

SV Dems Minutes 8/26/24 Board Present: Hadley, McDevitt, Suarez, Martin, Cesar
Zoom Attendance: 41. It was established before voting that 18 paid Club Members were present.

1. **Upcoming events:** Social at Westerbeke Ranch, Sept 12, 4 to 6 PM \$20 entrance fee. Volunteers needed. Sonoma Valley Postcard Action - email Beth at bethh@sonic.net. Harris/Walz signs: available at Santa Rosa office. Let Beth know if you want one. Price \$15. Volunteer opportunities: Sonoma Co. Democratic Party - <https://sonomademocrats.org/volunteer/>
Treasurer Report: Checking: \$1938, Savings \$ 450. Because of increased expenses, 2025 membership dues are raised to \$30.
2. **Measure T:** Sandra Lowe. Specific City of Sonoma sales tax of 0.5 % to support local Parks and Recreation facilities and our 4 cemeteries. Would not apply to groceries or medications. Motion to endorse Meas. T by Connie Parker, seconded, **Approved by 18 club members present.**
3. **Proposition 5:** Sandra Lowe. Would lower the approval rate for local bonds for Affordable Housing and Public infrastructure to 55%. School bonds are presently approved at 55%.
4. **Proposition 32:** Marty Bennett. Presently **Minimum wage** is \$16/hr. with yearly COLA. Would raise the minimum wage to \$18/hr in 2025 for large employers. In 2026 for small employers. Minimum wage would apply to both tip and non-tip workers. Recommended **Living wage** for Sonoma is \$33.26/hr. Present **Federal Minimum wage** is \$7.25/hr. In CA Healthcare workers minimum wage was recently raised to \$25/hr. **Motion to endorse Prop 32 moved, seconded, approved by 17 members present.** Marty invited any interested to come to canvass in Reno with trained UniteHere union members any weekend after September 9th.
5. **Proposition 33:** Dotty LeMieux. "Justice for Renters" Present law passed in 1995 prevents "rent control" in any buildings constructed after 1995. Proposition 33 would repeal this law and allow Rent Control. It was noted that many large buildings (rental housing) are now owned by corporations. **Motion to endorse Prop 33 moved, seconded, approved by 15 club members.**
6. **Measure I:** Dennis Rosatti & Claudia Galliani. "Our Kids, Our Future". Would establish a 0.25 % sales tax to fund childcare. Present wage of childcare workers is \$17.37 /hour. The funds would be distributed by a Public Agency Commission: First 5 Group of Sonoma County. In addition to paying for childcare the goals of the Commission would be to streamline Pediatric screening and encourage well child visits. Sonoma County Office of Education has not yet endorsed this Measure. It was pointed out that at present the Sonoma Valley School District is in poor financial state. **Motion to endorse Meas. I was moved, seconded and approved by 13 club members**
7. **Measure J:** Prohibition on Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). Dayna Ghirardelli and Bret Newell spoke against the measure. This measure will effect local family farms and change our community. It would ban 8 pasture-based farms in Sonoma and lead to many lawsuits. Pasture based dairy farms have less methane production. If water safety is an issue it should be addressed specifically, not by this ban. Tom Conlon spoke in support of Measure J: Should ban new entities and phase out present CAFOs over time. Would also apply to poultry CAFOs. He claims it does not apply to pasture based farms. At present no environmental groups endorse it. Sierra Club is evaluating it. Gil Dong suggested that established CAFOs be grandfathered in and only new CAFOs be outlawed. **Motioned made and seconded to endorse No on Measure J. 10 Members present voted Yes, one voted No, 2 abstained - Passed.**
8. **Other business:** The Oakmont Alliance is having an event to **support Adam Gray** on Friday, August 30th. Gray is running for the House of Representative from CA-13.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Minutes by Mary McDevitt