

DEMOCRATS OF NAPA VALLEY
General Meeting
July 23, 2018
5:30 – 7:30 pm
Napa Women’s Club
218 Franklin Street, Napa

I. CALL TO ORDER, AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

July 23, 2018 DONV meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m. Remarks by President O'Kelley included discussion of new membership cards (members' precinct numbers will be included on their membership cards); reminder of Wednesday Activation Meetings; venue opportunities for voter registration including Safeway, Raley's, Whole Foods, Walmart every Sunday through October with 2 shifts: 11am-1pm and 1pm-3pm. And also at the Napa farmer's Market every Saturday through October with 2 shifts from 8:30-10:30am and 10:30am-12:30pm.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Adoption of Agenda moved by Chris Benz; Terry Beck seconded; Unanimous pass.

III. APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (June 18, 2018)

Ryan Gregory moved for approval of minutes; Kim Richards seconded; Unanimous pass.

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT (To be posted on website)

Treasurer out of town; report to be posted.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Reminder to members to “claim their precinct” as part of the DONV’s new community engagement program which will start in August. Primary goals including LISTENING to constituent concerns as well as offering information about the Democratic Party and voter registration.

Seeking voter registration volunteers. Venues include Farmers' Market every Saturday. Contact Johanna for dates and sign-ups. RICHARD; not sure about Raley’s.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

DONV ExCom Meeting: August 6 @ 6 pm Las Palmas, 1730 Yahome St

Volunteer Activation Meetings: Every Wednesday, 5:30 pm @ 434 Montgomery Street, Napa. Please check for any changes/updates on napavalleydems.org prior to meeting or email napavalleydems1.org

Voter eligibility Must be a DONV member. If voter is a new member, they must be a member at least a month prior to the endorsement. They must have attended at least one meeting as a member. They must be 18 years old by the November election.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. SPEAKERS

John Tuteur [Napa County Assessor, Recorder, Country Clerk – Post-Election Process Debrief.]

John Tuteur discussed results of newly implemented Voters’ Choice Act Protocol. Napa was one of five counties to decide early on to implement the VCA and by the June 2018 Primary was already 90% in compliance with the provisions.

Major new implementation was 24/7 drop-box availability.

Major change, voters can now register to vote up to and including Election Day. Previous regulations required registration by the 15th day prior to the election in question.

JT noted that California ranks 44th out of 50 in registration of people to vote. That details down to 74% of those eligible to vote are registered to vote; 26% are *not* registered to vote.

Statewide in the June Primary of 2014, only one in 4 eligible voters turned out to vote. Napa County was higher, at 39.5 ... but according to Tuteur, still pretty 'disgusting'.

JT said his job was to increase and confirm voter registrations and to implement mechanisms to increase opportunities for voting: All mail-in or drop off ballots; 24 hours a day, seven days a week opportunity to drop off ballots as well as mail them or take them to the County Assessor's Office.

Questions included an issue regarding postage on ballot envelopes. Confusion on postage amount. Next election all return envelopes will be postage paid. Drop Box Locations reviewed.

Paper Ballots are optically scanned. Never online; can't be hacked. Each individual ballot must have signature manually checked against registration rolls; signatures must match.

Napa City Council Candidate Forum:

Mary Luross, Liz Alessio, Ricky Hurtado, Peter Mott

Format: Each candidate gave a 3-minute opening statement. Each candidate detailed the motivation for running for City Council.

Then the forum was broken into 4 topic areas that were discussed sequentially in approx.. 20-minute segments. Each topic area had a moderator.

Johanna O'Kelley – Tourism, quality of life in Napa

Sharon Macklin – Affordable Housing

Chris Benz – Environment

Juan Carlos Mora – Millennial Issues

At the end, the candidates had 2 minutes each to give a closing statement. Prior to the Forum each candidate was sent a 15-question questionnaire. There is a link on the main page of the DONV website to the online shared Google drive where these completed questionnaires can be viewed.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT GENERAL MEETING

(August 20, 5:30 pm, Napa Women's Club located at 218 Franklin Street, Napa– November Election Endorsement Meeting) Conchita Marusich moved to adjourn; seconded; Unanimous yes. 7:45 p.m.