

**UNAPPROVED GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – CORONADO DEMOCRATIC CLUB**

**14 January 2023**

- I. Call to order – by President Marely Ramirez at 4:05 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Dawn Richards
- III. Agenda – the Proposed Agenda was approved unanimously.
- IV. Introductions: Elected Officials, Guests
  - a. Doug Case, Political Affairs Director for Senator Tony Atkins.
    - i. Doug advised us that this is a more challenging budget year as CA has a \$23 billion deficit. The Governor made his proposal and now the legislature budget committees make their proposals. In May, the Governor will present a revised budget, which must be approved by the legislature by June 15. The Governor’s budget does not rely on the “rainy day fund,” in the event it is needed if the economy takes a down-turn.
    - ii. Senator Atkins is not endorsing any particular candidates for ADEMS (Assembly District Election Meetings) ADEM Ballots by mail must be RECEIVED by Jan. 31. You may also vote in person.
  - b. Councilmember Carrie Downey
  - c. CUSD School Board Trustee Alexia Palacios-Peters
- V. Approval of Minutes of November 19, 2022, as amended. Frank King moved to approve the amended minutes; seconded by Howard Sommers; approved unanimously.
- VI. Treasurer’s report – Pat Callahan provided his Annual Report. The Club saw its largest revenue ever in 2022. The club also had record expenditures, which outweighed revenues. However, most of the overage was from excellent investments in the website as well as the down payment on the Blue Wave Brunch, which will take place in April. As of December 31, 2022, the Club had \$2,855.24 in its account. Please renew your membership to address the deficit!
- VII. Committee Reports
  - a. Programs – Brian Trotier said his Committee met on January 13 and discussed members’ roles. February’s Program will be Brian Trotier discussing history of homelessness in San Diego, current situation, and impact on Coronado
  - b. Scholarships – Marely presented on behalf of Patti. Club members have donated a total of \$1500 to the Southwestern College Scholarship Fund. Moving forward we will be allocating scholarship funds to both Southwestern College and Coronado High School.

- c. Membership -- Marelly said that Dawn Fink had advised her that 136 members have renewed (this total includes lifetime members). 63 memberships are pending renewal. This year, memberships DO NOT RENEW AUTOMATICALLY, which has caused some confusion. Please check to see if you need to renew your membership!
- d. Hospitality – Jenna purchased reusable plates to use at events so that we are not contributing to trash and waste in our environment. If you would like to donate to the cost of the plates, please let Jenna know.

VIII. Program: What lies Ahead- 2023!

- a. Council Member Carrie Downey –
  - i. She has a vision, but she is just one vote. Reminded us that progress can take some time. On Tuesday, Council will be voting on a new contractor to finish the Parks Master Plan. This contractor has done work for the City before, and community members and City staff are very happy with this contractor, who understands the City wants a vision for moving forward including considerations for both active AND passive uses. Please make your voices heard at Council.
  - ii. Groundbreaking for the new pump station on the 800 block of Coronado Avenue occurred last week. Thank you for turning out. Staff was surprised and pleased at the turnout. Carrie said the City used the opportunity at the Pump Station to add greenspace, which does not happen very often because of land availability and cost.
  - iii. There are three openings on City Commissions, including John Duncan's seat on the Civil Service Commission. Please consider applying to serve on a Commission!
  - iv. In response to a question about why Coronado does not have a single-use plastics ban, she says the City does not have an Environmental Review Commission. However, she will find out what has been looked at before, and she has no explanation on why a ban has not been approved previously.
- b. CUSD Trustee Alexia Palacios-Peters
  - i. She is so excited to be on the School Board! There has been a total re-set. All Board members feel the community wants a reset after the elections. Board feels many meetings did not go well, and so Alexia has a goal of following the policies and protocols set for running meetings and interacting with the public. She is hopeful from the meetings they have had that the Board is in a great place to really get down to business. The Board has a long-range plan, which is on its website. This is the guideline for the next few years and includes such things as learning environment, test scores, and budget.
  - ii. Her goals: student safety including the threat of gun violence, the intersectionality of air-conditioning and school safety. This will be a long process but must get started.

- iii. Budget: CUSD is in a planned spend-down. Should reach basic aid in 2026-27. She wants a backup plan in the event of problems to reaching basic aid, although none are anticipated at this time.
- iv. Maintaining teachers and staff: There is a staffing shortage of teachers nationwide. How can we bring teachers to CUSD and retain them?
- v. Ways the Club can help: Follow the School Board and stay informed. CUSD and all schools send out weekly newsletters. Volunteer where you can. The ways to do so are endless. For example, there is a CDC member who volunteers in her daughter's fourth grade classroom by reading with students.
- vi. Show up to school events, including but not limited to CoSA programs and sporting events.

IX. Unfinished Business – None for discussion.

X. New Business – None for discussion.

XI. Announcements – Marelly asked for a show of hands about whether to have general meetings on Saturdays, from 3:30 to 5. The overwhelming majority were fine with that.

XII. Adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca King

Secretary