

# DEMCCO General Meeting Minutes

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July 25, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The Agenda was approved with no objections. The Minutes of the June 27, 2020 meeting were approved with no objections.

**PROGRAM:** “Responsible Housing Development” by JB Theberge, Founder and Executive Director of Grow the San Diego Way (a housing and land use think tank and policy advocacy group).

## Today’s Housing Shortage

- there is a housing shortage but housing for persons with high income has a 300,000 unit surplus and housing for moderate to extremely low income persons is short by more than 3 million units.
- wages have remained flat, but housing prices have greatly increased

## Effect of the 2008 Recession

- about 300 million houses became owned by hedge funds, etc. whose focus is to make money resulting in the largest transfer of wealth in history
- suggested reading: Homewreckers by Aaron Glantz and Race for Profit by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor.

## Sprawl Development

- 20 out of 30 requirements in the General Plan (San Diego County) focus on affordability with shifts in housing to near jobs and infrastructure
- Smart Growth is development based on housing and transportation choices where people live near services and their jobs.
- sprawl development requires more transportation and energy consumption while Smart Growth with its greater density, requires less transportation and energy consumption.
- sprawl development is commonly funded by investment management companies, e.g. Lilac Hills was funded by a Chicago-based equity firm
- Oceanside’s North River Farms Housing Development is sprawl development despite efforts to convince voters that it isn’t.

## **BUSINESS**

### Mike Levin reported:

- the U.S. House of Representatives passed HR 4: The John Lewis Act for Voting Rights Advancement in December 2019, but the Senate has not considered it yet. Quoting from John Lewis: “**Ours is the struggle of a lifetime**, or maybe even many lifetimes, and each one of us in every generation must do our part. And if we believe in the change we seek, then it is easy to commit to doing all we can, because the responsibility is **ours** alone to build a better society and a more peaceful world.”
- warned that attention must focus on saving the U.S. Postal Service for many reasons including that it employs 100,000 veterans nationwide.
- the Heroes Act passed the U.S. House of Representatives on May 15, 2020 and has stalled in the Senate—71 days since it was sent to Senate with no response. It provides further relief from COVID 19 including aid to state and local governments (focuses on smaller cities), continuation of PPP, extra funding for unemployment, another direct assistance of \$1200, etc.

- voted for the bipartisan Great American Outdoors Act which he co-sponsored. This Act will permanently and fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund resulting in improvement of many public lands throughout CD49 and the U.S.
  - *NOTE: please visit <https://mikelevin.house.gov/> for more information and to sign up for the newsletter.*
- Check out Facebook “Representative Mike Levin” for weekly Town Halls.

Rev. Madison Shockley, Pilgrim Church of Carlsbad

- systemic racism refers to systems that perpetuate treatment of others based on race, many times unconsciously
- from the beginning of this country there was slavery
- the U.S. Constitution treated African-Americans different than other people; they were counted at 3/5<sup>th</sup> of a person for representation but had no voting rights
- in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Civil War abolishing slavery was too much for many and this gave rise to the KKK and Jim Crow laws
- in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there were attempts at equity with the Voting Rights Act, Civil Rights Act, and Affirmative Action
- in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we have another opportunity for equity in Black Lives Matter
- today, people who want full equity should vote to approve Proposition 16, a constitutional amendment to repeal Proposition 209 which ended Affirmative Action in California

Donation to the San Diego County Democratic Party to support County Democratic Candidates (recommendation of the E Board): Danny Jackson spoke in favor of this donation because it will significantly assist candidates such as Terra Lawson-Remer who is running for Board of Supervisors, District 3. No opposition was identified. The vote was 28 yes and 1 no, the donation was approved.

Endorsement of Roberto Rodriguez for Palomar Community College Board, District 3. Mr. Rodriguez was endorsed with a vote of 32 (100%) for endorsement and 0 no endorsement.

It was moved/seconded (Rallings) to donate \$500 to support Roberto Rodriguez for Palomar Board. The motion passed with 22 yes and 4 no votes.

It was moved/seconded (Rallings) to donate \$500 to support Cipriano Vargas for Vista School Board. The motion passed with 20 yes votes and 1 no vote.

It was moved/seconded (Hall) that the E Board draft and send a formal letter to Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Hoyer, Congressman Levin, Congressman Yoho and Congressman Ocasio-Cortez requesting a formal, written apology by Congressman Yoho and the House Committee on Ethics impose the appropriate level of disciplinary action upon Congressman Yoho. The motion passed with 17 yes votes and 1 no vote.

It was moved/seconded (Aguirre) to support and stand with the North County Civil Liberties Coalition (NCCLC) specifically working for police accountability and transparency. The motion passed with 20 yes and 2 no votes.

It was moved/seconded (Hall) to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objection, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Slater, President

Approved August 22, 2020