

# DEMCCO General Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by President Bill Fowler and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda:** It was moved/seconded (Lauren Kornit/Lawrence Kornit) to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed.

**Approval of Minutes:** It was moved/seconded (Spencer/Krahel) to approve the Minutes of the June 24, 2017 meeting as written. The motion passed.

**Recognition of Guests, Visitors and New Members:** It was moved/seconded (ASanders/SHsu) to move this item on the agenda to present time. The motion passed. Genesis Campbell and Marissa Sisk are students at El Camino High School attending the meeting for the first time. Elizabeth Warren, candidate for the 76<sup>th</sup> Assembly District was recognized.

**Panel on Immigration** with Suzanne Arani, Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) staff attorney who provides legal services for people who experience religious persecution, Cassie Purdy, ACLU activist, and Tazheem Nizam, North County Immigration Task Force activist.

Tazheem Nizam: The purpose of the North County Immigration Task Force (NCITF) is to advocate for the rights of undocumented immigrants who are people who have lived here for many years, worked and paid taxes but do not receive the benefits of those taxes. Current activities include a program promoting the sanctuary movement out of Escondido, advocating for allowing immigrants to receive drivers' licenses, work with other organizations on policy issues, education, and farmworkers' rights. NCITF's goals are to educate people and to advocate for immigrants' rights. You are encouraged to join us including joining our Facebook group. NCITF works to give a voice to the Hispanic community.

Deportations have increased 38% during the first few months of this year. People are fearful of leaving their homes. There is an increase in detention by 37% because of privatized detention facilities. We can help as a community. If we can get the money to provide legal representation for detained immigrants, we have a fighting chance to save the family. NCITF is putting together a legal fund to help detained immigrants and donations are needed. There is a net zero immigration because of the immigration policies and fear.

Cassie Purdy: The ACLU's focus is on immigrants' rights. Deportations have increased including in California, and expedited removals (deportation within 24 hours of arrest with no legal proceedings). Immigrants with legal defense are 80% more likely to win their case. There are 3 million undocumented people in California. Members were asked to contact their Assemblymembers in support of SB54, the bill that will make California a sanctuary state.

Suzanne Arani: CAIR has two main focuses. First, they work on any cases involving religious discrimination. Second, assist individuals in naturalization. This application is very difficult and it's recommended to see an attorney to fill it out.

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### Questions and Answers:

1. Should DEMCCO send a letter of support? Letters of support for SB54 from DEMCCO and anyone who wants to support immigrants should be sent to Senator De Leon (Lead Author of SB54), Rocky Chavez (Assemblymember for the 76<sup>th</sup> Assembly District).
2. How can someone prove their citizenship without carrying a passport? It is not required to prove citizenship. A passport is needed for entry into other countries. You are not required to tell your citizenship at border checkpoints.
3. What's happening with DACA? A new bill is being developed to give a path to legal residency to DACA recipients.

Numerous brochures and other literature is available to interested individuals.

### **“Electeds” Report**

Mary Ann Binning spoke on behalf of Cori Schumacher. Carlsbad has approved District 1 and 3 elections for 2018. The Carlsbad City Council approved joining other North County cities in the study for Community Choice Energy. Everyone was encouraged to attend the SANDAG meeting on Thursday, July 27, 2017, at 401 B Street, Suite 801 in San Diego.

**PAC Report** (Pat McFarlane): The next PAC Leaders meeting at the Brown Cup Café in Oceanside is on August 7. All Democrats are welcome to attend.

**Treasurer’s Report** (Mary Meyers): DEMCCO currently as \$10, 089 on deposit in the bank.

### **Announcements:**

1. Last month, DEMCCO members gave \$120 and a backpack for the NAACPs “Back to School Supplies Project.”
2. Uber is non-union, don’t use them.
3. A network of groups concerned with climate issues, 100 to 300 today, will be meeting at the Harding Center.
4. See Jim Hamilton to purchase a season pass for the North County Film Club. The season starts August 6. A season pass costs \$44 and is good for 8 films. The Club now has about 200 members.
5. Mike Bullock is working on gaining more support for DEMCCOs climate/transportation resolutions. He plans to resubmit them for approval by the California Democratic Party.
6. Bob Spencer announced that upcoming programs in the planning stage include the topics of CCA/CCE, healthcare, and what unions are doing.

Adjournment: It was moved/seconded (Spencer/MBullock) to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. until the next meeting on August 26, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Slater, Secretary

Approved 9/23/17