

# **Central City Democrats**

District 6 Chartered Democratic Club

### State & Federal Races

U.S. Senate: Barbara Boxer Governor: Jerry Brown Lt. Governor: Gavin Newsom Attorney General: Kamala Harris

Board of Equalization District 1: Betty Yee State Assembly District 13: Tom Ammiano

Judicial Seat 15: Michael Nava Secretary of State: Debra Bowen Controller: John Chiang Treasurer: Bill Lockyer

**Insurance Commissioner:** Dave Jones

Superintendent of Public Instruction: Tom Torlakson

Congress District 8: Nancy Pelosi

#### City Election

#### **Board of Supervisors**

District 6 (Ranked choice recommendations)

1. James Keys

2. Glendon Hyde "Anna Conda"

3. Debra Walker

#### **Board of Education**

Kim-Shree Maufas Hydra Mendoza

**Emily Murase Community College Board** 

Anita Grier John Rizzo Lawrence Wong

Assessor-Recorder: Phil Ting Public Defender: Jeff Adachi

## San Francisco Ballot Initiatives:

Proposition AA - Yes

Proposition A - Yes

Proposition B - Yes

Proposition C - Yes

**Proposition D** – Yes

**Proposition E** – Yes

Proposition F-No

Proposition G - Yes

Proposition H - No

**Proposition I** – Yes

Proposition J - Yes

Proposition K-No

Proposition L-No

Proposition M - Yes

Proposition N - Yes

## **State Ballot Initiatives:**

Proposition 19 - Yes **Proposition 20** – No

Proposition 21 – Yes

Proposition 22 - Yes

Proposition 23 - No

Proposition 24 – Yes

Proposition 25 – Yes

Proposition 26 - No

Proposition 27 – Yes

Paid for by Central City Democrats

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Central City Democrats is a chartered Democratic club affiliated with the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee serving those who live and work in District 6.

Seeking new members for strength and empowerment. Join us today.

# City College Update

By Dr. Anita Grier

herever I speak about City College, the well-publicized misuse of public funds in 2005-6 dominates the conversation; people want to know what went on behind the scenes and how such abuses escaped notice of the Board of Trustees.

• How could \$10,000 for rent on a college parking lot be diverted to a political campaign—even a campaign for City College improvements?

- $\bullet$  How could \$28,670 raised by PepsiCo for beverage sales on campus be diverted to the Foundation of City College, a politically active organization?
- How could public funds, \$7,000 from the non-profit College Bookstore Auxiliary and \$3,000 from a campus coffee shop, end up as political donations?
- Are there other misuses that have yet to be discovered?

I can't comment on specific charges until the case is settled, but I believe the oversight role of the Board of Trustees needs to be enhanced in order to prevent future questionable expenditures. I don't believe that any of the current members of the Board had any knowledge of the funds in question, but we are obliged to ask why we were left in the dark about these transactions.

I believe we need to adopt San Francisco's Sunshine laws to make our records more easily available to the public, the press, and the Trustees. Four years ago I drafted and proposed that similar laws be adopted by the Trustees that would mirror San Francisco's improved access to records but the administration at City College has been dragging its feet on implementation, presumably to keep its records out of the public eye.

The current standard for open records at City College is the California Public Records Act, which provides minimal access. It is used statewide. It has gaping holes so large that bureaucrats can simply ignore requests, refusing to release documents just because they allege it is not "in the public interest" to release them. In effect, this gives every employee veto power over disclosure of records and has been one of the most misused sections of the CPRA.

San Francisco voters approved Sunshine (Prop G) in 1999, allowing much stronger public access to records. The Board of Trustees approved similar changes four years ago, and recommended that the various departments and organizations within the institution review their procedures and evaluate the specific changes set forth by the Trustees.

What's happened since? We know very little. We do know that at one point our attorney advised that the documents were "lost."

Last month I reintroduced the Sunshine measure and at the next meeting of the Trustees it will be considered. At a preliminary hearing, there were no dis-

senting comments from my colleagues, i.e., we appear close to agreement.

Sunshine will ban the "public interest" withholding maneuver, and include a 24-hour Immediate Disclosure requirement. We still need to be vigilant, of course, but with this better access, City College of San Francisco will take the lead towards open government among community colleges in California.

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