

Next Meeting

Wednesday, August 22, 7:00PM

Hermosa Beach Community Center,
Room 16, Hermosa Beach 90254

Our meeting is always on the fourth Wednesday, but this month there are five Wednesdays, so don't be confused.

The focus of the meeting will be the November election. At our July meeting we decided not to endorse in the U.S. Senate race or the CA Lieutenant Governor's race. We further decided that we will follow the endorsements of the California State Democratic Party and the LACDP in all of the non-partisan Democrat vs. Democrat races that did not have a candidate emerge with a 50% +1 winning majority in the June Primary.

Those are the races for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, LA County Sheriff, and LA County Assessor, as well as several Judicial races. If you want to speak on behalf of a favorite candidate in any of the other races let us know. Candidates in all races are welcome to come speak to our membership. Jeffrey Prang, our endorsed candidate running for re-election for LA County Assessor, plans to be at the meeting, and we anticipate that some Judicial candidates and others will also attend.

We will also be endorsing in the Hermosa Beach School Board election that will be on the November ballot, and we will be hearing from any of the Democratic candidates who have filed by the August 15 deadline to run for the three seats that are up for election for those four-year terms. As a reminder, our Bylaws state that only members who were members as of our July meeting and whose dues are up to date as of this meeting will be allowed to vote in this endorsement election.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our Golden State is ablaze. Our precious forests, trees, land, homes, businesses and lives have been taken and are still under threat. Wildfire season is here.

Longer, hotter and now the Mendocino Complex Fire is the largest fire ever recorded with September and October, traditionally the driest of the year, still looming.

Global warming and climate change can no longer be ignored. The impact of extreme drought over many years has finally taken its toll.

Since before the turn of the twentieth century it was known that burning fossil fuels had altered Earth's atmosphere by the increase of carbon dioxide in the air. In 1979 scientists believed that data collected since 1957 proved that to be true. Scientists, government officials and oil companies all agreed and decided to do something about it.

President Jimmy Carter even planned to invest \$80 billion in synthetic fuels, and



renewable technologies like solar energy would take the place of the coal and oil industries. Carter installed solar panels on the White House saying they could be "one of the greatest and most exciting adventures ever undertaken by the American people; harnessing the power of the Sun."

Then Reagan was elected. One of the first things he did was order the removal of the solar panels! He thought about closing the Energy Department and appointed James Watt, who had fought to open public lands to mining and drilling, to head the Interior Department. Reagan was not about preserving the environment.

Fast forward many decades to today. The "Very Stable Genius" believes that climate change is a hoax and his twitter finger has been busy showing his complete and total ignorance of wildfires and their cause. He has withdrawn America from the Paris Climate Accords and now he wants to roll back California's strong environmental laws, which are the toughest in the nation and the world in fighting greenhouse gas emissions.

Republicans since Ronnie have not

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Coming Events

August 18. WLA Democratic Club Summer Party, 4:30-8:00 PM, Mar Vista

August 24. Volunteers needed for the Naturalization Ceremonies Voter Registration. Morning session starts at 9:00 AM and afternoon session begins at 1:30 PM, at the LA Convention Center. If you would like to join us please contact Bobbi at: bobbimb@aol.com.

August 24. Fundraiser for Ted Lieu's Blue Momentum PAC, 6:30 PM, Long Beach

September 1-3, Volunteers needed for our booth at Fiesta Hermosa, over Labor Day Weekend.

Our phone banks are ongoing through November 6, 6:30-8:30 PM. Bring your cell phone, PC/tablet & charger. Please RSVP: labommer@gmail.com.
Every Monday: 2537 Via Olivia, PVE
Every Tuesday: 540 24th Place, HB
Every Thursday: 1720 Gates Ave., MB

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been on the side of caring for our home, Planet Earth. They have always sided with the industries and policies that have brought us to the brink of environmental apocalypse with the horrible increase in natural disasters: hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, floods, tornadoes, drought and the largest wildfires ever, seventeen now burning in our charred state.

It is apparent that we desperately need a change in our national thinking, because none is being done in the Republican Washington of today. We need to change our road to destruction by winning in twenty-three Congressional Districts throughout the United States on November 6. We have seven of them right here in Southern California and it is incumbent upon every thinking citizen in this country to work to save our democracy and our planet by kicking them out!

*Bobbi Buescher, President
Beach Cities Democrats*

July Recap

By Andrea Valcourt

Dency opened the meeting because Bobbi was at the New Citizens' Naturalization Ceremony and would be joining us later in the evening.

Treasurer Edna Murphy provided the Treasurer's Report:
Federal PAC: \$5,008
State PAC: \$1,654

State Senator Ben Allen

Ben said he was glad to be here and sorry that he needed to speak first because he was also due to go to another Democratic meeting.

The State just passed a big budget, which covered a lot of issues we care about. He said there would be an environmental legislators' meeting that week to discuss climate change and other environmental issues.

In mid-September, there will be a Global Climate Change conference. California is recognized as a leader in climate change and we have some clout as the 5th largest economy. Gov. Brown talked with China's president for 1 ½

hours on this recently.

There is a draft bill, no number yet, dealing with Drift Gill Net fishing. These nets harm not only swordfish, but other sea life, and the fisherman can use other gear.

There is also a draft bill on Campaign Change, which will require petitions and social media ads to disclose their backers. The petitioners will be required to carry a card with the pertinent information. It is a follow-on to the Disclosure Act, which requires backer disclosure in TV and radio ads.

As Chair of the Senate Education Committee, Ben feels confident that California will be able to end for-profit charter schools, which are not in the best interest of our kids. They are also working on making the standardized funding more representative of the costs for each type of specialized education schools provide.

Ben said thanks for your participation. We know that when Democrats vote, the people win. It is important to see how the other parts of the state and country talk about issues and when you phone bank, your calls make that happen.

The State is four years ahead of schedule for its clean energy goals. Our efforts actually attract entrepreneurs. The worry is that the Federal government may take back our exemption on environmental issues which allows us to have stricter guidelines.

Andrea stated that the Federal government is now taking down statements and statistics about how environmental regulations actually made our national parks safer and more accessible to the public, and increased visits, as it is making national park land available to drilling.

Bobbi arrived and said it was a great day at the Naturalization Ceremony and that they had registered almost 100 voters.

Andrew deBlock for Al Muratsuchi

Al is in Israel now. Andrew said we want you to know how much we value the folks in this room. You worked so hard to get us elected and continue to work on this upcoming election.

AB2808, Education Finance, which increased funding for K – 12 and includes all schools, even those doing well, is up for a vote on August 6. This bill does not



State Senator Ben Allen

change the current structure, but increases the base grant dollars. Please go to our website and sign the petition. The number of signatures really makes a difference.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2808

AB1775, State Lands: Leasing: Oil and Gas, which prevents new and renewing offshore drilling and protects the coastline, goes to the Appropriations Committee on August 6.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1775

Stacey Michaels stated that the California Federation of Teachers supports AB 1775. She also said they support Al for re-election because he doesn't shy away from education issues.

SB10, Bail: Pretrial Release, which reforms how bail is set, has not gotten Al's support yet. Al supports the idea, but wants to be sure the bill is feasible. He is meeting with judges when he gets home to get their feedback. Keep contacting him to let him know your positions.
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB10

HB Councilman Jeff DuClos

Jeff said he wouldn't be in office today if it weren't for this club, and thanked us.

He said Hermosa Beach is all about the Comedy and Magic Club this month as it celebrates its 40th year.

The city is hiring a new City Manager and hope to announce the new manager next month.

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(Recap, Continued)

The transition to the County Fire District went very smoothly. It would be impossible for the City to provide the services provided by the County.

He said they have been working on our infrastructure and have a sewer plan in place. South Park has been renovated. They've also completed their Hazard Mitigation Plan, which FEMA approved.

Hermosa has made progress on environmental issues such as the solar panels on our Community Center building, and that is because we have an all-Democratic council for the first time.

The Storm Water Project, which is a regional joint project between Hermosa, Redondo and Torrance, and which is mandated by State law and the Water Quality Control Board, is being reviewed. The region is required to clean up our storm water as it goes into the ocean. The project is to clean the water coming from the Herondo storm drain, which always gets poor marks from Heal the Bay. Because of the concerns of the residents of about 100 Hermosa homes right next to the currently planned location, alternate sites are being reviewed.

Jeff said they had a ceremony with Al for his bill to make surfing the State's official sport, after which they went surfing.

The City and the Chamber are reviewing Fiesta Hermosa to make it more community-centric. The non-profits that were not 503c entities were not given a free booth and that will change. The Free Speech area will return.

HB Councilman Hany Fangary

Hany thanked us for our support. The AVP Volleyball Festival is the coming weekend and they expect about 10,000 people, with NBC news covering it. Also, there will be concerts on the beach every Sunday in August, starting on the 5th at 5 PM. Finally, his Community First meetings will resume Saturday, August 25. Come and have some fun and discuss relevant issues.

Andrea asked about the ADU code revision due to the State law change and Hany said it passed the previous night.

<https://easyreadernews.com/council-approves-new-rules-for-granny-flats/>
http://tbrnews.com/news/hermosa_beach/new-state-law-prompts-car-lift-approval-in-hermosa-beach/article_f9dd1a0c-95a5-11e8-8b6d-9f7a58cd99b8.html

Maggie Bove LaMonica, Hermosa Beach School Board

The North School Traffic Mitigation Draft EIR is available for public comment for 45 days. Our Project Empathy is using a book club format and is intended to help students with the effects of social media, which causes students to have problems relating to others. We are implementing new and/or improved safety measures such as fencing and visitor registration.
<https://easyreadernews.com/hermosa-schools-latest-tool-in-wellness-effort-the-book-club/>

Last, we have 3 open School Board seats this November. Dency said that the Democratic candidates can come to our next meeting for an endorsement.

Stacey Michaels said that the California Federation of Teachers is asking schools to consider a service project to provide water kits to Puerto Rico's schools, which still do not have clean water. DeVos is suggesting that for-profit charter schools rebuild the damaged school in Puerto Rico and eliminate public schools.

Joey Apodaca for Rep. Ted Lieu

Ted introduced a Resolution, along with North Carolina Republican Walter Jones, condemning Putin's attack on US citizens and rejecting the Administration's deal to hand over any current or past civil servants for questioning by Putin.
<https://lieu.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-lieu-jones-and-castro-introduce-bipartisan-resolution-condemning>

Ted also signed a letter to the FBI asking it to investigate Mariia Butina acting as a Foreign Agent and giving campaign money through the NRA in 2016. The FBI is investigating.

Joey also spoke about the press conference by Trump about what was discussed with Putin in Helsinki.



(L) Jake Ridout from Al Murasuchi's campaign; (R) Andrew Lachman

Intelligence Reports indicate that North Korea is expanding its nuclear capacity and re-using the family playbook to ignore promises to the US.

Ted played the tape of children crying at the border detention center, to get support for a border policy review. 51 members signed a letter to open an investigation into the Administration's policies. We have seen that Asylum Seekers are being turned away at the border and that CDP officers are not properly trained on the law, and their behavior may be illegal.

Ted is also opposed to the president's policy to assign JAG (Judge Advocate General) lawyers to the border to prosecute immigration cases. They are not trained for this type of law and it takes them away from helping active service people and veterans. Additionally, he feels that National Security will suffer because JAG officers advise on battle front crimes, conditions and international law.

Ted and Rep. Jerrold Nadler introduced a bill (no number yet) to keep families together and is a companion to Feinstein's Senate bill S3036 which has 48 co-sponsors. 190+ democrats support the Congressional bill.

<https://lieu.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-lieu-co-leads-bill-keep-families-together-and-end-family-separation>
Senate bill
<https://www.congress.gov/bills/115/congress/senate-bill/3036?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22keep+families+together+act%22%5D%7D>

Joey also said that the Trump Administration is reviewing Naturalization Files

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Beach Cities Democrats

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for inconsistencies, with the idea to deport these citizens. The policy also includes requiring the immigrants to pay \$850.00 for DNA testing to prove that the children they are claiming are really their children. Non-profits are trying to help pay these fees. There are organizations making millions moving and housing these children around the country.

Speaker Andrew Lachman, local member of the DNC

Andrew introduced himself, apologized for missing last month's meeting, and said he is now in Privacy Policy law. The Democratic National Committee has updated itself for the first time since 2009, making changes to training and there's a presentation on rural values and how to talk with people in those areas.

The Democrats are making progress at elections this year. We picked up a Colorado seat and one in Utah recently. Nationally, the Democrats picked up 50 out of 52 seats since Trump was elected and we're beating the spread by 10 points. It's not just millennial votes and

people of color, but we're picking up white suburban women. The Democrats left the rural areas for 10 – 15 years. Now, they are quietly organizing and talking about rural issues.

Nationally, the committee is looking at changing how we vote for candidates and the caucus system, and how delegates are counted. A DNC member can no longer be a delegate, but could run for the EBoard and then be a delegate. At first, we only had one Small Business caucus and now we have 13, with pledges from several states. The mix of voters has changed and now we have Democrats with the most voters, followed by Decline-to-state, and Republicans in third place.

Social media, phone banks, text banks, and walking are now all tools that we use for getting out the vote. We must participate if we are to win.

Jake Ridout from AI's Campaign

AI Muratsuchi won the Primary by 8 points, but we can't be over-confident because his opponent, Frank Scotto, didn't put much effort into the Primary.

Now, he is starting to spend and he is making the SB1 Gas Tax and its repeal *the* issue.

Jake said "We need you to be our eyes and ears and report to us when Scotto sends out email, mail or robocalls. We need you to host community coffees."

A resolution was passed to endorse SB 100, CA Renewables Portfolio, to achieve 100% zero carbon electricity by 2045.

<https://legiscan.com/CA/bill/SB100/2017>

Patti Hunter

Patti, who is running for LA Superior Court Judge in Office #16, spoke about her qualifications and said that she is endorsed by Ted Lieu. She has over 30 years of courtroom experience and is experienced in civil and criminal law. She will come in August to seek our endorsement, and left flyers with her website information on them. PattiHunter4judge.com.

*This recap includes notes
from Ryley Simcox*