

## Minutes – June 14, 2023 Shiawassee Dems Party Monthly Meeting

Welcome and Call to Order at 7:05 p.m.: Chair Stephen Schlaack

All - Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of silence

Roll Call of Officers: Vice Chair Kristin Babel absent, all others present: secretary – Bailey Leppert

Native American Acknowledgment Statement – read by Stephen Schlaack

Virtual Meeting Attendees: (17) Aaron Ray, Stephen Schlaack, Bailey Leppert, Janet Horvath, Bus Spaniola, Carol Spaniola, Sylvia Avsharian, Laurie Cook, Jeanne Munn, Emily Havelka, Janice Ray, Paul Ray, Muhammed Salman Rais, Erin Chaves, Pat, Joanne Carlson, Bill Workman

Bus Spaniola moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting and Janet Horvath seconded his motion. All ayes.

Bus Spaniola moved to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. Aaron Ray seconded the motion. All ayes.

### Treasurer's Report:

Aaron Ray presented the treasurer's report. As of June 9, the balance of the administrative account was \$1,268.502 The general account had a balance of \$5,922.26 with \$5 in savings for a total of \$7,195.28. Paul Ray moved to approve the treasurer's report. Bus Spaniola seconded. All ayes.

### Chair's Report:

Stephen Schlaack reported on the recent MDP chairs call and the rural caucus call. He asked anyone to send in other community events to us so we can add them to our calendar. He thanked everyone who has been helping with the parades. He gave an update on the executive team's work with Patrice Martin to streamline organizational processes.

### Committee Reports

- A. Fundraising Committee: Aaron Ray reported that the committee is planning a fundraiser at Playing Picasso on September 30. He also showed the new Store tab on the Shia Dems website to purchase merchandise through ActBlue using a platform called Merch Blue. All items are printed by a union shop and made in America. The items will ship directly to the purchaser. Aaron announced that the fundraiser committee will be holding a 50/50 Raffle at the picnic so bring cash.
- B. Membership & Candidate Development – Bailey Leppert reported that the committee continues their work of reminding members to renew their membership and sending birthday cards. They are also planning a Count Commission District 6 event for June 21.
- C. Community Outreach – Laurie Cook reported that the committee needs a chair and solicited anyone who would be interested in joining the committee and possibly serving as chair.

## Old Business

Aaron Ray stated that the Firecracker Parade is on July 4. The lineup is at 9:30 am in McCurdy Park in the dirt parking lot adjacent to baseball field. Mark will be bringing the float. Step off at 11 am.

Aaron reported that the Shiawassee County Fair is August 6-12. The Shia Dems have reserved our spaces in the vendor barn. He explained that we need volunteers for the week in shifts and asked interested volunteers to contact Bailey, Laurie or Kristin. Stephen explained that we will have a schedule of shifts.

Stephen reported that we will have a booth on Saturday June 24 at Owosso Pride. Jeanne reported that the Manistee Dems had a handout that they distributed at the Pride event there and she can provide a copy to Stephen.

Aaron reported that the summer picnic will be August 16 at McCurdy Park in lieu of the monthly meeting due to the schedule conflict with the Fair. We will be at the Eagle Pavilion. We will have a 50/50 raffle, food, and fun.

Bailey solicited submissions for the Lookout program. She reported on a submission from Jennifer Porter in Perry who sent in concerns about the mayor of Perry's handling of recent issues, including police staffing, pet and animal ordinances, and other issues.

## Good and Welfare

Bus Spaniola reported that Rep. Tsernoglou and Tony Spaniola are hosting an event on Monday June 26, 5:30-7:30 at the Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd in East Lansing. They will be showing the film No Defense, focuses on PFAS contamination and hosting a discussion.

Janet Horvath reported that next food drive will be July 12, so bring donations to our meeting or drop off at 908 Moore St in Owosso.

Aaron Ray reported that current mayor of Perry is Sue Hammond. Also, the second roadside cleanup has to be between July 15-23. We will decide the date at the next meeting.

Janet Horvath asked for volunteers for July 4 parade. Aaron will be gone. Stephen has the supplies (candy, banners, etc). Mark will bring the float. Janet also asked about updating the trivia game for the Fair and Laurie volunteered to help her update it.

Adjourn: Motion made to adjourn by Aaron Ray and seconded by Janet Horvath. All ayes.  
Adjourned at 7:47 pm

Submitted by Bailey Leppert