

Evans, Derek

From: MM <mm_urizon@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2016 6:48 PM
To: Evans, Derek
Subject: BOS Rules Committee comment
Attachments: Poster.pdf

Mr. Evans,

Kindly add this comment to the public record for Thursday's BOS Rules Committee Meeting.

Thank you.

Best regards,
Mike Murphy
1511 44th Ave

**I want Free and Fair Elections.
I support Supervisor Avalos' and Mar's
Charter Amendment
for Filling Vacancies in Local Elective Offices**



Evans, Derek

From: Heinz Voss <heinzvoss.sf.ca@usa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2016 10:16 PM
To: Evans, Derek
Subject: I strongly support this charter amendment: "Filling Vacancies for local elected offices"..
Attachments: 50DEAD.pdf

...by supervisor's Avalos & Mars. Also please refer to my letter I hand-delivered to Mr. Mayor last week, of course, an aide ripped it out of my hands, is this a shining democracy, or what?



Heinz Voss

June 15, 2016

Ed Lee, Mayor
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mr. Mayor:

I am thrilled you had a chance to experience first hand the dislike San Franciscans have for you, when you grabbed the microphone at the Candle Light Vigil for the Victims of the hate motivated terror attack at a gay club, Pulse, in Orlando, FL.

As a follow-up I'd like to share with you how this went down for me, a San Franciscan who heeded the call to show solidarity with everybody who has been affected by this heinous attack, and to honor 50 human beings, who's lives were extinguished in a matter of minutes.

Like many others, I, too, had turned my back on you, and was booing from the top of my lungs, no offense, but, how dare you are wanting to capitalize for your own political gain from such a sad occasion. Once we had shut you up and a sense of normalcy returned to the vigil, this lady approached me and asked: "What 'appened?"

Turns out she was visiting from France, luckily in the company of a person who spoke French and English, or she would have returned to her country thinking that Alexis de Tocqueville (1805 – 1859), author of the first comprehensive study of the political/social institutions as well as the character of the Americans, "Why the Americans are so restless in the midst of their Prosperity", was right, Americans ARE a strange people. During the Candle Light March down Market Street I had a chance to reflect – funny thing a person from France should bring to my attention that my conduct (to turn my back and scream from the top of my lungs) is not consistent with the usual behavior at a vigil; after all, I was born and raised in Cologne, Germany, a city that went back and forth like a Tennis Ball between the Germans and the French. Case in point, the Original Eau De Cologne received its name, 4711, due to the circumstance that the French had just claimed the city back and for purposes of a census where assigning numbers to every building in the city, with the building were the Original Eau De Cologne was in development, being assigned 4711.

Mr. Mayor, you are a lucky man, you CAN raise your standing in the community, and, for that matter in the City of San Francisco. Mr. Mayor, you can be instrumental in the healing process, simply by reaching out to the victims who survived the attack, and have them march in San Francisco's Pride Parade (perhaps sitting on a cable car). You, Ed Lee, Mayor of San Francisco, can help us (San Franciscans), help them (the survivors of the attack) to begin a long healing process, simply by financing their travels and stay, and allow them to experience The Love we have for our brothers & sisters. But we have to act quickly, Gay Pride is just around the corner, which is why I am offering to volunteer for this project in any which way I can.

I am looking forward to your timely (=immediate) response my cell number is xxx.xxx.xxxx. Everything else is just lip service, Mr. Mayor, and as you noticed, not well received in the community, at least not from you.

Sincerely,

R. H. Vojs

Evans, Derek

From: Joseph Bleckman <josephbleckman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2016 11:55 PM
To: Evans, Derek
Subject: Writing in support of the "Filling Vacancies in Local Elective Office" proposed charter amendment

Good evening Derek,

I am writing in support of the "Filling Vacancies in Local Elective Office" proposed charter amendment. I was told on Nextdoor.com that you are the correct person to send this letter to.

This charter amendment has been long needed. In my neighborhood (the Outer Sunset), we have not been able to have an incumbent-free election in ten years due to two consecutive Mayor-appointed Supervisors running for reelection here. (One of whom is on your committee, so I want to clarify that my comments are about good governance in general, not about any specific mayor-appointed Supervisor.) Because the incumbent advantage in elections is so difficult to overcome, this has meant that for years the Sunset population has been disincentivized against getting involved in politics and civic organizing. This has resulted in the Sunset having a scarcity of neighborhood civic groups, which has detrimental effects far beyond the political arena.

Regardless of whether one supports or opposes individual appointed Supervisors, overall the City would be better off if communities were permitted to have elections where none of the candidates begin with an unfair advantage. I support how the charter amendment would indeed permit the appointed Supervisors to run -after- they took a brief break from their appointed office, so that they no longer had the incumbent advantage.

My only complaint about the charter amendment is that it does not similarly cover Mayoral vacancies. Because the appointed-Ed Lee chose to run for re-election twice, the City as a whole has not been able to have an incumbent-free Mayoral election since 2003--thirteen years ago.

Thank you for considering my message.

Best regards,
Joseph

Joseph C. Bleckman, Esq.
(Lincoln High, '05)
josephbleckman@gmail.com
415-489-0878

Evans, Derek

From: JUDY KAHN <ambrusterkahn@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 12:18 AM
To: Evans, Derek
Subject: Free and Fair Elections Now

Hello, I am a sixteen-year Outer Sunset resident (24 in SF) and want to express my support for the push by Supervisors Avalos and Mar for **Free and Fair elections**. The time is NOW!

Thank you,
Judy Kahn

Evans, Derek

From: LARRY BUSH <sfwtrail@mac.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2016 7:40 AM
To: Tang, Katy (BOS); Mar, Eric (BOS); Cohen, Malia (BOS)
Cc: Breed, London (BOS); Avalos, John (BOS); Campos, David (BOS); Kim, Jane (BOS); Wiener, Scott; Yee, Norman (BOS); Aaron Peskin; Farrell, Mark (BOS); Evans, Derek
Subject: Friends of Ethics support: Item 151273 Filling Supervisorial Vacancies

Chair Tang, Committee members, Board members:

Friends of Ethics respectfully offers its full support for the charter amendment before Rules today regarding Filling Supervisorial Vacancies (Item 151273) by Supervisor Avalos.

This is an issue that has been important to Friends of Ethics for several years, and engaged the active involvement of Eilleen Hansen, recently deceased, who was a founding member of Friends of Ethics.

We believe this charter amendment serves the public interest by recognizing that representation of a district's interests comes from the voters in that district, and that voters should be given the ability to decide on who will represent their interests and concerns and values. This is not a responsibility that can be transferred to any other official but inherently belongs to the voters themselves

Supervisor Avalos has introduced a measure to ensure that the day-to-day needs of a district can be met with an interim appointment by the mayor while requiring an election no later than nine months after the vacancy occurs. Since the voters concurred with changing the election cycle, there currently could be an interim appointed supervisor for as long as two years without this charter amendment. Supervisor Avalos' measure also recognizes that filling a vacant seat is not an opportunity to be seized to create an incumbent advantage, but rather is a vacancy that rightfully requires voters to be able to make this decision with a level playing field of candidates. The reality is that an incumbent officeholder, even while facing a stepped-up election, is able to draw on significant financing for a campaign from special interests who seek the approval of the Board on projects that are financially important to the donors. By stipulating that an appointee may not seek election, this temporary advantage that comes from appointment is eliminated as a factor.

Friends of Ethics has continually sought a process that empowers citizens through transparency and accountability. We were pleased that 75% of voters supported the measure we advocated requiring disclosure of spending to influence City officials by expenditure lobbyists last November, and that the overwhelming majority of Board members and the Mayor also endorsed that measure. We are also encouraged by other steps the Board has taken, some of which came from proposals by Friends of Ethics, including requiring calendars of appointments to be disclosed, creating disclosures of "Draft Committees" and the most recent support by the Mayor for full funding of the Ethics Commission.

Friends of Ethics believes Supervisor Avalos' measure is part of a process that will further engage and deepen participation voters and we strongly support its passage.

We are an informal, volunteer group of former Ethics Commissioners, past members of Civil Grand Juries, officeholders and citizen activists.

Larry Bush
on behalf of Friends of Ethics