

May 17, 2020

My name is Michael Cohen, and I seek endorsement of the Queens Central Democratic Club for the position of Democratic District Leader, 28 A.D., Part A. Please permit this letter to serve as my response to the Club's questionnaire.

As a general response to your questions dealing with party reform, let me say that I am more than willing to examine any suggestions that will make for a better party structure. Specifically on the issue of transparency, all votes pertaining to endorsements and policy and rule changes made by the Executive Committee are recorded; the media is always permitted to attend; and the public can witness the proceedings given the limitations of physical space.

On the question of "disagreeing with the Queens County Democratic Party," in 2009 I ran for the City Council in a race that was won by my current employer, and party backed candidate, Karen Koslowitz. If you conduct your campaign in an honorable fashion, you will not lose the respect of other party officials.

In seeking to endorse a candidate, I believe the QCDC needs to examine what are the core values of a candidate. I believe that the positions and actions that I have taken in the past distinguish me from other candidates. These would be issues concerning labor interests, women's reproductive rights and the tenant landlord dynamic. Given the current political dialogue, I believe it is fair to ask a candidate if they are a capitalist or socialist? I think that once you know the root principles of a political leader, the future behavior of that individual becomes predictable.

I thank you for this opportunity to offer my candidacy.