

progressive
DEMOCRATS
of Benicia

April 18, 2019

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to Order: Ralph Dennis at 7:05pm

Welcome/Organizational Items

- Quorum.
- REPORT NOT PRESENTED DURING THE MEETING. Treasurer's Report. Beginning balance \$1041.94; Deposit \$854; Crab Feed Reimbursement \$150; Donations \$144, Dues \$360, refund \$200. Withdrawals \$752.50, Room Rental \$375, Ad, Arts Benicia \$300. Library Room Rental \$77.50. Ending Balance \$1143.44

Acknowledgements. Guest Officials, Guest Organizations/Reports

- Mayor Patterson – announced that one of the May council meetings will address the update on Valero's implementation of safety monitoring.
- Councilman Young – encouraged folks to attend the May 7 council meeting to weigh in on the cannabis ordinance, explaining that we have businesses who have followed the City's direction for deposits and housing rentals.
- Dana Dean – Solano County Board of Education, gave an update on Charter School

PDB honored the Good Neighbor Steering Committee (GNSC) members and acknowledges their hard work and accomplishments.

Marilyn Bardet, Mary Frances Kelly Poh, Constance Beutel, Kathy Kerridge, Nancy Lund, and Dana Dean.

Among the successes:

- \$14 million for water, energy, and land projects to the Benicia Community since 2008.
- Reapportioning an additional \$1+ million in funds for completion of fence line monitoring, creating a non-profit Benicia Community Air Monitoring organization, and refurbishing a Community Air Monitoring trailer, among other significant benefits.
- Council approved amendment of an additional \$3million.

Marilyn Bardet, Mary Francis Poh and Dana Dean made comments, and Dr. Gwen _____ from Drexel University was introduced.

Benicia Community Sustainability Commission. Current and near-term projects.

- David Lindsay gave an overview of the commission – 9 years as a result of the GNSC.
- Kathy Kerridge is one of the founding members of the Sustainability Commission
- Benicia was the first city to adopt a Climate Adaptation plan
- David explained the mission of the Sustainability Commission
- Handed out over \$2.7million in grants
- Three active working groups – Education, Waste Reduction and Water
- Partner with Sustainable Solano
- April 27 – STEAM event – electric vehicles will be present

Elena Engle of 350 Bay Area presented *All Electricity, All the Time* A discussion with Q&A on how to get started, facilitate conversations, and move people to take action to lower or eliminate the use of fossil fuels in daily life. The key: switching to 100% renewable energy, electrifying all transportation, and heating homes through electricity instead of natural gas.

8:40. Wrap up/Announcements

- Pending legislation in CA Legislature – 2019-2020 General Session AB936 – NRDC is supporting this bill – financial requirements on companies shipping tar sands into the Bay Area. Phillips 66 has approved it. This bill is going to appropriations committee. If the bill gets out of appropriations, it will go to the floor for a vote.

Next PDB meeting: Tuesday, May 14, Benicia Library – Local air monitoring/air quality: *What do we have, what's coming, what do we need, and next steps for action.*

Adjourn 8:45pm