



Minutes – July 14, 2021 Shiawassee Dems party monthly meeting.

Welcome and Call to Order: Chair Mark Zacharda

All - Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of silence

Roll Call of Officers: All present; temporary secretary – Becky Perry

Native American Acknowledgment Statement – Chris Clissold

Virtual Meeting Attendees: (10) Larry Alpert, Greg Remington, Joanne Carlson, Pearl ?, Jeanne Munn, Susan Doty, Cheryl Farver, Janae Fear, Gary Jones, Muhummad Salman Rais.

In Person Attendees: (14) Chris Clissold, Janet Kiley, Danny Miller, Aaron Ray, Paul Ray, Carol Spaniola, Bus Spaniola, Mark Zacharda, Thomas J. Foster, Janet Horvath, Lynn Weaver, Cheryl Stevenson, Tyler Corbin, Becky Perry.

Tyler Corbin made a motion to approve Meeting agenda and Minutes from June, Paul Ray made a motion to second. Meeting agenda and Minutes of June meeting approved by unanimous consent.

Chair's Report:

- a. Tonight's guest speaker: Jessica Siminski, representative from MI Justice Advocacy Org.
- b. MDP offers on-going online training on a variety of topics. People can call 833-MI-VOTE
- c. Redistricting is going to be addressed first on the state senate map. They will start from scratch. We are hoping to see final maps by December. The county will also be re-districting. Mark has been contacted by county clerk. First meeting for this is August 3rd. Janet Kiley states we should call Senator Tom Barrett's office every day to say that people in this county do not want voter suppression.

Guest Speaker: Jessica Siminski –vice chair of MI Justice Advocacy Org. Tonight's Topic: Proposing legislation that people involved with the MDOC who have served 30 days of time without misconduct will gain 30 days of credit towards a reduction in their sentence. She had on hand postcards with QR codes that sends a letter to Representative Frederick saying you support that legislative change. Jessica showed how Michigan compares to other states in terms of sentencing lengths for incarcerated individuals.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Aaron Ray reported \$2,327.23 in the General Fund, \$218.65 in Administrative, and \$5 in Savings for a total of \$2,550.88. Aaron Ray reports being close to the other side of the MI Department of Elections issue.

Bus Spaniola motioned that the Treasurer's Report be approved; motion seconded by Janet Horvath. All Ayes

New Business:

- a. Chair Mark Zacharda called for resolution for Preserving Democracy via Voting Rights to be used as a letter to the editor and also as a way to characterize Senator Tom Barrett as attacking our democracy. Committee members Aaron Ray, Joanne Carlson, Jeanne Munn, and Janet Kiley altered some of the language from the draft of the resolution. Bus Spaniola moved to adopt the resolution as amended. Tom Foster motioned to second. All ayes. It is adopted.
- b. Roadside cleanup is Saturday, July 24th at 8 a.m. Everyone will meet at Bennington Township Hall and plan to clean from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. Someone needs to put this on the Facebook page.
- c. It would be nice to have a booth at the county fair. Lynn Weaver reports that she does not believe it will be set up the same way as it typically would be due to ongoing pandemic. It would be helpful to start planning ahead for next year's fair as it is an election year.

Unfinished business:

- a. Secretary's seat: Mark announced that according to Rules and Bylaws, the county committee needs a special meeting to approve a new secretary of the Shiawassee Democrats. This will be done virtually.
- b. Mark has the AI Franken art at home in a safe place. We will get glass and matte, and Mark will make a frame for it.

Committee Reports:

- a. Community Outreach: Janet Horvath reported a nice turnout for the in-person evening picnic at McCurdy Park on Wednesday June 30 with about 30 people present. There was a petition there to sign for Anthony Feig to run against Representative Moolenaar. She also reports that people are able to still drop food off to her house for the food drive, which will go to the Homeless Angels of Owosso.
- b. Membership and Candidate Committee-NR
- c. Rural Caucus Committee-NR
- d. Extra-Party reports: MI 4th has a meeting on 7/29. Bus Spaniola, Cheryl Farver, and Paul Ray have responsibilities to the 4th district. Cheryl Farver has cancer and is expecting treatments for the next 20 weeks.

Good and Welfare:

- a. Upcoming precinct delegate meeting for Governor Whitmer.

Adjourn: Motion made to adjourn by Bus Spaniola and seconded by Danny Miller. Adjourned at 8:29 pm

Submitted by Becky Perry