

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 22
7:00 PM

Hermosa Beach Community Center
710 Pier Avenue, Room #4
Hermosa Beach

Our featured speaker will be Mr. Kanji Sahara of the Gardena Valley Democratic Club, an activist who is organizing the Dem Clubs in the South Bay to focus on support for Muslims, undocumented individuals, and to oppose Paul Ryan's Congress and the biased Supreme Court nominees. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to get involved!

COMING EVENTS

League of Women Voters Beach Cities is moderating a Candidates Forum:

Saturday, February 18, 2017
Riviera United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall
375 Palos Verdes Blvd.
Redondo Beach 90277
Forum: 1:00 – 3:30 PM

ALSO: Don't miss - a special non-Torrance Democratic Club event...
"Jimmy Gow & friends" meeting with Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi:

Saturday, February 25
10AM
66AD District Office:
23211 Hawthorne Blvd. Suite 200A
Torrance, CA 90505

You MUST RSVP by "commenting" on TorranceDems Facebook page post.

Vice-President Dency Nelson is presented with a Certificate of Recognition by Andrew deBlock, Senior Field Representative for Al Muratsuchi

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Beach Cities Democrats President Bobbi Buescher is traveling this month. She'll be back in time for our Wednesday, February 22, monthly meeting. In the meantime, I wouldn't begin to presume what she would want to write about this month, but I have a few thoughts of my own. I'm guessing they aren't far from Bobbi's. Here are just a couple of random observations of where we are, what we have done, and what we need to do.

The situation in Washington, D.C., with the Trump Administration gets worse every day. I hesitate to even comment, as with each day some new travesty emerges. This president insults our allies,



threatening friend and foe alike, both domestically and internationally, and has moved the Nuclear 'Doomsday Clock' to the closest it's been to midnight in 64 years, since the height of the Cold War. Much of the damage done by this Administration, short of Nuclear Armageddon, might be reversible after four years. What can't be repaired so easily will be a Supreme Court that with one or two Trump appointments could swing hard to the Right, and that we could be stuck with for 30 years or more. For this and for so many other reasons we wish good health and stamina to Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg and, swing vote that he may be, to Justice Anthony Kennedy.

With that depressing reality facing us, where do we turn? Locally, we keep working to ensure that we elect good Democrats with solid Democratic values of, among other things, people over com-

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(Vice-President, continued from page 1)
merce and environment over development.

We at Beach Cities Democrats demonstrated this determination with our endorsement last month of Bill Brand for Redondo Beach Mayor and Todd Lowenstein for City Council, as well as Yes on Redondo Beach Measure C. We also demonstrated it this past summer and fall when we worked tirelessly to keep our courageous Congressman Ted Lieu representing us in Washington, and to send Al Muratsuchi back to Sacramento to represent us here in the 66th AD. Al's victory ensured the all-important 2/3 Super Majority of Democrats in the Assembly, keeping California solidly "Blue."

We, the United States of America, are a Federation of States, each with its own Constitution, and with that Constitution a set of laws and values that gives us a great deal of ability to govern ourselves and to protect ourselves from the "tyranny of the minority" imposed on us when the electoral college elected this president in November. I was proud, and somewhat reassured, to be in the California Assembly Gallery on December 4 to witness the swearing-in of Al Muratsuchi, the entire Assembly, and the re-election and swearing-in of Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon.

On that day, Speaker Rendon threw down the gauntlet at the feet of the incoming president, making it clear that California will protect its people and its values. California will protect its immigrants. California will fight to preserve affordable healthcare for all. California will protect a woman's right to choose what she does with her body. California will protect the right of anyone to marry anyone he or she chooses. California will protect the rights of the LGBTQ Community. California will protect our precious environment and continue to mitigate Climate Change. California will have our backs during the next four years, and we here in the South Bay will stand with the rest of California to remain the beacon of hope for the rest of the Nation.

*Dency Nelson, Vice-President
Beach Cities Democrats*

January Recap

President Bobbi Buescher opened the meeting by inviting the many new guests to introduce themselves. We have seen a surge of new members following our devastating loss in the November election.

Vice-President Dency Nelson reported that he had attended Al Muratsuchi's swearing-in ceremony in Sacramento, and described some of Al's most recent legislation, including a bill to help protect our immigrants in California.

Soon after he spoke, Muratsuchi's Senior Field Representative Andrew deBlock came up to the podium and presented Dency with a Certificate of Recognition for his tireless service in helping Al get elected. Not only was Dency honored with the award, but it was also discovered to be his birthday, so we celebrated the occasion and shared a fabulous birthday cake.

Treasurer Edna Murphy gave the Treasurer's report for December:

Treasurer's Report

Federal Account

Beginning Balance	\$3,398.00
Money In	66.00
Money Out	149.00
Ending Balance	\$3,315.00

State Account

Beginning Balance	\$ 437.00
Money In	144.00
Money Out	115.00
Ending Balance	\$ 466.00

We congratulated our new delegates—seven women and seven men—who were elected in January for a two-year term in the 66th Assembly District. It was announced that the head of the California Democratic Party, John Burton, will be retiring, and we will be electing a new leader.

This was an endorsement meeting, so all candidates were allowed one minute to speak, after which the members would vote. According to our bylaws, a 60% majority is needed to endorse.

Manhattan Beach City Council

The only candidate for this office in

attendance was Diane Wallace, who served as director of a statewide literacy program, and has been an active civic



Diane Wallace



Suzy Royds, John Gran



leader in Manhattan Beach for years.
Endorsed.

Redondo Beach City Council, District 4

We heard from three candidates:

Suzy Royds, who said she had supported Measure C (described below). She had been a lifelong Republican but has recently registered as a Democrat;



Adam Wachter

John Gran, who lives in North Redondo and says he would focus on improvements to the South Bay Galleria and the Artesia corridor;

Adam Wachter, who opposes Measure C, but is interested in redevelopment of the Galleria.

Our votes did not yield a 60% majority for any of the candidates, so there was no endorsement.

Redondo Beach City Council, District 2

Todd Lowenstein (*above rt*) spoke, and said he has been endorsed by Al Muratsuchi, Ted Lieu, and



other prominent Democrats;

Bill Brand (*below rt*), who is running for
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(Recap, continued from page 2)

Redondo Beach Mayor, said his endorsements include Janice Hahn, Al Muratsuchi, Hany Fangary, Nanette Barragan, and others.

The club endorsed both candidates.



Gardena City Council

Gardena Mayor *Mark Henderson*
Pro Tem Mark

Henderson spoke next. In July, he replaced Mike Tanaka, who has been indicted and removed from the Council. Henderson said he would conduct meetings that engage the community and encourage input from the attendees.

Endorsed

Measure C

This measure is designed to limit the overdevelopment of the Redondo Beach Waterfront, and its tag line is "Revitalize, not Supersize." We heard from two people in support of the measure and two opposed.

Supporting:

Bill Brand said the measure is important to reduce the size of the redevelopment on the Waterfront, protect the Seaside Lagoon, and limit the proposed multi-layer parking structure.



Todd Lowenstein said we don't need more retail, and doubts that it would draw shoppers away from the nearby malls. He also believes the development could pose a traffic problem.



Opposing:

Ken Petrulis and Christian Horvath spoke against Measure C. Ken Petrulis called the measure intellectually dishonest.

*Above: Ken Petrulis;
Below: Christian Horvath*

Opponents generally believe the measure would thwart voters' intent when they voted on Measure G in 2010, which would limit overdevelopment, and that we should focus on fixing the failing infrastructure at the Redondo Harbor.

The club voted to endorse Measure C.

Measure H

Proponents say the measure will provide \$350 million in aid to the homeless in Los Angeles County. A kick-off for the measure was held recently at the PATH Supportive Housing complex in Los Angeles. The measure would levy a quarter-cent sales tax to aid our homeless people, including Veterans.

Tony Hale spoke on behalf of the measure, pointing out that it "helps the least among us," and shows what Democratic values are about.

Endorsed

Tony also offered to do a 30-second Robocall on behalf of our endorsed candidates, Bill Brand and Todd Lowenstein, Diane Wallace,



Tony Hale

Measure C and Measure H, targeted in the cities in which each candidate or measure is on the ballot. This was moved

and passed by the membership.

Editor's note: We have had at least 22 new members sign up since the first of the year. And a shout out to Mark Harrison for our great Facebook page!

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

U.S. Senate

Kamala Harris
D.C. #202-224-3553
Local #213-894-5000

Dianne Feinstein
D.C. # 202-224-3841
Local # 310-914-7300
feinstein.senate.gov

House of Representatives

Ted Lieu (33rd C.D.)
D.C. # 202-225-4099
Local # 310-652-3095, 310-321-7664
lieu@house.gov

County Supervisor

Janice Hahn
213-974-4444, 213-626-6941
@supJaniceHahn

State Senate

Ben Allen 310-318-6994
sd26.senate.ca.gov

Assembly

Al Muratsuchi (66th A.D.)
Sacramento #916-319-2066
Local #310-375-0691



Our crowded January meeting. Standing room only!

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Democrats
Beach Cities

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