

APPROVED MINUTES OF CDC GENERAL MEETING 10 AUGUST 2022

Via Zoom

- 1) **Call to Order**—by President Marely Ramirez at 7:00 p.m.

Marely advised that because of the length of tonight's program, the Board had decided at its meeting to postpone all business to the next General Meeting, which will be on September 10 at 10:30 a.m.

- 2) **Announcements**—Patti Flores said that she has set up a way to donate on line to our Southwest Community College scholarship. Donations are tax deductible.

- 3) **Introduction of Elected Officials and Candidates**—

Marely turned the meeting over to Brian Trotier, Chair of Programs, to make introductions and then moderate the panel.

- (1) Coronado Mayor Richard Bailey

- (2) Assemblywoman Tasha Boerner Horvath introduced herself. With new redistricting, she is the Democratic candidate to represent Assembly District 77, which now includes Coronado. She asked for our support in the November election.

- 4) **Program—Ongoing issues related to sewage, water quality and safety, and beach closures. There were 36 people in attendance (via Zoom).**

Speakers—

- a) **Coronado Mayor Richard Bailey**

- i) The good news is there is bipartisan support from the federal to local level
 - ii) Confident that it is no longer a question of "if" but "when" the contamination will be stopped.
 - iii) He thinks we can expect some improvements moving forward in the 4th quarter of the year.
 - iv) The City decided against using Nixle alerts regarding the water quality because the absence of a notification would be interpreted as a message that the

water is safe. Because of delays in test results, the City did not feel certain that would be the case.

- b) **Imperial Beach Mayor Serge Dedina** had a conflict and had to cancel. However, he provided written comments to Brian. Mayor Dedina says capital improvements will eventually address the ongoing sewage/contamination, but the years of delay have damaged some coastal communities and the ocean. He has concerns regarding what will be done to address the resulting damage, after the ongoing sewage/contamination has stopped.
- c) **Coronado Cays resident Lance Rodgers**—Environmentalism and owner of Ark Environmental Solutions
 - i) In short term, we should do a stop gap measure to address ongoing contamination flows because we are 5 years away from the new plant being completed.
 - ii) He would also like better reporting from the County DPH, with real time data. He says we need one place where all data is aggregated.
 - iii) He agreed with Mayor Dedina that funding is needed to address the damage to the environment. He mentioned the need to restore the Tijuana River Valley after the ongoing contamination is addressed.
- d) **Douglas Liden—Environmental Engineer from EPA's San Diego Border Office.** He worked on a bi-national agreement with Mexico to resolve the sewage and contamination flowing into our coastal waters. There will be an announcement regarding the agreement on Aug. 18.
 - i) Happy to report that the repairs of one of the 2 pipes that broke last week have been completed.
 - ii) Mexico is putting out a request for bids in December to handle both coastal flows and flows in the Canyons
 - iii) The International Treatment plant is to be expanded

e) **Eric Dubinsky—Scientist in Water Quality Standards and Assessment Division of the EPA.** He is the Beach Coordinator for our region and works with the state on beach programs.

i) New rapid DNA test – County thresholds have to be consistent with EPA guidelines and thresholds. The CA Department of Health worked with the EPA to establish the new test. At the low end of the threshold, the old test was not picking up all the sewage in the water, which explains why it appears the old and new tests are reaching different conclusions. Dubinsky emphasized that the new test has been properly calibrated and validated.

f) All the speakers feel cautiously optimistic that we are finally moving toward tangible improvements to stop the sewage/contamination of our coastal waters.

5) **Adjourned** at 7:53.

**CORONADO DEMOCRATIC CLUB
TREASURER'S REPORT
General Meeting - August 10, 2022
Report for period: 6-1-2022 - 7-31-2022**

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	\$	6,171.37
<u>INCOME</u>		
Dues	\$	510.10
TOTAL INCOME	\$	510.10
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Wordpress	\$	18.00
Web management		412.00
Donor box		16.00
Constant Contact		40.00
4 th of July donation		144.00
Eventbrite		30.00
Young Democrats fund		110.00
Cays Coffee rent		50.00
PO Box rental		182.00
Club t-shirts		1,115.79
Zoom		<u>149.90</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	2,267.69
Bank Balance as of July 31, 2022	\$	4,413.78

Patrick Callahan, Treasurer