

Jeff Rubin Pinole Recall Rally Speech

August 21, 2007

Thank you all for coming today.

We've heard a lot from Mayor Alegria about "Dirty politics" and "personal politics."

I have noticed that politicians who are on the run use a lot of "V" words — Vindictive, Vendetta, Vicious, Vengeance, Vile — these are all words we've heard coming from Mayor Alegria and Councilmen David Cole and Stephen Tilton since the recall campaign began in June.

These are the words politicians use when they have nothing to say. These are the words politicians use when they don't want to tell people what's really going on. So they accuse people who don't support them of "personal attacks."

It reminds me of that scene in the movie Bull Durham where Crash Davis gives Nuke LaLoosh a lesson on how to speak to reporters.

Well, we have signatures from more than two thousand, three hundred people who are not fooled by that kind of talk.

We suggest the mayor and the two council members in question start using some "T" words. They can start with this one: TRUTH.

I want to say a few words about the children who have participated in this recall campaign. We have heard that some people objected to the children who carried recall signs in our July 17 rally. Some people thought it was inappropriate for children to be involved. I don't see it that way.

I see this as a great lesson in democracy, a lesson the children are not likely to learn in school. Where else are they going to learn that when governments don't act responsibly, the people can do something about it. It's tough to do nationally and on the state level, but it is possible on the local level.

So, I applaud those parents who have involved their children — and there are certainly some here today — and have taught them this important lesson in democracy.

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To everyone who collected signatures in their neighborhoods, sat in the blazing sun at the post office, or in Fernandez Park, or spent time on the phone calling their friends and neighbors — thank you.

To everyone who came to the rally to show your support — thank you.

To the thousands of people who signed a petition — thank you.

We're going to be collecting signatures for a few more weeks. Our goal is to submit 15% more than the required number of signatures, just to be certain that this recall happens.

We'll have more news for you once we turn in our petitions.