

## Sonoma Valley Democrats virtual General Meeting 2-26-2024

**Board Present:** Hadley, Suarez, McDevitt, Brown, Martin, Taylor 37 attendees

1. **Welcome.** 2024 Dues are \$20 for the year. You can pay @ svdems.org. Democratic Endorsements can be found at <https://sonomademocrats.org>. Sonoma Valley Postcard Action has more than 100 active postcard writers. Next session for Rudy Salas. If interested in joining the group contact Beth @ [beth@sonic.net](mailto:beth@sonic.net).
2. **Treasurer Report:** No Report
3. **Marty Bennett** of Unite Here, Local 2. Efforts to unionize Sonoma Fairmont Mission Inn have been successful. This will affect other Brookfield properties in Wash DC, and Houston, Texas. Will also affect other non-union hotels in the Valley which will have to raise wages to compete. Marty thanked members of our Club who participated in public events.
4. **Norman Gilroy of Mobilize Sonoma** reported on the plan for the storage of 160 tankers in Schellville by SMART. Next SMART meeting is scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup>. Regarding the SDC, the builder's plan is out for review with response required by March 18<sup>th</sup>. Permit Sonoma will make decision. Those interested in this issue can find updates at "Eldridge for All". There is also an effort to form a new **Sonoma Mountain Community Services District** within the Supervisorial District for better representation. Signature collectors needed. For more info go to [sdcnx100.org](http://sdcnx100.org).
5. **Will Rollins, for House Representative from CA District 41 (Palm Springs area)** Will was a Federal Prosecutor for 5 years and a US attorney in the National Security Department. While with DOJ he worked on threats from Domestic Terrorists. Appreciates any help Club members can provide. Also running in his District are **Lisa Middleton for CA Senate** and **Christy Holstege for State Assembly District 47**. Any support for these two Democratic candidates would be appreciated. Favors a Public Option for Healthcare.
6. **Omar Figueroa.** Running for Judge of the Superior Court of Sonoma County. Born in Mexico, lives in Sebastopol. Graduate of Yale and Stanford Law School. 25 years of litigation experience. Member of the Board of Directors of the So County Bar Association and Chapter Leader of the So County ACLU.
7. **Mary MC Devitt, MD** Reported on the "**Level the Playing Field**" effort sponsored by **Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Actions and One Payer States**. Her Powerpoint presentation is available at svdems.org. Vote taken to support letter to Biden. 14 in favor. 0 Against, 0 Abstain .
8. **Announcements:**
  - a. **Watch Party for State of the Union** address by President Biden on **Mar. 7<sup>th</sup>** at Round Table Pizza, 5:30pm
  - b. **Protest against present plan for SDC on Mar 10<sup>th</sup> at noon.** [sdcnx100.org](http://sdcnx100.org)
  - c. Next virtual General Meeting Monday, March 25, 6:30pm.
  - d. **Larry Leonard needs volunteers to canvass for Rebecca Hermosillo for District 1 Supervisor.** Focus on Democrats who typically vote late. Email [contact@svdems.org](mailto:contact@svdems.org) for Larry's phone number.