

CDP Veterans Caucus  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
Sep 30, 2021

1. Exec Board call to order: Ron Cohen, Chair 6:30 PM
2. Roll Call: Antonio Chapa, Recording Secretary: All present. Quorum met.
3. Approval of Agenda  
Basil motioned to approve, motion was seconded. Motion to accept agenda approved.
4. Approval of Minutes of Aug 11 and Aug 25 meetings.  
Basil motioned to approve; motion was seconded. Motion to accept minutes approved.
5. Appointment of New Programs Chair – Cherelle Jackson.
  - A. Polly Counts resigned on 9/22.
  - B. Roll call vote of Officers Only – Vote 5-0 to accept Cherelle Jackson as the new Programs Chair. Cherelle is an active member of the CA Democratic Party and has stepped up to fill positions within committees. She is an asset to have on board and to serve our caucus.
6. Chair’s Report – Aug 25<sup>th</sup>, membership meeting. San Diego delegates feedback on Caucus meeting was done well and expressed congratulations. Chair thanked all who were involved in planning Aug 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.
7. Committee/Officer Reports:
  - A. Corresponding Secretary/Communications: Angela Scott  
Updating resources on website. Will continue to share impactful messages to engage our community. Appreciated Tai’s letter on Veterans Suicide awareness for September. A newsletter will be out before Veterans Day.
  - B. Org Development: Tai Sunnanon  
Have received good feedback from clubs around CA. Did speak with two different clubs. Challenge in expanding Veteran Clubs is not having good contacts in Central CA, however, have good contacts in Northern CA. Will bring to membership meeting in hope of finding a link to good contacts. Have identified three individuals in Northern CA who wish to start a Veterans Democratic Club.  
  
Question from Basil; What type of issues are you encountering in Central CA?  
Tai; a large display of Trump supporters – such as Proud Boys, therefore in lieu of safety Democrats are not displaying Biden and/ or Democratic branding.

C. Policy & Legislation: Diana Love

Legislators are on recess till end of the year. Will review status of current bills. Rev Ford brought a concern of property tax for Veterans who have less than 100 % disability. Provided a resolution to address matter and the LA County Democratic Party will review. We hope it goes to the CA Dem Party. When at State, will reach out to legislators such as Assembly member Eloise Gomez. Goal is to turn resolution to a bill.  
Chair: Veteran Caucus is not allowed to start a resolution.

D. Treasurer: Lizet Angulo

Membership decreased to 195. Our current balance is \$10,200.55. expenditure for Aug 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of \$500.00.  
Chair, CDP will send the May bill to Veteran Caucus. May bill cost does not know at this time. Aug 25<sup>th</sup> meeting cost is \$500.00.

8. New Business

A. Status of Two-Year Work Plan containing three goals – Tangible, measurable and supports Veterans and their families - Tai

Two-year work plan, direction of committee – how we accomplish our 3 goals. Tai's committee oversees all 3 goals. Chair would like us to bring this plan to membership in the coming months

Have a live document on google docs.

The two-year work plan is not just Tai, Diana, and Angela plan – it is a Veterans caucus plan.

i. Support Veteran Legislation – this helps veterans and their families but must be broader than just for one cause.

We are engaged in providing support through Diana's committee.

ii. Provide resources for veterans – have multiple sections on the website; Transitioning from military to civilian life, Veterans Health benefits, CalVet, VA disabilities, Veterans discounts, etc.

We are also continuing to provide resources through Angela's committee.

Chair, someone outside caucus visited website and provided a link to services

iii. Expand Veterans democratic clubs in central and northern California – provide awareness of Veterans in democratic party that provides candidates, endorsement, and candidate training.

Hopefully within the next six months we find a regional body to champion expansion in Central CA.

B. Next Membership Meeting (CDP E-Board) – Virtual – 17-21 Nov 2021

i. Discussion – what would this entail – Cherelle leads

Cherelle and Ron proposed Executive board on Nov 3 to prepare the membership meeting for the 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of November. Have a business meeting no more than 15 to 30 minutes. For remainder of time, two hours, have speakers plus a main speaker who will have 10-15 minutes with Q&A, possible Lt. Governor. Then allow candidates only Veterans who are running for partisan positions. We have a pre-endorsing conference in late January early February 2022. Endorsing convention in March 2022 where we only endorse those running for partisan positions. There we endorse statewide positions such as Governor, Lt. Governor, etc... Also, people running for AD, SD and Congressional office who participate in primary in June 2022. First order of business in focusing on them, the Veterans first. Once all Veterans speak, then we will open to non-Veterans. We will have a graphic, map, to show location of candidate and position.

Date proposed for candidates is November 17, 2021.

Tai would like to have time to discuss, next meeting, expansion of Veteran Dem clubs.

Angela proposed to allow three minutes to candidates, which others agreed.

C. Pre-endorsing – Late Jan 2022 – by email/mail to Regional Directors.

i. Discussion – who would be eligible to vote – Diana leads.

Discuss the next E-Board, Convention, and endorsements. Dates are subjected to redistricting. E-Board Nov 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> virtual. Pre-endorsement conference in mid-Feb which has not been finalized.

D. Endorsing Convention – Potential – 3-6 Mar 2022 (in Los Angeles).

i. Discussion – what would this entail – et al.

Convention is scheduled to be in-person and in Los Angeles. Convention will use Whova. Whova is an event app, online registration, event management software. An advantage of using Whova, is their meet ups. This will allow us to invite people who signed up for our meeting and have better engagement.

For the voting, for every 20 people in clubs you get one representative. The clubs and DSCC vote on pre-endorsements. If candidate does not get 70% then they will go to caucus at convention. They will need to get 60% and at that point the representatives from the clubs are no longer eligible to vote and just becomes the DSCC members. If candidates do not get 50%, they will not be endorsed, they are not invited to be put on the consent calendar. The pre-endorsement vote is to get on consent calendar to have all members vote at convention.

E. Next Exec Broad Meeting - Review and Concur in Draft Agenda for Nov 3, 2021.

9. Announcements: Basil, Lt. Governor is interested in attending our future meetings.

10. Meeting Adjourned at 7:36pm.

11. Next Executive Board Meeting – Nov 3, 2021 (6:30 PM) virtual.

12. Next General Membership Meeting – week of 17-21 Nov 2021 (virtual).