



DEMOCRATIC CLUB of GREATER TRACY
Minutes – April 12, 2026

Virtual Meeting

Business Meeting

- **Called to Order at 2:00 pm**
- **Present virtually were:** Cheryl Hays, Pat Howell, Henry Cole, Robin Cole, Sean Thompson, Mary Bogen, Ross Bogen, Cindi Reis, Steve Nunez, Larkin Fleckner, Ayofemi Oseye, Linda Kageff, Walter Gouveia, Mercedes Silveira, Gary Cooper, Linda Jimenez, Amy Thompson, Bill Hansen, Nancy Rusch, Alyce Eversole, Bob Eversole, Nick Langarica and Lisa Roth. Yolande Barial-Knight and June Yasemsky were excused. A quorum was achieved.
- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Guests:** Janelle Kellman, candidate for California Lieutenant Governor
- **Treasurer's Report** – Presented by Pat Howell, Treasurer.
- **January Minutes:** Pat Howell moved to approve the March minutes. Mary Bogen seconded. The motion was passed.
- **President's Report:** see attached
- **Vice-President's Address:** The Vice-President thanked everyone who participated in the No Kings III rally. The event was a success, and turnout was great. She pointed out that protesting works.

Committee Reports:

- **Bylaws** -- Henry Cole: no report

- **Communication/Social Media** -- Cheryl Hays: Matt Lunger was injured and is recovering, but was unable to work for a few days. Work continues on the Google switchover. Sean Thompson will work on formatting the website.
- **Events** -- Amy Thompson: A Pints and Politics social event will be held on Thursday April 23. There will be an Earth Day event on Saturday April 25 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Participants in the No Kings III protest were thanked for their support. There was an unofficial count of approximately 500 attendees. Cindi Reis reported that there will be a no work, no school and no shopping boycott on Friday May 1 to demand a nation that puts workers over billionaires. Cheryl Hays reported one completed voter registration card was collected at the No Kings III protest, one person used the QR code to register and three people applied for membership.
- **Fundraising** -- Cheryl Hays: The cupcake fundraiser has been pushed out to July. Members were asked to volunteer to bake and decorate cupcakes. A donation drive using Google is planned. There will be a membership drive in May. Fundraisers being considered include a candidate meet-and-greet, an eat-in dinner instead of a drive-through dinner, and a pancake breakfast.
- **GOTeam** -- Robin Cole: Two canvasses have been held so far, with few canvassers participating. Rhodesia Ransom, the incumbent Assemblymember and Josh Harder, the incumbent U.S. Representative have no opponents in the June Primary Election. Seven canvassers have knocked 163 doors. Residents reported concerns about potholes, speed bumps and traffic. Canvassers had voters fill out postcards telling why they vote, to be returned to them when ballots are mailed. Voters were informed that ballots received by the Registrar of Voters after Election Day must be postmarked on or before Election Day. They were given information on how to track their ballots. Three more canvasses are planned in May. For the November General Election, there will be canvasses for Mayor Dan Arriola, U.S. Representative Josh Harder, Assemblymember Rhodesia Ransom and candidates for Tracy City Council Districts 1 and 3 seats.
- **Issues** -- Steve Nunez: Carmen Nunez has almost completed a position paper on the Save America Act. Position paper guidelines are being drawn up for new committee members.
- **Outreach** -- A list of duties and responsibilities for new committee members has been drawn up. Robin Cole asked that members help seek out candidates for office.

Old Business

- Walter Gouveia moved that the Club's meetings be moved from Sunday to Saturday, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Pat Howell seconded. The motion was passed. Alyce Eversole moved that meetings be held at the Tracy Transit Center's small room. Steve Nunez seconded. The motion was passed. The May meeting will be moved to Saturday May 16.

- The ad hoc committee appointed at the March meeting recommended that changes be made to the membership application and ActBlue dues pages for clarity. It also recommended that the new member process be changed so that dues are collected before the new member is vetted. Pat Howell moved that the committee's recommendation be presented to the Bylaws Committee for consideration. Henry Cole seconded. The motion was passed. The Bylaws Committee then met, and recommended bylaws amendments, which were presented to the membership. Pat Howell moved that Article I Sec. H(5.a) of the bylaws be amended to add the phrase "and the dues are collected" after the word "completed" and that the words "a member of" be added after the words "sent to"; and that Article I Sec. H(5.d) of the bylaws be amended to replace the entire sentence with the words "If not approved, the applicant will be notified by mail that the application has been rejected and the dues will be refunded." Mercedes Silveira seconded. The motion was passed.

New Business

- No new business

Announcements

- Pat Howell announced that Tri-Valley CAREs, a watchdog group that monitors the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, will hold a Earth Day Celebration and Youth Photo Contest Award Ceremony on Tuesday April 21 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Tracy Library's Wadsworth Room, 20 East Eaton Avenue. The event will be free and open to the public, and food will be provided. The photo submissions will remain on display at the library for all of April.
- The San Joaquin County Democratic Central Committee held a straw poll of candidates for California Governor at its April meeting. The results were: Eric Swalwell: 17 votes, Xavier Becerra: 5 votes, Betty Yee: 4 votes, Katie Porter: 2 votes, Tom Steyer: 2 votes. undecided: 2 votes, Tony Thurmond: 0 votes, Matt Mahan: 0 votes, Antonio Villaraigosa: 0 votes.
- The Tracy Earth Day event will also be held on Saturday, April 25.
- Robin Cole, Barbara Sasso, Kimberly Range, Cindi Reis and Henry Cole will represent Tracy Democrats on San Joaquin County Democratic Central Committee's Endorsement Committee.
- A No Kings Day of Action boycott will be held on May 1.
- The first Tracy BMX Pump Track has been completed. A Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday April 28 at 6 p.m., at Clyde Bland Park, located at 1803 Blandford Lane.

- Mercedes Silveira moved that a Zoom account be set up for the Communications Committee. Cindi Reis seconded. The motion was passed.
- Mercedes Silveira reported that Steve and Carmen Nunuez made a large contribution of surplus supplies to the Maria Chavez family, the parents of Sandra Cantu.
- Victor Costa, regional director of California Democratic Party Region #6 announced that there will be a virtual meeting in June. The next Eboard meeting will be held in San Diego in July. All of the California Democratic Party Regional Directors signed a statement calling on Eric Swalwell to drop out of the California Gubernatorial race.
- Robin Cole announced a pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 25 to be held by the Tracy African-American Association (TAAA).
- Pat Howell announced that commissioners have been appointed to several City of Tracy committees.
- Bill Hansen pointed out that the San Joaquin County Democratic Central Committee's gubernatorial straw poll was not an endorsement of Eric Swalwell.
- The question was raised as to whether Democratic clubs may make political endorsements that run counter to the California Democratic Party's endorsements. Victor Costa reported that the answer appears to be yes, if allowed by the county Democratic central committee. Henry Cole reported that the San Joaquin County Democratic Central Committee's bylaws do not forbid such endorsements.
- Club meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at 4 pm.
- **Reminder:** Please attend Tracy City Council Meetings and School Board Meetings:
 - **City Council** – Tuesday, April 21 & May 5, held in Council Chambers, at City Hall, at 333 Civic Center Plaza. Regular City Council meetings are usually held at 7:00 p.m., on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Council Meetings are streamed live, and videos of the meetings are posted at: <https://www.ci.tracy.ca.us/?navId=119>. Agendas are posted online, at <https://www.ci.tracy.ca.us/?navId=282>.
 - **School Board** – Tuesday, April 28 & May 12, at 7:00 p.m., held in the District Education Center Boardroom, 1875 W. Lowell Ave. Regular School Board meetings are usually held at 7:00 p.m., on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Meeting access details, Agenda & Minutes: <https://www.tracy.k12.ca.us/board-of-education/agenda-minutes>
 - Meetings are also shown on local cable Channel 26
 - Tracy Dems Executive Committee Meetings are held by Zoom on the first Sunday of the month at 7pm. All members are welcome to attend.
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89020418777?pwd=d1pZcXRQV1FDeTkxeUVCNWIU TZvZz09>
 - Meeting ID: 890 2041 8777
 - Passcode: 415074

No drawing was held.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 pm.