



OXNARD AREA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

3-7-89

NOTES ON MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 1989

The first General Meeting of the "Oxnard Area Democratic Club" was held at the Oxnard Community Center on February 28.

The meeting was convened by **Robert Holcomb**, who expressed his pleasure at the great turn-out of about 45 people and stressed the importance of finding among the principles of the Democratic Party many things on which we can all work together.

Supervisor John Flynn congratulated the Club for its formation. He commented that there are many areas of need in the County--such as homelessness--in which he needs support to implement programs. He hopes that the Club will support him on these.

Ed Albrecht stressed the advantages of having a local Democratic Club--among which he mentioned the need to get organized by precincts to have clout in elections, the need to educate ourselves about the legislative process so we know how to go about solving problems, and the ability to take our resolutions to the State Democratic Council for consideration.

Al Chavez pointed out that our local club will not conflict with the Democrats United organization, as DU has more of a coordinating function. Democratic clubs such as ours have already been formed in Thousand Oaks, Ojai, and Camarillo.

Strong support for the Club was expressed by **Beverly O'Gorman** for **Gary K. Hart**, by **Lorraine Sanchez** for **Jack O'Connell**, and the reading of a letter from **Manuel Lopez**. **Irma Lopez** also brought his greetings.

Hope Holcomb summarized the minutes of the previous meetings and pointed out that the Ad Hoc Committee had developed an Interest Survey to find out what activities members of the Club would like to participate in. This was distributed.

FROM THE PRES.

I wish to thank all of you for your attendance at the first General meeting. Your enthusiasm and participation in our survey and discussions were proof that we all have contributions to make to our Party and our community.

We will meet again on Tuesday, March 21 at 330 West Third Street in downtown Oxnard at 7:00 p.m. We may need more chairs (three chairs for us!), so bring a folding chair if you can. . . . also bring a friend.

We anticipate enjoying another exciting evening and look forward to the Tuesday meeting!!

Democratically yours,

Bob Holcomb

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Laura Holtz discussed the need for a Communications Committee to alert members to activities of the Club. She had met with **Jerry Brown** earlier, and he stressed his wish to organize a real "grass-roots" party. She offered to get this Committee started.

Jean Harris spoke of the need to get precincts organized with a leader and at least two other back-up people well ahead of any election. **Jean** and **Beverly Full** will work together to get the Precinct Organization Committee started.

Recommendations from the Ad Hoc organizing committee were introduced by **Bob Holcomb** for action by the group. The first item was the name, "Oxnard Area Democratic Club" as the official club name. Other names were suggested, and as consensus was not reached on any of the names, the matter was tabled. The suggested names are:

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Oxnard Plains Democratic Club
Oxnard Democrats
Gold Coast Democrats
Greater Oxnard Area Democrats
Greater Oxnard Democrats

Activities were discussed. **Jean Harris** commented that the Neighbor to Neighbor organization, which helped to organize the last election had offered to put on a work-shop for us on how to organize precincts effectively. **Beverly O'Gorman** said that Jerry Brown has offered to come for a fund-raiser for the County. We could join with other clubs in sponsoring it. Bev also said that Democrats United is establishing a "Master Calendar" of activities of Democratic clubs, such as ours, in the county.

A discussion was held on the purposes, principles and actions which members would like the Club to stand for and pursue. The following were agreed upon:

The Democratic Club Believes In:

Assistance to the needy
Protecting our environment
Improving education for young and old
Physical and mental health care and insurance

Protecting our children
Gun control
Housing--affordable & rent control
Social Security protection
Women's rights
Ethnic equality and civil rights

Our Club Objectives Should Include:

Increasing our knowledge of and participation in politics
Increasing Democratic Party Membership
Increasing our communication with our elected officials
Improving registration methods and lists
Improving knowledge about our precincts
Working towards establishing uniform voting hour for the whole nation
Assigning leaders to precincts
Taking personal action to support our positions

Suggested Membership Action

Increase voter registration
Begin precinct organization
Telephone and write office holders, civic leaders, and media
Fund raising!!

It was agreed to elect temporary officers for the Club for a six-month period. There was consensus for the following officers:

Robert Holcomb	President
Al Chavez	Vice President
Hope Holcomb	Recording Secretary
Jo Anne Wolfe	Corresponding Secretary
Sarah Delgado	Treasurer
Pam Weidemann	Liaison

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hope Holcomb, Recording Secretary

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