

DEMCCO General Meeting

May 27, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President Bill Fowler and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: It was moved/seconded (Dalpe/Jen) to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes: It was moved/seconded (Dalpe/Hagaman) to approve the Minutes of the April 22, 2017 meeting as written. The motion passed.

Upcoming Events:

- Oceanside Juneteenth is conducted each year by the NAACP. DEMCCO will have a booth starting at 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed for 2-hour shifts but are welcome for any length of time. A sign-up sheet is being passed around.
- Harrah's bus trip fundraiser on Saturday, June 17, 2017. Cost is \$25 per person for the bus and snacks on the ride to and from Harrah's Casino. Please sign up today and pay by next Friday. Make sure you have provided the information requested by the casino.

What Do We Do with Nuclear Waste After Shutdown of the San Onofre Nuclear Station (SONGS) (Dr. Mehdi Sarram)

Dr. Sarram is a Licensed Nuclear Reactor Operator with extensive work in the nuclear reactor field. He has published many articles and lectured all over the world. He is currently an energy consultant working on decreasing carbon dioxide production.

SONGS went online in 1968 and by 1983-84 electricity was being provided to 2.2 million people with 3 units in operation. Spent fuel has been stored on site since 1992 without incident. In 2003-2004, Edison contracted with Mitsubishi to provide steam generator replacements. Mitsubishi had never produced steam generators before and their design was flawed. Leakage began almost right away and when the leakage reached 75 gallons, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) "tech specs" required the operator to shut down the steam generators. Edison could have repaired the generators or better yet, replace them with better quality generators and continue to operate under their license until 2022. Political influences and a growing distrust of the safety of nuclear power plants resulted in the permanent shutdown of SONGS in 2013.

The loss of electricity from SONGS has forced Edison to use fossil fuel sources to produce electricity. Nuclear power produces 5 grams of carbon dioxide per kilowatt while coal produces 1,000 grams of carbon dioxide and gas produces 500 grams of carbon dioxide. The result is that there has been 19.5 billion pounds of carbon dioxide produced each year since the 2013 shutdown of SONGS which has a significant impact on our climate change problem.

Storage of spent fuel can only occur at two places, Yucca Mountain in Nevada or temporarily on site, according to NRC requirements. The Coastal Commission approved giving a permit to store the spent fuel on site but this has been stopped by a lawsuit from the Citizen's Oversight Committee. Yucca Mountain was closed in 2010 because of political influence led by Harry Reid.

Nuclear power plants are regulated by the NRC while the Department of Energy (DOE) is concerned with nuclear weapons. The NRC says that storage casks have a 60-120-year lifetime. Dr. Sarram is a professional engineer and was an employee of Raytheon. He has not taken any money from nuclear power companies. Please contact Dr. Sarram if you have further questions.

SONGS Letter-writing (Chuck Lowery)

The California Coastal Commission has already approved storage of spent fuel for 125 years. Members were asked to join him in sending a Community of Interest letter to the Coastal Commission.

"Electeds" Report

- **Esther Sanchez:** Oceanside is working on city council districts. The last public meeting where you will have an opportunity to describe your neighborhood is May 30.
- **Cori Schumacher:**
 - Reporting on the California Democratic State Convention, Eric Bauman is the new chair and other officers include Alexandra "Alex" Gallardo-Rooker as Female Vice Chair, Daraka Larimore-Hall as Male Vice Chair, Jenny Bach as Secretary, Dan Weitzman as Controller, and Deborah Cunningham-Skurnik as Region 18 Director.
 - Important issues include SB 562, AB 805, AB 890 and to unify as a party. ○ In Carlsbad, the pilot lifeguard program is now underway and May 30 will be the first meeting on district to be held at City Hall.

Treasurer's Report (Mary Meyers): \$10,742 in the bank on April 30, 2017.

Political Action Committee Report (Pat McFarlane) Issues

we are working on include:

- Disagreements about the results of CADem officers have been expressed and it's suggested that people come together to talk about it.
- Community Choice Energy (CCE) is important in finding ways for people to pay a little less for electricity and to utilize clean, renewable sources.
- Districting is important as our cities, school boards, etc. grapple with how to divide their areas in ways to benefit neighborhoods—there's more to learn.

Recognition of Guests, Visitors and New Members (Bill Fowler)

9 new members signed up today and were welcomed by President Fowler.

Announcements:

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- LGBT Fundraiser on Saturday June 3. Check out the North County Resource Center website.
- Mike Levin reported that he has been endorsed by Adam Schiff. He asked everyone to review the Congressional Budget Office's scoring of TrumpCare and just how devastating it would be for Americans.
- Suzanne Ryan of the North County Climate Change Alliance announced a presentation on nuclear waste on Thursday, June 8, at the Vista Library.
- Sheila Kadah asked members to support our members who are running for public elected office.
- Elizabeth Warren announced that she will be running for Assemblymember for the 76th Assembly District, the seat currently held by Rocky Chavez.
- Ruben Major announced that he will be running for State Senator for the 36th Senate District against Pat Bates. Pat Bates recently voted against SB 562—the statewide single payer healthcare bill.
- Esther Sanchez said she will be holding an event in June to formally announce her intention to run for Supervisor, District 5. Currently, there are 2 other people including Jerry Kern indicating they will run for this position to replace Bill Horn.
- Michelle Cassel Gomez, a progressive, is running for Assemblymember of the 76th Assembly District. She is concerned about the huge problem we have with large amounts of edible food being thrown away.
- The Citizen's Oversight Committee doesn't want your money—they are only working to keep nuclear waste off our beach.
- Donna Rencsak encouraged people to sign up for a savings account at California Coast Credit Union. \$25 deposited will be donated back to DEMCCO. See Donna for more details.
- Mike Bullock reminded members that San Diego County needs to work on their Climate Action Plan.
- Chuck Lowery announced that Oceanside is the only city in North County with an Ad Hoc Committee to help people in Oceanside and surrounding communities decriminalize those receiving medical marijuana.
- Sign up online starting at 12:00 p.m. today for Darrell Issa's June 3rd Town Hall in San Juan Capistrano.

50/50

½ of the \$118 taken in was awarded to new member Deanna Kuhn who won the drawing.

Adjournment

It was moved/seconded (Dalpe/Spencer) to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. Next meeting: Saturday, June 24, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Slater, Secretary

Approved 6/24/17