

DEMCCO General Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Linda Slater at 10:06 am with total of 51 participants: 23 in person and 28 on Zoom. Linda welcomed everyone to the first hybrid in-person/virtual meeting . Jan Neff-Sinclair and Stuart Gaiber monitored the zoom throughout the meeting.

- I. The agenda was approved as written without objections.
- II. Minutes of the February 26, 2022 zoom meeting were approved as written without objections.
- III. Program: Panel Discussion – The Climate Crisis

All speakers presented virutally for 10 minutes followed by Q&A.

Dr. Phil Watts has a PhD in Enviromental Engineering from Caltech and has pioneered research into wind turbine design and wind farm development. He founded Resource Renewable Energy Inc in 2012 as a way to cutomize energy platforms and meeting community energy needs and is currently the CEO. Dr. Watts stated that although the landscape of California makes it an excellent location for solar, by far the cheapest source of energy, we have some of most expensive rates in country, with SDG&E being one of the highest. The significant costs and safety hazards associated with transmission systems can be reduced by putting solar generation close to the user. Dr. Watts proposes that the best option for the future is the growth of local private/public partnerships that enable cities to get into the business of local solar energy generation. This option will initially bring construction jobs at good wages and ultimately good permanent jobs. Solar panels on rooftops are another good option, but usage fees would remain problematic. He stressed that we cannot wait for state or federal action and individuals are encouraged to concentrate effort at the local city level instead .

Ms. Barbara Collins is a climate activist, a member of the Sierra Club, North County Coastal Group Executive Committee and Political Committee, and a DEMCCO member. She shared that we must plan for climate resilence and adpatation to mitigate the negative effects of climate change, and that these must incorporate environmental justice. Important local climate actions include 1) the progress made since 2019 with adoption of CCE programs that offer more renewables, more choices, and less cost 2) expanding building electrification for new and existing buildings 3) investing in smart growth versus sprawl and continuing to protect farmland in Oceanside in South Morro Hills area and 4) adoption of the 5 big moves from the SANDAG transportation plan. Since the mileage tax has been eliminated, it is imperative to get the citizen's initiative, Let's go! San Diego, on the November ballot to make up this revenue source.

Mr. Mike Bullock is DEMCCO's Special Advisor to the EBoard on Climate Change. His work at DEMCCO and the SD County Democratic Party Central Committee has resulted in improvements to the CA Democratic Party Platform. Mike stressed that human survival requires climate stabilization and the critical importance of requiring climate literacy in our high school educational system and for elected officials. A historical overview of the

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increasing concentration of CO₂ in our atmosphere due to emissions from the combustion of fossil fuels was presented. Preindustrial concentration of CO₂ was around 280 ppm; we are now at 420 ppm, increasing at about 2 ppm/year. We must reduce anthropogenic emissions to 80% below 1990 levels. The warming of our planet is happening at a more accelerated pace than initial studies predicted. Earlier projections indicated that we must do this by 2050, but more updated projections indicate we must decarbonize by 2030 to stabilize the climate.

IV. Single Use Plastics

Janis Jones, Surfrider Foundation, briefly summarized the measures that will be considered at the Carlsbad City Council on April 5th to reduce single use plastics. The ordinance prohibits regulated entities from providing single use foodware accessories unless such is requested by the customer. The measure will also limit the use of styrofoam and other foodware products that are not recyclable.

V. Elected Officials and Candidates Remarks:

a. Randy Walton

- Candidate for San Marcos mayor
- Has been city council member for District 2 since 2018
- Served on San Marcos Unified school district for 10 years prior
- Concerned that recent growth has come at environmental costs
- Leader for CCE, limiting single use plastics, supports SANDAG

b. Campaign manager for Dan O'Donnell, Frances Yasmeen

- Candidate for Vista City Council District 4

c. Michael Fleming

- Candidate for Superior Court Judge #35
- Platform focuses on rehabilitation and is working with the NAACP
- Endorsed by David Myers and others

VI. Selection of DEMCCO's Associate member to the Central Committee

DEMCCO's bylaws specify that the president will be our Associate member unless they are already a member. Since Linda Slater is already a member of the Central Committee, another DEMCCO member can be elected by vote of membership for this position. Stuart Gaiber and Vanessa Forsythe both volunteered to be considered and each spoke for one minute. Vote was taken by a show of hands. Stuart Gaiber – 19 Vanessa Forsythe - 18 . **Stuart Gaiber will be DEMCCO's Associate member to the Central Committee.**

VII. Consideration of Resolution Supporting City Clerk as an Elective Office

Authors: Linda Slater and Shirley Anderson

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Linda Slater introduced this resolution and stated that there is no recommendation by the EBoard. See full text at the end of the minutes. Alternating pro and con speakers spoke for two minutes each. The vote was by ballot for those in person and by raising hands for those on zoom. The final tally was recorded by Mary Meyers, Treasurer.

In Person votes: 11 yes; 5 no; Zoom votes: 13 yes; 3 no

Total: 24 yes; 8 no 75% supported the resolution and it passed.

VII. Announcements

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 pm until April 23, 2022

Submitted by: Angie Knappenberger, Secretary

Title: **Resolution Supporting City Clerk as an Elective Office**

Authors: Linda Slater, Shirley Anderson

WHEREAS, California Government Code 36501 establishes that a city must have an office of City Clerk with defined duties per California Government Code 40801 et.seq. which are important to the lawful governance of a city and which must not be relegated to “ceremonial” duties only,

WHEREAS, as the elections official, the city clerk manages the process required for fair and lawful city elections, a critical foundation of our democratic system of government, and as such must require accountability to voters rather than managerial staff, and

WHEREAS, election of our representatives is fundamental to our democracy and to remove a representative from the electoral process is a denial of the voting rights of voters which diminishes the independence of the office and therefore, the openness and transparency of city government.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Democratic Club of Carlsbad Oceanside (DEMCCO) supports the voters’ right to choose their own representatives and as such, takes the position that city clerks should be elected by their constituents, and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that representatives of DEMCCO shall take all steps necessary to prevent changing city clerks from elective to appointed office and to support changing city clerks from appointed to elective office.