

## Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 27, 7:00PM

Hermosa Beach Community Center,  
Room 16, Hermosa Beach 90254

Our agenda includes the election of our club officers for the coming year 2018/19. According to our By-Laws: "Every member present at the June meeting who has paid his or her dues at least 30 days prior to the meeting, or a renewing member, may vote for officers." Our Nominating Committee has submitted our current slate of officers for reelection but, per our By-Laws, additional nominations may come from the floor at this meeting or before.

We will also have a recap and discussion of the June 5 Primary Election.

Our fiscal year ends in June and begins again in July. As such, dues for the 2018/19 year are due and payable now. You may bring a check to the meeting or pay online through our website: [www.beachcitiesdems.org](http://www.beachcitiesdems.org)

Our Phone Banks Continue Through November 6.

We MUST Take Back The House from the Craven Republican Majority!!

The increasingly crazy, erratic troll in the White House must be stopped and the only way to do that is to remove the sycophantic lemmings who disregard their sworn duty to uphold the constitution.



Please join us and other members of the LA County Democratic Party on Wednesday, July 25, at the LA Convention Center to register new citizens to vote at the Naturalization Ceremonies. These new citizens believe in the American Dream and we must preserve it!

*Pictured at right: our BCD booth at Fiesta Hermosa where we were joined by Hany Fangary, Al Muratsuchi, Jimmy Gow, Jeff DuClos, and others*

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

There are so many unprecedented happenings now it's hard to know what to think about first. This administration has totally upended seventy years of relative peace and prosperity. There's nothing sacred they won't denigrate and lie about to take the focus away from the Mueller Investigation, the Russians and collusion.

I have started and changed and re-started this column so many times because of the chaos around the Trump show. He lashes out and trashes our allies while embracing and extolling the virtues of the most repressive dictator in the world today, giving him a platform and parity with the United States. He's starting a trade war. His edicts have put the "Dreamers" in limbo and now he is ripping



children away from their parents to deter other families from coming here. His ego is limitless and his tyranny unchecked.

I barely recognize my country. I am more saddened than shocked any longer at this daily onslaught of extreme behavior. His campaign started out as a racist screed and has devolved into a humanitarian crisis, condemned by the United Nations Human Rights Commission. Who are we? Can this truly be the America of the future?

America has always been an "idea." An ideal to strive for. Not perfect by any means but constantly evolving, seeking wisdom and justice to be better. Now the words that the world has embraced and counted on "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.." have been trampled on. There is no lamp beside the golden door. There is just a puffed up orangey-gold bully and his sycophantic lemmings blowing up the bridge to a more perfect union and aching to build a wall.



(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

If we don't take back the House in November there will be no turning back.

Another two years of the Trump Doctrine unchallenged will be devastating to the rule of law in this country and to the world.

I implore all of you to help us contact as many voters as possible in the time left until the Midterm Election. Thankfully, we have secured Democratic candidates in all of the targeted Congressional races. Now we must work tirelessly to engage the voters and get them to vote.

Our local phone banks and phone banking from home are ongoing throughout the summer until November 6. And, we are also adding a very special way to enlist voters. On Wednesday, July 25, we will join with other members of the LA County Democratic Party to register new citizens to vote at the Naturalization Ceremonies at the LA Convention Center. This is the most heart-warming experience you can have, as the happiness these new Americans feel is palpable. They believe in the American Dream and we must preserve it. Put this on your calendar as a "Must Do" for yourself and for the future of America.

*Bobbi Buescher*  
President, Beach Cities Democrats

## May Recap

*By Andrea Valcourt*

Bobbi called the meeting to order and apologized for the parking problems. It was noted that the City Hall parking lot was another parking option. She said that she just got back from a great trip to China and saw that China is building many new cities with mandated solar power. They are leading the world in solar construction. Also, they require new construction to be built a certain distance from rivers. America's infrastructure doesn't compare to China's, since we spend all our money on wars.

She said that president Trump admitted the reason he trashes the media is that people won't believe any bad reports about him. We need to keep Democrats actively voting. She mentioned the many



Mayor Eric Garcetti joined in the phone banking at the Westside Democratic HQ. Right: Marc Saltzberg, Cara Robin, Mayor Garcetti, Bobbi Buescher



judge candidates on the ballot and the large number of Democrats running.

Next, visitors were introduced and there were four potential new members.

Bobbi said that the elections were soon upon us and there were many opportunities for phone banking and walking precincts. CADEM, the LACDP, and some clubs have made some endorsements and they can help you with your voting choices.

She reminded us that our booth at Fiesta Hermosa needs as many people as possible to staff the booth and help answer visitors' questions, and hand out our slate card.

Dency stated that he was proud of the Hermosa Beach City Council because they were all Democrats and that the Plan Hermosa that they passed won several awards. He believes the council is an inspiration to other cities.

A motion was made by Andrea Valcourt to accept the minutes and seconded by Stephanie Solomon.

### Treasurer's Report

Edna Murphy provided the Treasurer's report:

Federal Account \$5,126  
State Account \$966

### Reports from Electeds

Andrew DeBlock from Al Muratsuchi's office reported that he and the team are working hard on the campaign. Therefore, he would give a brief summary before heading out:

Al is running against a former mayor and a Democrat.. Andrew will deliver lawn

signs to Dency.

On the 25<sup>th</sup>, all state monetary bills need to be passed by the Appropriations Committee. Your input would be helpful on the following bills. You can vote for these via Al's website.

AB1775 is the off-shore drilling ban.  
[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB1775](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1775)

AB2808 is to increase the school funding formula to full funding. It would still only restore the level to the 2007/2008 level.  
[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2808](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2808)

Andrew said that the Air Quality Management District is not as committed as we had hoped on the issue of banning the use of Modified Hydrofluor Acid (MHFA) at the local refineries.

Ted Lieu's and Ben Allen's teams are busy campaigning and didn't send representatives.

Christian Horvath from Redondo Beach City Council, District 3, reported the following:

SB1 is the gas tax that passed to pave roads. Prop 69 ensures that the gas tax doesn't get rerouted to other purposes. Cities are scraping along to maintain their infrastructure. Vote yes.

Prop 68 is the state parks bond measure, which could give money to Redondo to buy the AES land because there is a clause which specifies help for cities with

(Continued on page 3)



*(Recap, Continued)*

power plant closures. This was put into the law with Redondo in mind. Redondo is working with the County to get funds to buy the AES land, which is zoned for parks and wetlands. Any other use of this land would require a vote.

Dency noted that Democrats are recommending a yes vote on all the propositions (68, 69, 71, and 72) except 70.

Redondo Beach voted for a ban of the chemicals used at the Torrance refinery and that vote was followed by a vote in Hermosa and Manhattan. Christian met with an AQMD board member. MHFC is very dangerous and you should lobby AQMD to ban the chemical, which could cause thousands of deaths if there is an accident such as the one in 2015. Connie Sullivan said it would be helpful for the cities to send a representative to the next AQMD meeting, which is probably in July or August. The Torrance Committee is getting the word out to the schools.

The Galleria remodel has passed the Redondo Planning Commission, but has four separate appeals. It will come before the City Council.

Redondo is working on homeless housing planning and any input is appreciated.

The Desal project EIR was released and comments were welcomed until June. The City Council voted against the project as did Hermosa and Manhattan. You can take a tour of the Edward Little Water Recycling Facility, which produces reclaimed water for cities and industries to use for non-potable applications such as watering and manufacturing processes. Increasing recycled water is better than Desal because it has less environmental impact like putting brine in the ocean and adding to carbon pollution, and is more cost effective.

The State Emergency Water Treatment Mandate requires cities to process runoff water before it gets to the ocean. Hermosa is working on a project at the end of the Green Belt just off Herondo. It has gotten some negative response from neighbors, but Hermosa has actually been working on this with three other

cities. Please support this project; it is good for the environment and is a state mandate.

Metro is planning to bring the Green Line to Redondo. There are four options for where the tracks will be placed. Metro can be contacted on their website for information and to ask questions.

Redondo Beach is working on banning the use of plastic straws and polystyrene. The General Plan revision and the Budget are in process.

SB827, which allows 40 – 80 foot buildings along major arteries, overriding city ordinances, was defeated in committee.

[https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB827](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB827)

SB828 rewrites the formula the State uses to require cities to provide low cost housing. It does not take into account the current density of the city. This is a concern for Redondo and we are not accepting the number of houses required for this year.

[https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB828](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB828)

The State passed a law to require cities to allow Granny Units—accessory housing units added to a property. If cities don't write an ordinance or modify existing ones, the state law will take precedence and that might not be good for cities and residents. Hermosa is currently conducting a survey until June 5. Some things to consider in the ordinances are: should the rentals be short term, and does the property owner have to live in the original home?

Redondo is in discussions with business owners on what to do about rental bike companies, which are not brick and mortar stores. Not being a brick and mortar store gives them an advantage because they can charge less. If they



*Speaking at the May meeting were Christian Horvath and Candidate Doug Kriegel*

don't use docking stations the bikes can be left anywhere.

The Nominating Committee—Ray Waters, Stephanie Solomon, Moira Zucker, and Lori Geittmann—reported that they were formed in April and are putting the current board up for re-election. The Club will vote in June. Anyone can also run for these offices and new nominations should be emailed to the committee.

Bobbi said that unfortunately the scheduled speaker was not present at the meeting.

Doug Kriegel, who is running for Board of Equalization, District 3, spoke to the club about his background and candidacy.

He worked at NBC News as a reporter for 30 years and currently works for PBS. He is working on a documentary on financial abuse of seniors.

There was a major scandal with the Board of Equalization and it was not covered in the press, so he decided to run to bring it to light. The Board was to collect taxes and distribute them. Last year millions of dollars went missing, so Gov. Brown created the Tax and Fees Administration, which now does most of the work of the Board of Equalization. The CA Attorney General is looking into the matter in a criminal investigation. Interestingly, Fiona Ma is one of the termed-out members and likely holds some responsibility for the misallocation of funds. Ma is running for State Treas-

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Beach Cities Democrats

P.O. Box 2192  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

*President*

Bobbi Buescher—310-545-7890

*Vice-President*

Dency Nelson — 310-374-4543

*Treasurer*

Edna Murphy—310-545-6292

*Secretary and Web Manager*

Ryley Simcox—661-202-8938

*Newsletter*

Moirra Zucker—310-546-7562

*Immediate Past President*

Kathryn Campbell—310-738-6845

*Social Media Manager*

Mark Harrison—713-397-0099

*Database and Mailing*

Mark Drabkin — 213-787-5267

(Recap, Continued from page 3)  
urer.

The board members still make \$146,000 a year. In June, a salary commission reviews all salaries and Doug is going to recommend that the board members only receive \$20,000 now due to the decrease in duties.

He would also like a ballot measure to get rid of the organization altogether because California is the only state that still elects the board members.

Bobbi passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to cover the BCD booth at Fiesta Hermosa. The slots are two-hour increments. Dency will put the sign-up sheet online.

### LA County Committee report by Ray and Lori

There was a reversal for the Board of Equalization recommendation due to unacceptable behavior.

66<sup>th</sup> AD report by Connie Sullivan  
Sunday is the monthly breakfast at Rudy's. The quarterly meeting of the 66<sup>th</sup> ADDC on July 18 at Zamperini Field will feature a law professor on election law.

The discussion will be about gerrymandering.

### Announcements

Get out the vote for John Chiang at his office on Lincoln Blvd from 5:00 – 8:00 or you can call from home. Contact [brenda@johnchiang.com](mailto:brenda@johnchiang.com) for calling and walking information.

A fund raiser was announced for Ted Lieu's Blue Momentum Pac on June 10. Ted is vice-chair of the DCCC. See the BCD website for details.

*This report included notes  
From Ryley Simcox*

### Important Contacts

U.S. Senate  
Kamala Harris  
312 N. Spring St., Suite 1748  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Local # 213-894-5000  
D.C. # 202-224-3553  
[www.harris.senate.gov](http://www.harris.senate.gov)

Dianne Feinstein

### House of Representatives

Ted Lieu (33rd C.D.)  
5055 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 310  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
D.C. # 202-225-4099  
Local # 323-651-1040  
[Https://lieu@house.gov/](https://lieu@house.gov/)

### State Senate

Ben Alllen  
2512 Artesia Blvd., Suite 320  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278-3279  
310-318-6994  
[Http://sd26.senate.ca.gov/](http://sd26.senate.ca.gov/)

### Assembly

Al Muratsuchi (66th A.D.)  
3424 W. Carson St., Suite 450  
Torrance, CA 90503  
Local # 310-375-0691  
Sacramento # 916-319-2066  
[Https://A66.asmdc.org/](https://A66.asmdc.org/)