

Sonoma Valley Democrats General Meeting Minutes: June 23,2025

Zoom 35 **Board Present:** Hadley, Brown, Suarez, Taylor, Baeyens, Hill, McDevitt

1. A. Elective present: Gina Cuculis, Sonoma County Board of Education
B. July 4th Dems Booth. Need volunteers for 2-hour shifts. Contact Beth.

2. **Financial Report:** \$ 2754 Checking, \$ 1360. Insurance \$600 pending. PO Box and storage recently paid. Membership: \$30 a year, go to <https://www.svdems.org/memberships/>

3. **Bill Schaubert**, Central Committee Member, District 1. Sonoma County Dems BBQ. Sunday Aug 17, 3 PM @ Sally Tomatoes, Invitations extended to known candidates for next CA Governor <https://sonomademocrats.org/2025-annual-bbq-bluau/>

4. **Judy Tipple:** Urged all to investigate trainings provided by Field Team 6. For 2022 election they registered 2.3 million voters. Results for 2024 election not yet available. Programs they support are on BlueSky, Slack, Grow a Spine, and Bring your own phone. This is a texting program where you are given a phone number to use for their texting program. In the last 2 weeks \, this program has sent out 70,000 texts. FT6 goal is to train the Digital Army.

5. **Joanne Brown** reported on the CA Dem Convention. 11 Resolutions were passed on many subjects including: Supporting the Constitution, Supporting the Environment, Support for Law Enforcement. Joanne noted there was a large contingent from the Central Valley and a lot of young people. No new Democratic message was proclaimed.

6. **Assembly Majority Leader: Cecilia Aguiar-Curry:** Working on many issues including: Affordability for residents of CA, Paid Pregnancy Leave, Teachers Retirement Pay, Safety Bill (AB 31) regarding Long Haul Autonomous Vehicle Safety. Previously this bill was vetoed X 2 by the Governor. Regulation of Hemp products, Civil claims against private Employers for abuse of women employees, (AB 250), She opposes the Delta Tunnel bill because of the environment effects. Final budget will be reviewed in May. She is trying to balance financial support for all levels of our society. She supports a Cost of Living raise for childcare providers as well as financial support to keep all Planned Parenthood Clinics open. The Senate would like to raise taxes. She is opposed. Another major effort is to protect CA from the Trump Administration. There is presently money for 25 suits against the Federal Government, as well as funding for legal services for immigrants. To increase CA housing she is working to streamline permitting. In her role as Majority Leader in the Assembly, she is a vote counter. If the author of a bill does not have the 41 votes committed, she will not bring it to the floor for consideration. Studies have recently been done by the Bay Area Council and the Farm Bureau analyzing the effect of the Trump administration on CA agriculture. There were questions about CEQA (CA Environmental Quality Act) effect on new housing. She feels that some of these measures inhibit the development of new affordable housing. New Housing bills are under consideration. She feels the SMART train is a good project and will eventually access Sonoma. She was not familiar with the State's notice that they will no longer maintain the Sonoma Development Center as of July 1. The Assembly member urged those with other questions to contact her staff member Laura Beltran at <mailto:laura.beltran@asm.ca.gov> as well as drop into her local offices. It was generally agreed that the Democratic Party needs a new Message.

7. **Next meetings:** **Board:** July 7 9:30 am via Zoom. **General:** Monday, July 28, 6:30 PM via Zoom.