

The Platform

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Metropolitan Greater Oakland Democratic Club
P.O. Box 11622, Oakland, CA 94611
Phone: 510.595.7402 Fax: 510 595 7402



CITY COUNCIL REPORT CARD

THURSDAY, MAY 15TH, 7:30 p.m.



GENERAL MEETING LOCATION

DIMOND LIBRARY, 3565 FRUITVALE AVENUE, OAKLAND;

Directions: Take 580 East to the Fruitvale Avenue Exit and exit. Turn left onto Fruitvale Avenue and go two-tenths of a mile to the library, on the left.

A panel of journalists will evaluate the performance of the City Council this year at the May MGO General Meeting. Kelly Rayburn (Oakland Tribune) and Robert Gannon (East Bay Express) will be on the panel. Chip Johnson (Chronicle) has also been invited.

They will investigate questions such as what are the strengths of the present City Council group? What is needed from new council members to make the Council more effective in addressing the complex problems of crime and development in the city? How has the Council used the voters' mandate on such things as Measure DD and Measure Y? Which Council members do the best job of balancing caring for their district and leading the City? What are the hot issues in each district?

See www.mgoclub.org for more information

President's Message, May 2008



Just in time for the election, we are doing another of our interesting evaluations of local government in May: we are presenting a panel of journalists to give a "City Council Report Card". On our panel will be Kelly Rayburn (Oakland Tribune), Robert Gannon (East Bay Express), and Chip Johnson (SF Chronicle, invited).

The journalists will assess the strengths and weak areas of the present Oakland City Council, and look at what strengths are needed in the new members who may be coming on board. They will assess the success the Council has had in dealing with crime in Oakland and the myriad problems related to development, as well as the effectiveness of how they have used the voters' mandates for Measure DD, Measure Y and others to improve the City. You will have chances to ask questions and to comment.

This is a crucial evaluation that each of us must make before we cast our votes. Our panelists will help us deepen our understanding, and our questions may help them sharpen theirs.

We are back to our regular meeting time at 7:30--and, sorry, no pizza at this meeting.

If you can give just a little, you can make a lot of difference!

Help Wanted: MGOer with a very small amount of time to spare, who can hand out club endorsement flyers in his or her neighborhood. No experience necessary, but the rewards are BIG!

Yes, the ad above is for you. We've held our endorsement meetings (which were quite well attended by candidates and members alike) and made our votes to select the School Board and City Council candidates we think can best serve Oakland in the years to come, as well as choosing Assembly Representatives, County Supervisors, and party committee members.

However, our endorsements will only matter if the voters know we have made them. That is where all of us members come in. We can all spare a couple of hours in the next month to walk our neighborhoods or precincts, to hand out flyers at BART or farmers' markets, or just give flyers to friends who are uncertain about whom to support. By leveraging our numbers, we can reach quite a good number of likely voters, and increase the chances that the candidates we think are best are the ones who reach office.

Are you ready to answer that help-wanted ad? If so, call Jean Brown, 653 3204 or email me at judyacox@comcast.net.

Judy Cox, President

**MGO NOMINATION
FOR JULY 2008-JUNE 2009**

OFFICERS

JUDY COX, PRESIDENT
DAN KALB, VICE-PRESIDENT
GREG CHAN, SECRETARY
STEPHEN STATLER, TREASURER

AT LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

JEAN BROWN, (MEMBERSHIP)
GUY BRYANT
MARCUS JOHNSON, (MEDIA COORDINATOR)
RALPH KANZ
WAYNE NISHIOKA
TERRY SANDOVAL
GARY SIRBU, (EX-OFFICIO)
ROBERT WARWICK

MGO Club membership benefits include this newsletter, invitations to special events while supporting progressive Democratic politics.

MGO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING REPORT

(Draft)
April 21, 2008
Piedmont Gardens

The meeting convened without a quorum at approximately 7:15 PM

Attendees: Judy Cox, Greg Chan, Steve Statler, Jean Brown, Ralph Kanz

Excused: Wayne Nishioka, Marcus Johnson, Gary Sirbu

Absent: Dan Kalb, Robert Warwick, Guy Bryant

Treasurer's Report

Old Business

- A. Counting Ballots
- B. Endorsement Meeting, April 17th , results
- C. May Meeting (5/15): Journalist Panel: Taylor, Gammon, Johnson

Next Meeting: Monday, May 19, 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,
Greg Chan, MGO Secretary

JUNE 3rd ENDORSEMENTS RESULTS

ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

DIST. 4: NATE MILEY
DIST. 5: KEITH CARSON

14 AD ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE

NANCY SKINNER

16TH AD ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE

SANDRE SWANSON

SUPERVISOR COURT JUDGE SEAT 9

DENNIS HAYASHI

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

DIST. 1: JANE BRUNNER
DIST 3: NANCY NADEL
AT LARGE: REBECCA KAPLAN

STATE PROPOSITIONS

98 – NO 99 – YES

**DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE –
14TH A.D.**

ELIZABETH ECHOLS
KAREN WEINSTEIN

JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT (SEAT #9) – DENNIS HAYASHI

OAKLAND CITY ATTORNEY – JOHN RUSSO

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD

DISTRICT 1 – JODY LONDON
DISTRICT 3 – JUMOKE HINTON-HODGE
DISTRICT 5 – NOEL GALLO
DISTRICT 7 – ALICE SPEARMAN

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS, 9TH C.D.

BARBARA LEE

STATE ASSEMBLY, 14TH A.D. – NANCY SKINNER

STATE ASSEMBLY, 16TH A.D. – SANDRÉ SWANSON

ALAMEDA COUNTY BD. OF SUPERVISORS

DISTRICT #4 – NATE MILEY
DISTRICT #5 – KEITH CARSON

The MGO Democratic Club, chartered by the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, studies the candidates' positions and the ballot propositions before voting. A candidate or ballot proposition must receive 60% of the votes at a general endorsement meeting in order to be officially endorsed by the MGO Democratic Club membership.

IF no candidate in a particular contest receives the required 60% vote of the membership, the club's position will be “

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT



U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton

Committee Name:
Hillary Clinton for President

Committee ID #C00431569
Phone: (212) 213-3717
Official Website: www.hillaryclinton.com



U.S. Senator Barack Obama (Illinois)

Committee Name:
Barack Obama for America

Committee ID #C00431445
Phone: (866) 675-2008
Official Website: www.barackobama.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE

In order to be eligible to vote in the statewide election on June 3, 2008 (Direct Primary), Your registration must be postmarked no later than May 19, 2008.

MGO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

There's still time to volunteer:

- to walk precincts,
- distribute MGO Ballot Recommendations
- and make phone calls.

Contact Jean Brown

- By phone 510.653.3204
- Email jbr936@aol.com

FIRST TUESDAY POLITICAL LUNCH IS DISCONTINUED

For the last many months it has attracted very few participants and I not longer plan to attend or publicize this event. This tradition did not start as an MGO Club event, but was initiated by the late Bruce Black as a general political event. Now it seems that interest is no longer there.

Perhaps, as a substitute, we could begin a Friday afternoon event, which has been suggested. Someone needs to take the initiative for that type of event and see if there is interest. Or, as a lunch meeting, perhaps at a location other than the Mexicali Rose.

So long, 1st Tuesday lunchers.

Robert Warwick

Editors Note: Thank you Robert for all your efforts attempting to keep this tradition going.

MGO Goals: to spread knowledge of candidates, legislation, issues, and other matters of interest to the Democratic Party; to find, promote and support Democratic candidates; to provide a forum for Democratic candidates and officials; to stimulate public interest in governmental affairs; and to perpetuate the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party.

IMPORTANT DATES

May 15th, MGO General Meeting

May 18th, Statewide Delegation Meeting

May 19th, Last day to register to vote in June Primary

May 27th, Last day to request an absentee ballot

June 3rd, State Primary Election

June 26th, Thursday Last day for SOS to determine if an initiative measure qualifies for the November ballot

Oct. 6th, Monday Absentee Voting Begins

Oct. 20th, Monday Last day to register to vote for General Election (15 day)

Oct. 28th, Tuesday. Absentee Ballot Request Last Day

November 4th, Tuesday General Election

DELEGATE FACTS

At present, there are 4,049 delegate slots nationally, excluding Florida and Michigan. Democratic presidential candidates must get 2,025 Delegates to win the nomination. Each state must have a Delegation which is 50% female, 50% male or within one, and must have a Delegate Selection Plan that includes Affirmative Action Goals (quotas are prohibited).

California Democrats will have: 441 Delegates (221 females, 220 males)
62 Alternates (31 females, 31 males)
503 TOTAL (252 females, 251 males)

Resource: www.cadem.org

OUR FRIEND LOCAL JOURNALIST PEGGY STINNETT is in Piedmont Gardens skilled nursing for a week or so, recuperating from some health problems that had taken her to the hospital. She'd probably love a call (654 7172 is the front desk) and 110 41st. St. is the address if you'd like to send a card.

**AS DEMOCRATS, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
YOU HAVE THE POWER TO SAVE DEMOCRACY,
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**

For a copy of the Voter Information Guide please call:

English: 1-800-345-8683 Spanish: 1-800-232-8682
Japanese: 1-800-339-2865 Vietnamese: 1-800-339-8163
Tagalog: 1-800-339-2957 Chinese: 1-800-339-2857
Korean: 1-866-575-1558 TDD: 1-800-833-8683

Reminder: CITY COUNCIL REPORT CARD, May 15th, 2008



RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

www.mgoclub.org

P.O. Box 11622,
Oakland, CA 94611



You have the
POWER to
save democracy

JOIN OF RENEW TODAY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

Check here if the above is a new address: _____

Email: _____

EMPLOYER (required by law)

OCCUPATION (required by law)

FPPC# 790500 (California)
FEC# C00402651 (U.S.)

New Renewal Gift

Enclosed is my check to **"M.G.O."** for:

- Senior/Student **\$20**
- Individual **\$30**
- Family **\$45**

Mail to:

P.O. Box 11622, Oakland, CA 94611

Membership is open to registered Democrats.

Benefits include this newsletter, invitations to special events, political education programs, and working with other active Democrats for a better world.

I confirm that this contribution is not made from the general treasury funds of a corporation, labor organization or national bank, or from the treasury of an entity or person who is a federal contractor. The funds are not being provided to me by another person for the purpose of making this contribution. I am at least 18 years old.