

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 29, 7:00 PM

Join by computer or smartphone; follow the link below. (You may have to download the program or app if you have never used Zoom before. If you will need to download the program, we suggest you do it well before the meeting starts.) Link is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/74593965070>

Or join by phone. Dial 301-715-8592. Enter the ID#745 9396 5070 followed by the pound key (#). You will be asked for a participant ID; Just press the pound key again.

We are hosting a "State of the South Bay Cities" with representatives from Hermosa, Manhattan, and Redondo Beach elected officials regarding COVID-19 and impacts on the community. In addition, we will hear from representatives from our state and federal elected officials.

If you have any questions for your elected officials, please email them to mikedetoy@gmail.com prior to the meeting.

Christy Smith Fund Raiser

Please join hosts:

Westside Democratic HQ
Santa Monica Democratic Club
Stonewall Democratic Club
(Host committee in formation)

And special guests

Congressman Ted Lieu

State Senator Ben Allen

State Senator Holly Mitchell

For a virtual fundraiser with Christy Smith for CA-25

Saturday, April 25, 2020

3:00-5:00PM

FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Michael Detoy
President,
Beach Cities*



I want to start this newsletter echoing the message of last month's column. I hope this finds everyone in good health. I hope over the past month, we have been checking on our neighbors in need or have reached out for help if needed. Please do not hesitate to ask for help instead of risking your personal health. Let us check on those in need of help as we get through this together. I want to offer my sincere condolences to anyone whose loved ones have fallen ill, or lost their lives, from complications from COVID-19.

As I write this, more than 40,000 Americans have died from COVID-19. This loss of life has occurred after a delayed national response to the pandemic. Governors filled the leadership void and instituted social distancing measures that truly saved lives. I could not imagine the fatality figures if we did not listen to our public health officials. So far, 40,000 Americans lost their lives AFTER we changed our lives dramatically over the past month. Initially there were bipartisan calls for unity and support for our frontline health care workers... but after a few weeks, those messages have diminished.

Over the past week, since we started

"flattening the curve" through social distancing, politicians, conspiracy theorists and bloggers have used this optimistic news to start false narratives. Instead of listening to nonpartisan public health officials, some Americans have resorted to protesting their "loss of civil liberties" and spreading deep state lies. Trump tweeted that the residents of Michigan, Minnesota, and Virginia (all with Democratic Governors) needed to liberate their states, inspiring right-wing protestors. I cannot think of a time a President has encouraged people to violate state laws. And protests are not just limited to those three states... we have even had numerous "rallies" throughout California. As someone who is married to someone on the "front lines," the selfish actions of these individuals are unacceptable.

With less than 200 days to go until Election Day, we need to ensure we elect representatives who believe in science. We need to ensure Democrats keep control of the house and flip the Senate. The Democrats' path to a Senate majority currently hinges on four states: Arizona, Colorado, Maine and North Carolina. And that list doesn't include serious competition in Montana, Kentucky and a few other states. As we face a non-traditional election season, we need to help elect people who will prioritize American lives over billionaire and special interest donors. We need to finally remove Trump from office... And we need to unite behind and help elect our next President, Joe Biden.

Jessica Accamando was one of our speakers at the April 2 meeting. She is working with the Beach Cities Health District. You can read the account in the Recap.



April Recap

Andrea Valcourt

Mike Detoy welcomed everyone, and asked that people give their names before asking a question. He reminded everyone that Governor Newsom had given the stay at home order. He also mentioned that it was National 2020 Census day. Moira said the forms were mailed out earlier and the online process was very easy.

Tony Hale discussed the types of video conferencing we might use in the future because we're not sure when we can have another meeting in person.

It is important to note that we cannot have a quorum because we are not in the same room. Therefore, we are holding virtual meetings to facilitate amending the by-laws to allow us to meet via video-conference. In order to do that, members will receive a ballot in the mail asking to amend our by-laws. The text of that by-laws change can be found on our website.

We discussed Governor Newsom's new guidelines for avoiding contact during the coronavirus outbreak. Governor Newsom anticipates his state will need to "rely disproportionately" on themselves instead of the federal government. California, which is the most populous state in the U.S., was one of the first to declare a state of emergency amid the coronavirus pandemic. As of April, there are at least 9,000 diagnosed COVID-19 cases and 200 related deaths in California.

When questioned on Friday about whether he thinks governors will eventually have to bypass the administration and work together to exchange supplies to fight the coronavirus outbreak as needed, he said, "Governors are already doing that and in a very collaborative way." And Newsom won plaudits for his swift handling of the Grand Princess cruise ship, which he kept at sea when it became known that passengers and crew had been exposed to the disease on a previous journey.

Newsom led the nation by asking for the cancellation of gatherings with more than 250 people and by protecting

At Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi's online Town Hall meeting on April 6, he mentioned the South Bay public testing site at the Galleria. You can contact the LA City Dept. of Public Health or Al's office at (310) 375-0691 for appointments. He also said there is a moratorium on evictions until the public health crisis is over, since many tenants cannot work.

Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi



seniors and other populations vulnerable to COVID-19. He asked residents age 65 and over and those with chronic health conditions to isolate at home, a move that drew national attention.

Then we heard from Jessica Accamando, who is working with Beach Cities Health District to enlist volunteers to make and distribute face masks. They also run errands for older adults. The BCHD hotline is 310-374-3426, ext. 256. Visit the website, bchd.org, for more information.

Dency said there is good information on the city's website and you can sign up for daily updates.

Mike said he would give a report as Hermosa's Councilman. The city is shutting down everything, even though they are getting some push back. Unfortunately, they don't seem to understand the severity of this virus epidemic. We need to continue with these rules. It is not just numbers of people sick and dying; it is people. The County was only posting numbers for cities with populations of 25,000 or more.

City budgets are going to be demolished because there is less sales tax being collected. The South Bay cities are working together to be as healthy as possible. Please don't hoard masks. Mike and his wife are healthcare professionals and they need masks to safely treat patients. Mike said they are here to help, and let them know what you need.

Treasurer's Report

Our current balance is:

Federal PAC	\$1,765
State PAC	\$5,685



California Governor Gavin Newsom

Tony then discussed the proposed By-laws change, which would allow us to hold virtual meetings. The text of this change can also be found on our website, beachcitiesdems.org.

Andrew DeBlock then reported from Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi's office. They are currently working remotely, but are available by phone from 9 to 5 Monday through Friday. Their number is 310-375-0691. He announced that Al will hold a virtual Town Hall Meeting on Monday April 6.

He said that while he didn't win his race for city council, he wanted to thank everyone who helped him.

Stacey Armato got the county to give counts for cities under 25,000 when its count reached 5,000. (The county is giving Hermosa's count now and is giving it in the city's daily update.)

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Recap, Continued from Page 2



Andrew DeBlock, Al Muratsuchi's Representative

Andrew then said "It's a very busy time for our office and it is important to keep in touch. We're working cases remotely full time. Please let your folks know they can reach us at 310-375-0691 Monday through Friday. We're helping with every kind of problem, while the California Legislature is out of session per the Governor's order."

About his city council race, Andrew said he planned to run again, but now he was focused on the current situation. It is almost certain that we will spend the entire California budget, and the rainy day fund, and any Federal money we might receive.

Joey Apodaca—representing Ted Lieu

Joey reported that the House passed three bills aimed at the Corona crisis. The third bill is the most impactful, since it deals with the rising unemployment. It allows for a \$600 Federal supplement to the states' unemployment compensation. This money will be delivered by the states' unemployment systems.

The bill, named the CARES Act, also includes a non-taxable check directly to all qualifying citizens. The criteria are \$1,200 for each adult who makes \$75,000 or less. If you make between \$75,000 and \$99,000, the \$1200 is prorated. \$500 for each child 16 or younger. If you filed a 2018 or 2019 tax return and used direct deposit for your refund, the checks will be sent directly to your bank. Otherwise, a check will be mailed to the household. A portal will be opened soon to allow people to add their direct deposit information and avoid waiting for a paper check. For questions, visit <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payment-information-center>.

Some of the provisions in the act include:

- Creating a \$150 billion State and Local Coronavirus Relief Fund to provide states and localities additional resources to cope with the pandemic. It is estimated that California will receive approximately \$15.3 billion.
- \$260 billion in dramatically expanded Unemployment Benefits. Includes numerous provisions to improve unemployment benefits including providing an additional \$600 per week for the next four months.

Joey Apodaca, Ted Lieu's Representative



- Immediate direct cash payments to lower and middle-income Americans of \$1,200 for each adult and \$500 for each child. They need to survive with much of the economy shut down.
- More than \$375 billion in Small Business relief: Will help pay their employees and keep them on the payroll; \$17 billion for debt relief for current and new SBA borrowers; and \$10 Billion in immediate disaster grants.
- Approximately \$200 billion for hospitals, health care workers, and health research. Includes expanding funding for the personal protective equipment desperately needed by our health care workers including ventilators, masks, gowns, and gloves.
- More than \$100 billion in additional emergency appropriations.
- Approximately \$200 billion for our hospitals, health care workers, and health research.
- More than \$100 billion in additional emergency appropriations including \$25 billion to transit agencies, and \$2 billion for HUD emergency solutions to states.
- \$900 million to help low-income families pay their heating and cooling bills.
- \$850 million for additional support to state and local agencies, thereby allowing them to obtain the personal protective equipment they need during this public health emergency. Our state will receive \$96 million under this appropriation.

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- CDC Coronavirus State, Local and Tribal Grants Minimum Awards: Provides about \$750 Million in CDC State, Local, and Tribal grants. Minimum awards to help agencies cope with the public health emergency.

A portal will be opened soon to allow people to add their direct deposit information and avoid waiting for a paper check. If you receive Social Security Direct Deposits, the money will be sent that way. Type this link into your browser for details and frequently asked questions: <https://www.irs.gov>

Ted's town hall was on YouTube. Joey sent the link so it could be posted on our website.

Joey said that since Trump will not allow the ACA to be expanded, public pressure is required. Please call Ted's office at 310-651-1040. Call other Representatives and Senators as well.

(Meeting, Continued from Page 3)

The rules for getting checks for head of household and joint filers are different from those for single filers.

Vanessa Poster, on the board of Beach Cities Health District, also participated in the meeting, and said that she is knocking on doors, stepping back six feet and offering help. BCHD is meeting once a week for Virtual Happy Hour and another time for singing. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Moira added that this health crisis is really bringing out the best in people. Mike stated that the little lending libraries at people's homes are now stocking toilet paper and canned foods for the taking.

Vanessa said that the County is asking people to wear face coverings. A pharmacy in Torrance is selling them, two for \$14. She is buying and distributing them. Let her know if anyone needs some and she will deliver them.

