

**Minutes for July, 2016 Monthly Meeting  
Of the Democratic Club of Vista**

The meeting was held at the Pantry & Pie Shoppe at 945 S. Santa Fe Ave., Vista, CA 92083

The meeting was held on the second Saturday of the month,

July 9, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon

19 were in attendance.

**Sue Alderson, President, Presiding**

The meeting was called to order.

**The Agenda was approved.**

**The minutes from the last meeting were approved.**

**New Members and visitors introduced themselves:** Cipriano Vargas; Peggy Miller; Marggie Castellano (running for Tri-City Board and Bernie delegate); Suzanne; Chris Caruso (Bernie delegate).

**Endorsement Requests:** Visitor Bill Fowler is a candidate for Carlsbad City Counsel, he is for social and environmental justice and is proud to be endorsed by Citizens for North County. Visit his Facebook page for more specifics. Rich Alderson will run for reelection to Vista's School Board. Vista is now one of the leading school districts in the State and the blueprint for success shows how every dollar is spent.

**President's Report:**

Sue Alderson, president, discussed:

1) Masquerade Casino Night on August 13, a semi-formal event at Escondido Performing Arts Center. It is \$100 a ticket and we were asked to sell 20 tickets, find business sponsors and get silent auction and raffle items. Funds raised will go to an office for candidates to share. We discuss our desired level of participation. We don't want to use our funds which would like to support local candidates/members, running for office. We will sell 6 tickets and provide a gardening themed basket as an auction item. Susan is in charge of the basket.

2) Endorsements- Joe is in charge of vetting process; Candidates who want endorsements must fill out questionnaire and be present at the August 13 meeting.

3) Ballot measures- We will discuss them at the September meeting and will look into inviting or getting information from the League of Women Voters.

4) Marijuana legalization is on the ballot and has been endorsed by many democrats. We have questions regarding where the funds raised from taxes will go. There is also a Vista medical marijuana ordinance on the ballot. We will have debate in October. Rebecca will look into these issues.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Our treasury contains \$920.

**Committee Reports:**

Audrey – Voter registration, will have table in front of Starbucks on Main St. in August or September.

Outreach- We will divide Vista into four quarters and try to personally contact as many people in each quarter as we can.

**Upcoming Events:**

Pride Parade on July 16 at 11:00, passed around sign-up sheet; Jackie is our contact.

Meet and Greet for Doug Applegate at Sue and Rich's on 7/10 from 5:00 – 7:00

**Guest Speaker:**

Rich Alderson – Career Educator and Member of Vista School Board speaks on the charter school movement. In the 1990s there were plans to use vouchers to supposedly help kids in under performing schools. However, because there was no busing or public transportation, kids in poor areas still couldn't use them. Anybody can start a charter schools and many people with no experience start them. It can be authorized by Local School District, County Office of Education or sometimes by approval of the State Board. There must be a hearing on the charter school and the board votes. Private schools cannot become charter schools. There are five charter schools in Vista. Some districts start their own charter schools which is what happened with Guajome Academy. The charter school gets a startup fund of \$500,000 from the State and federal law requires highly qualified teachers. The education plan must address specific needs. Charter schools don't do better than Public Schools in testing or educating. Some charter schools run too much like a business. Anyone can be on the board of a charter school and teachers aren't in a union.