

## Next Meeting

- The date will be **November 18, one week earlier than usual**, due to the Thanksgiving holiday;
- We will be voting to elect 4 BCD Delegates to the January Pre-Endorsement conferences for the California Democratic Party;
- We will also be debriefing on the results of the Tuesday, 11/3 local elections and sharing some information about the 2016 national elections. Don't miss it!

**Wednesday, 11/18/15  
7:00 PM**

**Hermosa Beach Community Center**  
710 Pier Ave, Hermosa Beach, Rm #4.

Note that in order to be elected as a BCD Delegate to the Pre-Endorsement Conferences, you must be a registered Democrat and a member in good standing (as defined in our bylaws) who was submitted on our membership roster to the county party on or before July 1, 2015. If you are unsure of your status contact President Kathryn Campbell (kathrync@hotmail.com).

State guidelines encourage the election of an equal number of male and female representatives where possible, so we will strive to elect two men and two women. If you are elected to represent the Beach Cities Democrats, you agree to vote for the candidates whom the Beach Cities Democrats have endorsed. Complete details are contained in the bylaw amendments, which were passed at our October 28 meeting. Also note that the conferences this year will be on January 30 & 31, 2016. Please do not run for a Delegate position if you will be unable to attend one or both of the conference days.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Giving Thanks

Thanksgiving is such a wonderful holiday, isn't it? Everyone can participate, there are no specific religious associations to divide us. It is one of the few holidays relatively untouched by crass commercialism—well, aside from Black Friday, but that is Christmas encroachment, not Thanksgiving's fault! Most of all, it encourages us to do something that we should all do more often—take a moment to contemplate that for which we are most grateful.

This year I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude for the Beach Cities Democrats, and all the wonderful friends I have made through it. I am honored and inspired by the generosity, tenacity, and ideals of our members. I am humbled to see so many of you giving so selflessly of your time to help create a better world for all of us. A world that is healthier, safer, more fair, and more compassionate than the one that we have inherited.

I am also grateful for what I have learned through Beach Cities. Our members have, collectively, hundreds of years of communal knowledge, hard won in the trenches. Insights into how to advance important legislation, counter unsavory interests, educate voters and elect thoughtful, responsive legislators. Participating in our meetings and campaigns is like being given access to the Library of Alexandria of political knowledge. Most importantly, our "council of elders" have managed to acquire wisdom without becoming jaded, and continue to encourage



others to take up the good fight.

I am so grateful to have met and become friends with the extraordinary men and women who have served our community in public office. Today, more than ever, I believe that the term "public service" truly describes the contribution of these smart, charismatic, caring electeds. When I hear a friend or colleague disparage the integrity of politicians, I can look them in the eye and say without hesitation that I know, appreciate, and respect my local representatives. I can call them with concerns and know that they will listen to me. Not because I'm a wealthy campaign donor (although I wish I could be!), but because they genuinely want to help their constituents.

Finally, please indulge me as I thank my amazing BCD officers:

- There is no better VP possible than Dency Nelson. Not only is he always willing to jump into the breach when I am overwhelmed, but he is also careful to never make a commitment that he cannot keep. He is humble beyond reason, willingly serving as VP despite having many more years of experience than I do in politics.
- In the critical role of Treasurer, I have the savvy, reliable, knowledgeable Edna Murphy to rely on. I felt

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## Victory!

All three of our endorsed candidates plus our endorsed Measure H won BIG in November!

Massey and Duclos won in essentially a landslide. Bars handed big defeat.

Monique Ehsan won handily for school board.

Thank you Democrats for your support!!

Dency Nelson, Vice President  
Beach Cities Democrats

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*Winning Team: Justin Massey and Jeff Du-Clos, our endorsed candidates for Hermosa Beach City Council*

quite smug at a recent seminar on how Democratic clubs can stay out of trouble with financial reporting to be in the very small minority that had never had any trouble, and we have only Edna to thank for that.

- Thank you Tom Cares for serving as Secretary. I was delighted last summer that a member in his 20s, at an age when many eschew active political engagement in favor of their careers and social lives, was willing to serve as our Secretary. I have gained the utmost respect for Tom as he has fearlessly put forward his views, respectfully and intelligently, even when it was clear that he was in the minority. He has modeled political courage for us all.
- And of course our board is rounded out by the wise advice of Past President Tony Hale, and the steadfast service of Mark Drabkin and Jim McGreevy, who support our Yahoo Groups and website, respectively. And finally, last but not least, the beloved Moira Zucker, who gives an entire weekend of her life once a month to bring this newsletter to you, so that you can feel connected to the BCD even if you cannot attend our meetings.

Thank you, dear member for all that you are and all that you do. You are in my heart and thoughts now, and always.

*Yours in gratitude and action,  
Kathryn Campbell*

## October Recap

*Minutes Courtesy of Moira Nelson*

### Visitor introductions

At meeting's start, Kathryn introduced our only first-time guest, Kelly Osajima, Southern California Campaign Manager for Evolve CA, here to inform us of their campaign to reform Proposition 13: Kelly@evolve-ca.org, 714- 397-6167, www.evolve-ca.org.

A late-arriving guest was Ari Ruiz—President of the Stonewall Young Democrats Club who went on to become the youngest LA City Commissioner under Mayor Villaraigosa.

### Officer reports

#### Vice President Dency Nelson

The City of Hermosa Beach was served with two lawsuits this day: (1) Chris Miller has named the city, the Chamber of Commerce, former Chamber of Commerce chair Ken Hartley, City Manager Tom Bakaly, and Police Chief Sharon Papa for damages in connection with an incident at the Standing Room March 3 after the defeat of Measure O. (2) E&B Natural Resources is suing the city for not agreeing to enter into mediation over what the company says is additional interest the city owes them on the \$17.5 million dollar oil settlement.

The San Pedro Democratic Club on Monday night voted on endorsements for 4 races: for AD70, they endorsed Patrick O'Donnell, the only Democrat running; for AD64 it was Mike Gipson, also the only Democrat running. Between Steven Bradford and Warren Furutani in the SD 35 race, Warren Furutani won the endorsement with 68.3%; and between Isadore Hall, Nanette Barragan, Bill Orton, and Marcus Musante in the CA 44 race, the endorsement went to Hall, with 73%.

#### Secretary Tom Cares

With Tom out of town, Moira Nelson took the meeting's minutes.

The minutes from the September meeting were unanimously approved.

#### Treasurer Edna Murphy

*[Note: After the meeting Treasurer*



*Our wonderful speaker Kelly Osajima from Evolve CA*

*Murphy amended her report to reflect the August balances, since there was no meeting in September. The numbers provided below represent the combined period from August through September.*

Fed acct beginning balance	\$1891.00
Money in	302.00
Money out	187.00
Ending balance	\$2006.00

State acct beginning balance	\$545.00
Money in	50.00
Bank charges	30.00
Ending balance	\$565.00

Tony will send bill (~\$400) for robo-calls that BCD authorized on behalf of our endorsed candidate and measure in Hermosa Beach. Treasurer's report approved unanimously.

### Reports from local electeds

Joey Apodaca from Senator Ted Lieu's staff called in sick but left word concerning Senator Lieu's strong stand against Exxon Mobile for covering up their own research and early knowledge about climate change. Senator Lieu is calling for an investigation by the U.S. Attorney General. Contact Joey for copies of Senator Lieu's letter on the issue.

### Updates on local campaigns

Three local-election candidates endorsed by our club—Monique Ehsan, running for Hermosa Beach School Board, and Justin Massey and Jeff DuClos, running for Hermosa Beach City Council seats—

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gave updates on the progress of their campaigns and the efforts planned for this last weekend of GOTV (election day is next Tuesday). All three expressed gratitude to Beach Cities Democrats for the robocall we put out in their support. Another robocall is to go out Friday.

Kathryn advised the endorsed candidates to send Dency their plans for week-end campaigning; these will be forwarded in a series of emails to our yahoo group, telling members what they can do to help the candidates each day.

Dency provided an update on Measure H, to increase the bed tax in Hermosa Beach by 2%. It is now (and has been for 25 years) a 10% tax, so it would be changed to 12%. The Hermosa Beach City Council supports the measure, which would bring an additional half million dollars to compensate the city for services to visitors. There is no opposing argument to measure H presented on the ballot (and no specific opposition from hotels). Dency advised getting the word out by putting up signs, which can be requested on [www.HermosaHotelTax.com](http://www.HermosaHotelTax.com) (they deliver).

### **October Program: Evolve CA & Prop 13 Reform**

Kelly Osajima, Southern California Campaign Manager for Evolve CA, gave a powerful presentation covering the history of Prop 13; its devastating effects on state infrastructure, health care, public education, etc.; the unfair burden it places on the very people it was meant to help; and the activities of Evolve CA, whose 12,000 members have united to close the corporate tax loophole in Prop 13 while preserving its protections for home owners and small businesses. So far, 22 other organizations have signed on to work with Evolve to reform Prop 13. A bill by Loni Hancock and Holly Mitchell to put the proposed changes on the ballot will be reintroduced at the end of January 2016. Kelly invited Beach City Dems to sign her petition, donate to Evolve, communicate with local elected officials concerning this issue, and write letters to

local papers. On a motion by Ray Waters, seconded by Monique Ehsan, the club voted unanimously to support Evolve CA's efforts to reform Proposition 13.

### **Bylaw amendments and CADEM endorsement process overview**

Two weeks ago, by email, Kathryn circulated proposed revisions to Beach Cities Democrats bylaws. The proposed revisions are changes required by the California Democratic Party, pertaining to the selection of representatives to CDP pre-endorsing conferences. The party wants us to specify that only members in good standing as of July 1 would be counted toward our number of eligible members for deciding how many delegates we get to send to pre-endorsement conferences (a club officer must validate that the delegates are Democrats and in good standing in the club), and also to specify how delegates would be elected. Today's vote, then, is on whether to change our bylaws to specify how delegates will qualify and be chosen by majority vote. Most clubs' bylaws also include the agreement to support candidates endorsed by the club, so this too would be included in the amendment.

The proposed changes have to be voted on at this meeting so that, if passed, our club would be able to hold an election at the next meeting and then have 2 days to turn in names to get the four delegate positions we qualify for. Motion made and passed to approve the revisions.

The pre-endorsement conferences will be held January 30 and 31, 2016. Kathryn invited club members to consider running. The four positions will probably be split by sex: 2 women and 2 men.

### **Reports from County Committee, 66<sup>th</sup> AD, and other related Dem organizations**

Connie Sullivan announced that the monthly meeting of the 66<sup>th</sup> AD, the umbrella group for local clubs, is being held tomorrow at the Sizzler on Sepulveda Blvd in Torrance. Arrive by 6:30 PM for dinner, 7 for the meeting.

Connie also gave us a "Muratsuchi Minute," mentioning the recent Lundquist fundraiser for AI and reporting that the total amount raised in the two recent fundraisers is \$40,000.

### **Old business**

Manhattan Beach Hometown Fair: Kathryn thanked those who volunteered. Tabling at the fair brought in a couple of new members and also people wanting to be kept informed of upcoming meetings. (Tony reminded us that all members of local high school Democratic clubs are automatically members of our club.)

Kathryn reported on the Oct 25 Countdown to 2016 Activist Summer. One of the themes discussed there was the importance of using presidential election years to bring in new members.

### **New business and announcements**

*Reminder of meeting date changes: November 25<sup>th</sup> moved to November 18. No meeting in December, but we have our holiday party in January.*

Ray and Carol Waters are letting us use their wonderful house again for our holiday party. Planning for this celebration begins at next month's meeting. We are planning to hold this event on **January 9**, when electeds can attend and also to invite new people and get them interested in coming to meetings.

November 8, at the Hyatt in Long Beach, is the 2016 Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Democrat of the Year Dinner, the largest LA Democratic fundraiser of the year. Each AD elects a man and a woman to honor: ours this year are Varo Asorian and Carol Moeller. Connie is doing tables and needs to know who's going; Kathryn will keep her apprised. We'll organize carpools. Diane Wallace is collecting donations for the silent auction; email her, and she'll come get your donations.

Senator Ben Allen has named Stacey Armato as Woman of the Year for State Senate District 26. She will be honored at the Standing Room in Hermosa Beach on Friday from 4:30 to 6 PM.

Diane Wallace presented some addi-

**Beach Cities  
Democrats**

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tions that the Water Committee of the CADEM Environmental Caucus is proposing for the CADEM platform. The Caucus is asking local Democratic Clubs to review and vote to support the proposal that a water plank be added to the platform. Following a motion by Dency Nelson, the club voted unanimously to support the addition of the water plank to the California Democratic Party platform. [Add to platform preamble of the CADEM Platform:

*We believe that the health, safety, and well-being of the people are the highest priorities for government.]*

*Add the following provisions to the CADEM Platform:*

Urge state legislature to enact, governor to sign legislation, and agencies to implement and enforce rules that:

1. Guarantee each Californian sufficient safe, clean water for basic needs.
2. Motivate all users to support efficient, sustainable, safe use of available water
3. Fully protect all water sources from contamination.

4. Ensure allocation and management of sufficient water for environmental purposes as determined scientifically, since we depend on the environment for our prosperity and life itself.
5. Require all end use to be metered
6. Regulate groundwater use in a fair and sustainable manner.

Julian Burger, president of the Progressive Democratic Club, announced that their next meeting has been moved to November 15<sup>th</sup> (instead of the usual second week of the month) because of the Roosevelt dinner. They will be voting on endorsements for the elections in the 35<sup>th</sup> State Senate District (between Furutani and Bradford) and the 44<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (Barragan, Hall, Orton).

Connie spoke about the latest accident at the Torrance refinery: the latest emission, Exxon says, was "mostly steam," yet people were told to shelter in place. The Torrance City Council is holding a workshop about the refinery;

the city is looking into a newer form of alkalization of hydrochloric acid.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55.

**From the Editor**

In this final issue of the BCD Newsletter for the year, it's my pleasure to thank the many contributors, columnists, and distributors without whom the newsletter would not exist. Kathryn has named you in her own column; so I just want to emphasize how much I depend on your faithful and well-written columns and photographs, along with our excellent email, website, and US Post Office mailing network.

**Please note this is the final issue of the year: we will not have a meeting or a newsletter in December, and will resume in January.**

In addition to our January 9 holiday party, we will have our regularly-scheduled meeting on Wednesday, January 27.