improving the development of and access to therapies for the rare disease community. Rare Disease Week is in July from the 19th to 22nd on Capitol Hill. Rare Disease Week on Capitol Hill brings together rare disease community members from across the country to be educated on federal legislative issues, meet other advocates, and share their unique stories with legislators. Make your voice heard by letting your representatives and senators know that you would like them to work on this. You are a critical piece of the legislative process.

V I am asking you to double check your social media. If you are following an organization or group that continues to have racist or violent comments from their followers, please stop giving them a platform. They get advertising dollars if you follow them. Please unfollow them.

VI Harry Thurston – Vice President (3 minutes)

A. Summary of Democratic Party Contra Costa County (DPCCC) 3/18 meeting –Points of interest – A resolution was passed in favor of Women’s History Month, BLM adhoc committee is working with BLM community to see how we can support them.

B. California Democratic Party State Convention runs from April 29th-May 2nd [Main purpose of the convention is to elect new California Central Committee officers. We have 5 delegates who are MCDC members- Harry Thurston, Shannon Skinner, Thuy Dao-Jensen, Sue Higgins and Susannah Williams. You can attend as an observer for \\$100.00. If interested, go to \[cadem.org\]\(#\) to complete the registration. Contact me if you are interested and need help with registering.](#)

VII Voter Outreach – Linda Smith (3 minutes)

A. We have a pop-up set-up outside Farmer’s Market at Bank of America Corner Volunteers needed – 8 to 11.

A.B. [Linda called for volunteers – set up chairs at 7:00: 7-9 and 9-11 times to help.](#)

B.C. Will begin writing Postcards or phone banking for [Mariah Fisher](#), running for PA General Assembly special election May 18th. [– We want to support because this position works on voter rules.](#)

C.D. We are using Vote Forward to write Thank You Letters to Georgia votes and encourage them to vote in Nov 2022. [Encourage new and reluctant voters that voted last election. Say thank you for voting and then encourage them to vote again.](#)

D.E. Let us know if you would like to participate in postcards or letter writing - marshcreekdems@gmail.com

VIII Guest Speakers: 2:15- 3:05

Congressman Jerry McNerney – Topic: “Impressions of the January 6th Insurrection and Current Legislative Efforts Moving Forward”

At the time of the insurrection, Congressman McNerney was in his office across the street from the west side of the capital. He watched what was happening from his office and was in his office for many hours. He was instructed to have his gas mask ready, stay away from windows and lock doors. In speaking with his colleagues that were there, many are suffering PTSD because they were within arm’s length of these insurrections. The insurrections meant business and if anyone had been captured they could have been harmed or killed. No assistance came for hours. Some of his colleagues were sheltering in a small room with republicans who refused to wear a mask (super spreader event). By about 9-10 p.m. the capital was cleared and they were called back to vote on the electoral college results. Five people were killed and approximately 100 were injured.

Congressman McNerney penned a letter to the DOJ in which approximately 20 of his colleagues cosigned. The letter demanded that the same standards be applied against the insurrectionists that they intended to apply against the BLM protestors which were mostly peaceful across the country. The DOJ had sent out harsh guidelines for prosecuting BLM protestors.

What is happening now in the House of Representatives: The American Rescue Plan was passed. HR1 (For the People Act) was passed to ensure voting rights, to do campaign finance reform, end gerrymandering and eliminate foreign influence in our election. A background checks bill was passed that would require background checks expansion for all weapon purchases. A bill was passed to protect violence against women and the equity plan. They extended the timeline for passage of the ERA so that it can be included in the constitution.

Congressman McNerney wrote a letter along with Anna Eshoo from Palo Alto to the cable, satellite and streaming services to ask them to explain how they can perpetuate disinformation on channels such as Fox News. How can they do that without having some responsibility for the problems that this misinformation, lies and conspiracy theories can cause. This can inflict real harm to people and our democracy. These organizations that disseminate this misinformation have to bear some responsibility.

Moving forward: Our focus is on infrastructure (transportation, water, broadband, airline and electrical infrastructure). This will create jobs and prosperity in this country. We want republican support but will move forward even without their support. We will be moving aggressively on climate. We need to reduce and eliminate carbon emissions in as short a time as possible. We need to include technology to suck carbon out of the atmosphere. He is working on privacy – How can we make sure that artificial intelligence doesn't create more damage than the good things it is going to produce. We have challenges because the Republicans are running a scorched earth policy and will try to block what we are trying to accomplish. We need to be fired up to make sure we don't lose any seats in the 2022 midterm elections. He will have a challenge because this district is becoming more republican.

JoeEly/Shirley Shelangowski (3-5 minutes) “Ballot Disclosure Act

(SB90/AB1416)” These are parallel bills that would add on the ballot initiatives 15 words each for the supporters and opponents. This would identified the supporters and opponents on the ballot. The issues committee will address this endorsement at their next meeting.

IX Issues Committee – Bill Nusbaum (5 minutes)

- A. **Meetings are the first Saturday of the month at 10:30. Next meeting:** Sat. April 3rd at 10:30 via Zoom
- B. **Status on Issues in progress – We identified issues and we are working on writeups on the issues. We will discuss whether to endorse the Ballot Disclosure Act (SB/90/AB1416) Bill will send out information to the committee.**

X Membership – Linda Smith and Doug McClelland (3 minutes)

- A. To date, we have 70 members; 69 MIG and 1 Associate (55 Renewals and 15 New Members)
- B. 2021 Dues should be paid now. \$20 for 2021 membership from 2-20-20 to Feb 19, 2022
Ways to join — Credit Card at <https://www.marshcreekdems.org/all-products> or Venmo MarshCreekDems (3416) or Check (Write MarshCreekDems@gmail.com for mailing address)

XI Communications – Carolina Villaseca (3 minutes)

- A. Posting on Facebook important news and call to action. Send any call to action to Carolina at marshcreekdems@gmail.com Carolina is posting stories on our facebook page about Women for Women's History month. After this month, we will be highlighting different heritages. She would like some help.
- B. District Director Update – She is preparing a monthly newsletter that summarizes all that is going on in District 3. Jerry McNerney is one of the cosponsors of the Medicare for All bill. He also cosponsored the \$15.00 Minimum Wage bill and introduced two bills to protect California's

coastline. One from gas leasing and the other promoting pollution protection. BART is looking at addressing mental health calls on their trains and homeless issue. Bentwood City Council voted down Bridlegate development proposed by Seeno. This is the second housing development outside the city general plan that has been voted down. Annette Lewis and other members of the County Board of Education are doing a great job of putting together a new school board in Oakley. Other schools in the district are working on getting students back in school through a hybrid model. Dr. Lamon Frances from the Delta Bay Church of Christ held a news conference to speak out against the East County Today blog run by Mike Burkholder that has resulted in death threats against Antioch Mayor Lamar Thorpe, Vice Mayor Monica Wilson and Council member Tamisha Walker. East Contra Costa Dems Deborah Vincent was a panelist for the NAACP East County Covid Forum. East Contra Costa Fire Protection completed phase 1 of the consolidation process with ConFire, phase 2 should start in April.

C. Meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. Next Meeting: April 21st

XII Secretary – Barbara Coffman (3 minutes)

A. Zoom chat will now be held the 4th Saturday of each month at 10am. Next Meeting: March 27th

XIII Swing Left Director – Doug McClelland (3 minutes)

A. Swing Left Update – We need to defend the House and Senate in the midterms. At the Swing Left Leader’s call the following states were identified AZ, GA, PA, VA and WI for targeting. They have a Fundraiser page – on Swingleft.org They are targeting those members who voted against certification. VA is going to be a priority this year. Their primary is the first Tuesday in June. Don, Gary Chambers and Doug will work on Swing Left.

XIV Precinct Task Force –Carolina Villaseca (3 minutes)

- A. Meetings are scheduled the third Thursday of the month. Next Meeting: April 8th at 1:00 p.m.
- B. Precinct Captains – Carolina Villaseca, Linda Soliven, Linda Smith, Shannon Skinner, Michael Dupray, Harry Thurston and Gary Chambers
- C. Precinct Captains are needed for all of our cities.
- D. Update - We will send out comprehensive newsletter that she uses to report to DPCC.

XV Treasurer’s Report – Thuy DaoJensen (5 minutes)

XVI Membership Comments/Suggestions (3 minutes) Mark Foley will be at Antioch station from 4:30-6:00pm tomorrow – giving out free handstraps. At next meeting, they will vote to increase intervention specialists (10). This will bring us up to 20 specialists.

XVII Past President – Don Smith (3 minutes) Recap of last year’s efforts by the club and a call for action for this year.

XVIII Adjournment 3:47 pm

**Marsh Creek Dems Treasurer's Financial Statement
February 8 - March 7, 2021**

Date	Description of INCOME	Amount
	BALANCE as of February 8, 2021:	\$ 2,658.59
2-Feb-2021	SQUARE Membership dues (1)	\$19.12
8-Feb-2021	SQUARE Membership dues (1)	\$19.12
8-Feb-2021	CHECK Membership dues (4)	\$80.00
16-Feb-2021	SQUARE Membership dues (1)	\$19.12
16-Feb-2021	SQUARE Membership dues (1)	\$19.12
18-Feb-2021	CHECK Membership dues (1)	\$20.00
18-Feb-2021	VENMO Membership dues	\$20.00
19-Feb-2021	CHECK Membership dues (1)	\$20.00
22-Feb-2021	SQUARE Membership dues (1)	\$18.81
1-Mar-2021	SQUARE Membership dues (2)	\$38.24
2-Mar-2021	SQUARE Membership dues (1)	\$19.12
2-Mar-2021	CHECK Membership dues (1)	\$40.00
3-Mar-2021	VENMO Membership dues	\$40.00
	Total INCOME	\$ 3,031.24

Check #	Description of EXPENSES	Amount
1040	Refund of double membership payment	\$ 20.00
	Total EXPENSES	\$ 20.00

<u>BALANCE as of March 7, 2021:</u>	<u>\$ 3,011.24</u>
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