

**CORONADO DEMOCRATIC CLUB**  
March 23rd, 2024 **ANNUAL MEETING**  
Winn Room, Coronado Public Library  
640 Orange Avenue, Coronado, CA 92118  
(Approved Minutes)

AGENDA

**Call to Order @ 11:03am**

**Pledge of Allegiance** lead by City Councilwoman Carrie Downey

**Approval of the Proposed Agenda**

Motioned, 2nd, Unanimously passed

**Approval of the General Meeting Minutes for February, 10th, 2024**

Motioned, 2nd, Unanimously passed

**Treasurer's report.**

Edry: Balance: \$4155, but coming from that, \$1195 loan repayment, and \$500 commitment to CHS, so \$2460 balance. This is all we'll have for the remaining year. Please donate via our website.

**Guest elected officials:** Carry Downey offered greetings from the City Council. She encouraged us to continue involvement and voting. Sewage repair monies in budget inching through process. Whitney Antrim and Alexia Palacios-Peters from our CUSD: Whitney is finishing her term, encouraged us to consider running for School Board and/or City Council and to contact her for advice and encouragement. This coming Tuesday, 5pm (also live streamed) is a special CUSD Board meeting with all subgroups (such as COSA, Safe Harbor, etc), to see if we need a more comprehensive policy or if we're in a good place. She reminded us to celebrate that "School Board meetings are boring again!" meaning they are back to doing the business of education.

**Program:** The club reviewed achievements under the leadership of President Marely Ramirez and Vice President Bill Seager, and celebrated key community actions. A review of significant achievements included the "Stop the Sewage" campaign, and a surge in membership. Our democratic engagement will allow us to connect, reflect on the club's impact over the past two years, and look forward to future initiatives. The presentation was a wonderful look back and we should be proud of all we accomplished.

## Committee Reports

**1. Program committee:** Carol Stanford reminded us that next program is Red, White and Blue Brunch, then June 17 evening meeting; 6:30 social, 7pm program. This coming April 11, 6pm social, 6:30pm to 8pm program. Cynara Velazquez is presenting.

1.

2. **Membership:** Genevieve spoke for Luan; thanked members for renewing, participating and inviting friends and neighbors. 260 members currently.

3. **GO Team:** Patti Charter-Flores (absent).

Our Go Team Celebrated canvassing homes for our March 5 Primary with a potluck! Another party will be held Saturday, April 27 to welcome new Go Team volunteers for the Nov. General Election. It takes as little as 45 min. of your time! Volunteer Today! Current volunteers: Sally Johnson, Abby Rosenthal, Patti Flores-Charter, Debby Schwartz, Frank King, Suzanne Ramirez, Judy Bambace, Marely Ramirez, Terry Zack, Susan Marrinan, Ann Bancroft, and Patricia Leahy. One first time GO team volunteer shared how much fun she had going door to door and can't wait for the next opportunity.

4. **Scholarship:** Patti Charter-Flores (absent). Report:

Two \$750 scholarships were awarded to Southwestern College Students last spring 2023.

Aiden Benjamin Chen Vazquez, a first-generation college student navigating gender transition as they transferred to North Seattle College's Computer Science B.S. program in Sept. 2023.

Diego Higuera is a multiple award-winning journalism major and journalist with the college newspaper, The Sun. He's navigated homelessness his whole life while continuing to use his stories to serve underrepresented groups.

Currently, the Scholarship Committee is working to select two students again this year and adding a CHS scholarship for the first time!

5. **Public Policy:** Laura Wilkinson provided a report on behalf of Committee Chair, Susan Marrinan (absent; ill). Educate and activate membership in critical areas and issues. Public support of Democratic values; recruited members to attend every City Council meeting, and School Board meeting

so that our voices can be heard. Laura presented a long list of all areas the PPC has been involved, including traveling to DC to advocate for issues impacting us (eg. Sewage). Upcoming, Thursday 4pm central Beach, CHS working to have a student lead protest water quality. AB2783: PPC will ask for our help to get this on our awareness to support (advocating for transparency with Port actions).

6. **Communications:** Stephanie Kaupp. See the attachment for the full report. The website redesign project has been completed!  
Search: Coronado Democratic Club or add the link: [coronadodemocrats.com](http://coronadodemocrats.com)

Team Effort: The website, newsletters, and alerts are all done by a dedicated hard-working team, Rebecca King, Mali Hinsley, Nicole Lovell, and Elizabeth Kennard who graciously volunteered to help with our Club's communication needs.

Leadership: And a sincere Thank You to our strong and fearless President, Marely Ramirez, who has kept our Club vital, responsive, and active, defending our democracy and making our community and the world a better place.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **New Business**

Jean Seager presents the election of Officers. **Nominating Committee:** Susan Marrinan, Frank King, Howard Somers, Stephanie Kaupp, and Marely Ramirez.

**Election of Officers:** Presented by Jean Seager Club members voted to elect a Club President and Club Vice-President for 2024-2026. The 2024 Nominating Committee presents the following slate:

- President: Lori Doyle  
Moved, 2nd. no floor nominations. Unanimous.
- Vice President: Patti Flores-Charter (absent but willing to accept)  
Moved, 2nd. no floor nominations. Unanimous.

Secretary for one year: Carol Grimaud  
Moved, 2nd. no floor nominations. Unanimous.

Club voting members are members who are registered Democrats in San Diego County or who have expressed the intention of becoming registered Democrats as soon as they are eligible to vote. Only voting members who are in good standing, having paid their annual dues, and who have been members of the club for at least thirty (30) calendar days are eligible to vote. No proxy voting is permitted. Absentee ballots are accepted. (Club bylaws, Article II, Section 3)

### **Announcements**

Award ceremony recognizing outstanding volunteer contributions with the Mercy Mandelbaum Award, the President's Award. (other awards to be given at next general meeting).

**2024 Mercy Mandelbaum Award** Laura Wilkinson

Gifts of Appreciation were given to President. Marely Ramirez and VP Bill Seager from the club by Judy Bambace

**Adjourn @12:29pm**

**REPORTS ATTACHED:  
Communications Committee**

**Communications Committee Update**

**Stephanie Kaupp - March 23, 2024**

**Glad to report the redesign of our website project has been completed!**

Due to the outstanding website and graphic skills of **Kathy Upton**, experienced webmaster, graphic designer, videographer, and life-long Democrat, we now have a functioning, user friendly, awesome website.

A communications tool we can use to stay connected and work together on issues that support the values and principles of the Democratic Party.

A central communication point serving to educate and activate members to get out the vote and elect leaders up and down the ballot.

If you haven't visited our website...**Check it Out!**

**Easy to find:**

**Google: Coronado Democratic Club** or add the link: [coronadodemocrats.com](https://coronadodemocrats.com)

That lands you on the **Home Page** with several links to other engaging web pages. Learn how you can volunteer, take action, become a member, renew, and donate.

**What do we do?**

We Defend Democracy

**How do we do it?**

Teamwork with members like you!

**Want to know when we meet?**

Check the meeting dates, times and the outstanding programs offered to the community.

Read the highlights of past meetings.

Watch the engaging program on **How to Talk Politics With People With Whom You Disagree** presented at the January 13 General Meeting and see the 10 tips for dialog.

**Read the good things about Coronado:**

Watch the video featuring club member Kevin Ashley opening the door to Coronado's hidden black history. Read the article on how two brothers donated proceeds from the sale of their Coronado properties to the SDSU Black Resource Center.

### **Scholarship Funds:**

Learn what a difference it makes when you donate to our scholarship funds.

#### **Actions you can take:**

Click on the links and get the agendas for the Coronado City Council and School Board meetings. Watch the Emerald Keepers video and speak up and support the proposed plastics ban.

### **Membership, Renewal, Donations:**

Several links take you to the **New, Renewal, Sustaining, Student, Membership, and Scholarship Donations page**.

#### **Go to the About Us Page and read:**

- \* What we believe
- \* Who we support
- \* What we fight for - **Opportunity, Equity, Peace, Prosperity, Democracy**

Click on the video and see why our club was one of the top **2022 Democratic Clubs of the Year**. And be on the lookout for what we accomplished during the last two years.

Click on the photos of our **Board of Directors** and read about their accomplishments.

### **Our History:**

**September 1888** - First meeting, a total of 23, met at the old school house to organize a Democratic Campaign Club.

**March 2024** - 136 years later more than 250+ members and growing!

### **Our Success: GO TEAM!**

Coronado Democratic's Grassroots Organizing Team was one of many that helped turn Coronado blue, electing Joe Biden and Kamala Harris as our first female, Black, and Asian VP.

### **Resources:**

Want to read about **Local, Regional, and National News?**

Want to know how to **Contact Your Representatives?**

Want to check your **Voter Status and Link to the Registrar of Voters?**

Want to find a **free web-based weekly source of news, views, cartoons and videos of interest to all Democrats?**

Click on the links found on the **Resources** page.

**Read how Public Policies affects our lives.**

Learn about our **9 focus areas** and the resources available to help you navigate and stay informed about the broad area of government laws, regulations, court decisions, and local ordinances regarding:

**The Environment, Criminal Justice Reform, Voting Rights, Diversity, Reproductive Freedom, LGBTQ+ Gender Fairness, Housing Mandate, Gun Safety Measures/ Public Safety, and Immigration Rights.**

**Stop the Sewage:**

Check out the documentaries and news articles about our ongoing environmental and health crisis. Read the actions taken by residents, electeds, agencies, local and regional groups, and our **Stop the Sewage** team to get the funds to fix the broken infrastructure on our side of the border.

**Social Media Links:**

Use the links to connect to Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

**Members Page:**

Click on the **Members** link, add the member password, learn about the benefits members receive.

**Read our President's Message** and how much she values our members, volunteers, and donors who contribute their time and money to our club, working together to protect our democracy.

**Contact Us:**

Whether you wish to become a member, volunteer, bring an issue to our attention or simply have a question, we want to hear from you.

Click on **Contact Us** or [communications@coronadodemocrats.com](mailto:communications@coronadodemocrats.com)

That will link to **Stephanie Kaupp, Communications Chair.**

**Team Effort:**

The website, newsletters and alerts are all done by a dedicated hard working team, Rebecca King, Mali Hinsley, Nicole Lovell, and Elizabeth Kennard who graciously volunteered to help with our Club's communication needs.

**Leadership:**

And a sincere **Thank You** to our strong and fearless President, Marelly Ramirez, who has kept our Club vital, responsive, and active, defending our democracy and making the world a better place.