

DEMCCO General Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2023

1. The meeting was called to order by President Michele Cyr at 10:11 am with 31 participants in person and 4 participants on zoom for a total attendance of 35.
2. Pledge of Allegiance and Land Acknowledgment were done.
3. The Agenda was approved as written without objection
4. The Minutes of the July 22, 2023 meeting were approved as written after a few minor corrections were made.
5. All present were encouraged to participate in the 50/50 Raffle.
6. **DEMCCO Chairs Reports**
 - a) President – Michele Cyr: We still have two open chair positions, Hospitality and Special Events; ; we are starting a signup to bring goodies to our General meetings.
 - b) Past President – Linda Slater: The SD DEM party is having a convention at the CA Center for Performing in Escondido on October 28th. Register at www.sddemconvention.org
 - c) Fundraising - Janet Bledsoe Lacy: Still looking for an elected official to be a draw for DEMCCO fundraiser in September or October
 - d) Membership - Patti Slack: Getting nametags for all members; as of yesterday we had 164 Voting Members and a few new people joined today; Renewal notices will come out in November and we want to get as many as possible done before the first of the year; we now take Venmo
 - e) PAC- Esther Sanchez: 1st event for our elected and candidates to talk is our Garden Party tomorrow at the Plot tomorrow

7. Elected Officials' and Candidate Remarks

Teresa Acosta, Incumbent for Carlsbad City Council, District 4:

Excited to run for re-election; top issues are sustainability, affordability, and traffic safety
Campaign launch party is September 10@ 1pm at Stagecoach Park

Amber Kae Niutoa – Candidate for Oceanside City Council district 4:

Currently an associate professor at Mira Costa; need Democratic led city council;
advocate for being community center

Phyllis Dominquez - Candidate for Treasurer, City of Oceanside

Long time city resident; as 3rd largest city in SD County needs professional oversight; has MBA

Victor Roy – Incumbent Treasurer, City of Oceanside

Received DEMCCO endorsement in the past and is asking for this again in 2024; Being a whistleblower in his department resulted in major retaliation by city staff.

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Neal Meyers – Incumbent Director, Olivehain Water District representing division 5

Also sits on SD Water Authority Board; Speaking to League of Women Voters via Zoom on September 5th about water issues

Esther Sanchez– Incumbent Mayor of Oceanside

1st Democrat to run for re-election in Oceanside in 134 years; going to be community based election

8. Program: Affordable Housing Crisis Panel (10:30 – 11:30 am)

Denise Saiz, 1st VP, introduced our two speakers. Brian McDonnell is a Case Manager for Interfaith Community Services, a non-profit “that began as a movement dedicated to bringing people together and providing compassion for people in crisis, no matter the circumstances ” presented their perspective on the affordable housing crisis.

Dr. Inez Williams is Chair of Housing Commission for Oceanside which brings recommendations to the city council. Carmela Munoz, a community organizer who is the voice of Oceanside’s Crown Heights Neighborhood, had been scheduled to speak as well but was unable to join us at the last moment.

Mr. McDonnell discussed his work with TBRA (tenant based rental assistance). Dr. Williams discussed the commission’s advocacy for increasing the inclusionary housing fees for developers to provide more affordable housing. .

9. Announcement of 50/50 Raffle winner

Total Amount: \$95 ; Sheila Kadah had the winning ticket and shared that she was donating her winnings to the homeless .

10. General Announcements

- a) Michele Cyr: Encouraged all to sign the petition from 350.org for Lets GO SD. The petition is to get an initiative on the November 2024 ballot for a ½ cents sale tax to fund transit in SD County ; reminded folks to tun in nametag
- b) Mike Lewis: Offered his Tshirts
- c) Victor Roy : Offered more information about his re-election campaign for Treasurer
- d) Esther Sanchez – The Oceanside City Council is holding a Housing Workshop at its council chambers 5:30 this Wednesday, August 30th ; Chavez Resource Center is offering a program August 31 at 6 pm about the fentanyl crisis at the Vista Community Center; DEMCCO Garden Party at the Plot Restaurant is tomorrow at 2 pm with special guest Rebecca Taylor, Chair SDDDEM
- e) Mike Bullock – Deadline for comments to SANDAG on their Supplemental Environment Impact report regarding the amended 2021 RTP is August 28th
- f) Ann Crosbie – the SD Democratic Education Alliance is having a zoom discussion tomorrow, August 27th about community schools. Go to demedalliance.org to register

11. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am until September 23, 2023

Submitted by Angie Knappenberger, Secretary

Approved 10/14/2023