



MCDC General Meeting Agenda
July 21, 2024, 7:00 – 9:00 pm via Zoom

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Agenda Review**
 - a) Changes to the agenda:
- 3) **Approve Minutes May and June Meetings**
 - a) Approve Minutes: Motion ___ Second _____ Passed by Acclimation
- 4) **Carolina Villaseca – President**
 - a) **Hijas del Campo** is still having their back-to-school drive. They need new backpacks, lunch boxes, water bottles, pencils, pens, notebooks, crayons, markers, colored pencils, binders, scissors, glue, erasers, rulers, and calculators. You can buy the items and drop them off at Wanna Waffle? downtown next to the library, 104 Oak St, Brentwood, or donate via Venmo (@HijasdelCampo2020).
 - b) **Antioch Unified School District (AUSD):** The Antioch community turned out in support of Antonio Hernandez during the school board meeting on 6/26 and they made their voices heard. Antonio clarified the codes incorrectly brought forward in the motion. The vote was 2 abstain (Lewis, Hack), 1 no to not permanently tabling the censure motion (Rocha), and 2 yes to permanently table the censure motion. The motion to censure Antonio failed. And Antonio is still president!
 - c) Motion to use the City of Brentwood Community Center for our meetings and pay the rental fee for 2025. Motion: X Doug; Second X Bill, Disc? None – Passes by Acclimation.
- 5) **Ian Cohen – Vice President**
 - a) July: Mark Foley, BART update
 - b) August: Daphne Muse, Lecturer, UC Berkeley, African American Studies, speak on Project 2025
 - c) September: Loki Documentary, “Dying to Vote” (tentative?)
 - d) October through November are currently open.
 - e) December - Accomplishment party!
 - f) If you have a person who would like to come and speak (speaker aligns with democratic values and the goals of the club) to our club, please contact Ian Cohen at (510) 650-6444 or via email: ianscohen@hotmail.com
- 6) **Membership – Elinor Bell, Co-Chair**
 - a) Membership stats: Membership total as of June 28, 2024: **94**. Since June 8, we have had one renewal, and 3 new members join.
- 7) **Voter Outreach: Linda Smith**
 - a) Postcard/Letter Writing for Swing States starting NOW

- i) Postcards for Nevada and Georgia and Letter Writing for November Elections in the Swing States of Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania has begun. Letters are due October 1, 2024.
- ii) Postcard/Letter Writing Parties will be held on the following Wednesdays: July 3rd, July 31, Aug 14, and 28th.
- iii) Contact Linda at lismithtech@gmail.com for an appointment to make a postcard sample or to pick up letters.
- iv) Farmer's Market – Help staff our booth on Saturdays from 9 am to 12 noon at the corner of 1st and Oak in front of Bank of America. Email marshCreekDems@gmail.com to volunteer. (weather-permitting)

8) **Webmaster – Joe Ely**

- a) 2025 Project: Has two links – summary and link to summary of 900 pg. document. Also a link that shows how Project 2025 has links to Trump.

9) **Social Justice – Ray Cole, Chair**

- a) Finishing up reading and reporting on the top 10 banned books from 2023; conclusions:
 - i) none of the books are, by any stretch of the imagination pornographic or obscene
 - ii) some are absolutely wonderful pieces of literature
 - (1) The Bluest Eye
 - (2) Looking for Alaska
 - (3) milk and honey
 - iii) the primary motivation behind efforts to ban books is political and organized. In May 2023, an analysis of book challenges by the *Washington Post* connected 66 percent of over 1,000 challenges to just 11 individuals; in August 2023, the *Tampa Bay Times* also documented the [influence of two individuals](#) in challenging hundreds of books in Florida. Many of these individuals were directly connected to advocacy groups. We should be sensitive to concerns of parents influenced by these groups who sincerely believe either that these books are pornographic or obscene or that they simply do not want their children exposed at all to topics they are uncomfortable with.
- b) The next focus area(s) for the Social Justice Committee will depend somewhat on additional members and there are two who have expressed an interest
- c) I am leaning toward the following for at least one area
 - i) Proposition 1 implementation, this impacts homelessness, mental health, and addiction and will have local effects
 - ii) Criminal Justice, specifically property crimes. These are the kinds of things that we are likely to encounter and the subject of at least two propositions on this fall's ballot.
 - iii) open to suggestions and guidance from the board
- d) Tractor Supply (we have a location in Brentwood) recently eliminated DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) staffing and initiatives as the result of right wing pressure and threatened boycott. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/06/30/tractor-supply-diversity-dei-climate/>
 - i) While I do not support a formal boycott, I do believe we should be aware of the political positions taken by companies and choose where we do business.

10) **Issues and Legislation – Bill Nusbaum, Chair**

- a) Meetings are held via Zoom on the first Saturday of the month at 11:30 am.
- b) The next meeting is Saturday, July 6th, 11:30 a.m. If interested in joining, email Bill Nusbaum at billnusbaum13@gmail.com.
- c) Need crime, immigration, authoritarianism papers to be uploaded to MCDC website after review/comment from the Exec Board.

11) **DPCCC District 3 Update – Carolina Villaseca, DPCCC District 3 Director**

- a) **DPCCC** - we are starting to plan the district endorsement forum. We have to see how many people pull papers per race to see how many interviews we will need to have and how we will organize the forums. We may not have Dems pulling papers in all races. The total seats open are 47. The other 2 clubs, East Contra Costa County Dems and Delta Dems will help writing questions for Antioch and Oakley races. I'm looking for volunteers to help write questions for Brentwood, Discovery Bay, Byron, Knightsen, Bethel Island and Liberty Union High School District (LUHSD) races.
 - i) **City Council (12)**
 - (1) Antioch - 6 seats
 - (2) Brentwood - 3 seats
 - (3) Oakley - 3 seats
 - ii) **Education (12)**
 - (1) Antioch - 3 seats
 - (2) Brentwood - 2 seats
 - (3) Byron - 2 seats, 1 2 yr term
 - (4) Knightsen - 3 seats
 - (5) LUHSD - 3 seats
 - (6) *Community College - 1 seat
 - iii) **Special districts (20 seats)**
 - (1) Bethel Island - 3 seats
 - (2) Byron Sanitary - 3 seats
 - (3) Byron Bethany Irrigation District - 1 seat
 - (4) Contra Costa Water District - 1 seat
 - (5) Diablo Water District - 2 seats
 - (6) Discovery Bay - 2 seats
 - (7) East Contra Costa Irrigation District - 3 seats
 - (8) Ironhouse Sanitary - 3 seats
 - iv) ***Multi district seat**

12) **Carolina Villaseca, Chair of Publications and Social Media Committee**

13) **Swing Left – Doug McClelland**

- a) How to make a donation
- b) 3000 letters completed. (2024 goal of 4K to 5K)
- c) 100 international letters completed
- d) \$3000 in crowd fundraising fund.
- e) Monthly letter meetings still going.

f) Went to Placer County and purchased the voter mailing list to motivate people to put a group together.

14) **Treasurer's Report– Thuy DaoJensen, Treasurer (On vacation, report next month)**

15) **For the Good of the Order (comments/suggestions)**

a) **Community Meeting dates:** 2024 MCDC Meetings: Jul 21, August 11, 2024 (2nd Sunday due to Quilt Show rented), Sep 15, 2024, October 13, 2024 (2nd Sunday due to full facility rented), Nov 17, Dec 15th

16) **Adjournment _____ PM**