



**January 8, 2019**  
**Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Welcome/Organizational Items:**

- Ralph Dennis called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm
- Quorum – met
- Treasurer’s Report: In Treasurer, Kathy Kerridge’s absence, the Chair, Ralph Dennis, presented the Treasurers’ Report - **Balance:** \$1291.94 (December, 2018) – January expenditures - \$50 to CA Secretary of State; Crab Feed \$650 charge for table.
- November 13 minutes – approved by membership.

**Acknowledgements, Guest Officials, Guest Organizations/Reports:**

- Solano Co Board of Supervisors, Stephen Hallett representing Monica Brown: reported on Solano Transportation Authority legislative priorities – (See attached letter from Monica Brown to Daryl Halls, Solano County Transportation Authority)
- Mayor Elizabeth Patterson was acknowledged and discussed her position as the representative of Benicia on the Solano Transportation Authority.
- Carquinez Patriotic Resistance members acknowledged – Valerie: CPR is gearing up for the new year and considering co-hosting a town hall for Congressman Thompson. CPR – will meet the second Wednesday of every month. (Ralph plans to attend the next meeting to discuss our groups’ similar goals for the year).
- Vallejo-Benicia Indivisible for Justice representative, Mimosa Montag – introduced the Indivisible Guide 2.0. Current action – Call senators to oppose the appointment of William Barr to replace Attorney General, Jeff Sessions. Vallejo is holding a women’s march on Saturday, January 19 at 10:00 am at the Ferry Building. See the Indivisible Vallejo Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/VallejoBeniciaIndivisible/?ref=share>; Participate in the Indivisible Action Call (January 10) registration: [https://indivisible.zoom.us/webinar/register/7715435963768/WN\\_McIKvIB-Qnu\\_y1dhEqTI4A](https://indivisible.zoom.us/webinar/register/7715435963768/WN_McIKvIB-Qnu_y1dhEqTI4A); Women’s March Vallejo – January 19: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2191187051120849/>
- **Assembly District Election Meeting (ADEM for AD-14)** – Steve Young introduced Susan George who is part of a progressive slate which includes: Latressa Wilson Alford, Mina Diaz, Julia Hahn, Tiffanee Jones, Askari T. Sowode, Matthew Finkelstein and Joshua Jerge. Susan explained the delegation process and her experience as a delegate. Julia Hahn spoke, further explaining the delegate’s role. Askari Sowande spoke about her experience in the community. Steve Young provided information about the last election for State Chair of the Democratic Party. **Members are encouraged to attend the meeting and vote: Saturday, January 12: Speeches begin at 10am; Registration & Voting: 10:30am to 12:30pm. Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union 159, 1308 Roman Way, Martinez.**

**Announcements/Events:**

- 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Democratic Central Committee Crab Feed on February 9 in Suisun City – PDB has reserved a table for 10 with 9 committed. Contact the PDB website and/or Ralph Dennis to reserve seats.

## City of Benicia Business:

- Update of City of Benicia's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) – Ralph suggested public meeting be held to educate the community. Mayor Patterson, chair of the plan review committee, responded explaining the current review process. An online survey is on the City's website for community members' input. Take the survey: <https://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/beniciatownhall>
- Campaign ordinance issue – motion brought by Council member Tom Campbell requesting that staff review the campaign ordinance. Discussion is on the agenda for Tuesday's (1/15/19) council meeting. Steve asked members to attend the meeting to show support. Mayor Patterson explained the history of the current ordinance. Mayor Patterson will send out an e-alert after then council meeting's agenda is posted.

## PDB Business

- **Website:** Roger Straw discussed general updates including air quality information. Please see [www.progressivedemocratesofbenicia.com](http://www.progressivedemocratesofbenicia.com)
- **Executive Board elections:** All four current board members were unanimously re-elected:  
Chair: Ralph Dennis  
Vice Chair: Craig Snider  
Treasurer: Kathy Kerridge  
Secretary: Maggie Kolk

## General Discussion:

### Solano County Regional Park:

Dan Smith shared information about creation of a countywide Park and Open Space District in Solano County. Senate Bill 365 (Dodd) was signed by Governor Brown, giving the go-ahead for the county Board of Supervisors to pursue creating the district. The next step, Solano County voters must approve it via a ballot measure—which will likely be included in the 2018 or 2020 election. Mayor Patterson provided historical background. For more information: [Greenbelt.org](http://Greenbelt.org)

## Women's March

Marches will take place in Oakland, Walnut Creek, Napa on January 19, 2019

## PDB in 2019

### Proposed Agenda Items

- Women's Caucus: planning committee meeting on January 24 to plan celebration for International Women's Day. Committee: Phyllis Dubois, Kari Birdseye, Mayor Patterson, Craig Snider, Maggie Kolk. Contact Maggie Kolk ([mjskco15@gmail.com](mailto:mjskco15@gmail.com)) for specific time and location.
- Black History Month – Ralph reached out to Gethsemane Moss and Patrice to come up with a program for Black History Month.
- Invite Congressman Thompson to speak at our meeting – possibly partnering with CPR and Indivisible.
- Community Air Monitoring – Info is now on the website

## Suggestions for 2019:

Carrie Rehak – reach out to young adults in Benicia to engage them with PDB. Carrie will spearhead this effort.

## Wrap up/Announcements

- Next meeting: February 12, 7:00 pm Casa de Vilarrasa, 383 East I Street.
- Adjourned: 8:55pm
- Submitted by: Maggie Kolk, Secretary