

Minutes - April 13, 2022 7:02 p.m. Shiawassee Dems party monthly meeting.

Welcome and Call to Order: Chair Janet Kiley

All - Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of silence for people in uniform, people of Ukraine, anywhere else there is loss of life

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

Native American Acknowledgment Statement – Janae Fear, volunteer for next month: Chris Clissold

Virtual Meeting Attendee: (7) Carolyn Lawrence, Sue Grigas, Jerry Alan, Patricia VanLuven, Butch Griffith, Cheryl Farver, Mark Zacharda

In Person Attendees: (15) Janet Kiley, Becky Perry, Bus Spaniola, Kirk Rheume, Tamara Sanders, Chris Clissold, Ann Arwin, Paul Ray, Penelope Tsernoglou, Tony Newman, Theresa Rathwell, Joanne Carson, Karen Grennell, Aaron Ray, Janae Fear

Approval of agenda and minutes: There is a change in the agenda tonight as Joanne Carlson is doing the promote the vote. Bus Spaniola made a motion to approve the agenda and the minutes with the change. Ann Arwin seconded the motion. All ayes.

Chair's Report:

- a. Janet spoke of the annual coalition building dinner and states that it is sold out.
- b. Voter protection update: looking for paid election inspectors and volunteer poll challengers. If you or anyone you know is interested please let Janet know so she can get into to them for training. Deadline is May 15th. Discussion ensued with questions.
- c. Voter assistance hotline: 833-MI-VOTES
- d. New Michigan dems app: they want volunteers to train to use the app. Using it to help people get more involved. Discussion ensued.

Treasurer's Report:

- a. Treasurer Aaron Ray reported an absolute surge from act blue donations with \$3,734.34 in the General Fund, \$472.91 in the Administrative Fund and \$5 in Savings for a total of \$4,212.25. Vote to accept the Treasurer's Report: Kirk Rheaum made the motion, Paul Ray seconded the motion. All ayes and the report is accepted.

Janet Kiley states there is not a guest speaker tonight, but candidates will speak.

New Business:

- a. Candidate campaign updates:
Emily Stivers for the 75th district. She spoke about working on expanding access to mental health services.
Penelope Tsernoglou for the 75th district. She spoke about being an attorney and a small business owner, a former county commissioner.

- b. Promote the Vote: Joanne Carlson spoke about this effort. Please alert MDP if you see people with “secure my vote” initiatives. Deadline for signatures is June 30th.
- c. Upcoming Events:
Parades: Durand on May 14th, Laingsburg on May 28th, Owosso on June 4th, and Pasta and Politics on June 7th

Unfinished business:

- a. Campaign office update: Janae says they have a space: 818 W. Main Street, right next to the bike shop for \$600 per month, utilities estimated around \$150 per month, MDP is offering to pay for half of this, Elissa Slotkin is offering to pay the other half after two months, could start renting at the end of the month. Discussion ensued. Brian True makes a motion that the party enter into a lease to rent space less than \$6K plus utilities and insurance through the end of the year. Ann Arwin seconded the motion. All ayes. Cheers! Discussion ensued regarding a press release.
- b. Email list for candidates: Paul spoke about that topic. Discussion ensued.
- c. Precinct Delegate recruitment: discussion regarding need for real democrats. Could hold a precinct delegate drive maybe. It is important to show representation for the party locally.
- d. Candidates for elected office: we need candidates to run against these county commissioners. Where do we have candidates? Only one candidate for commissioner. Chris Clissold spoke of Woodhull twp, says it appears to be imploding and they are barely civil to each other. May 4th is that next meeting. Discussion ensued.

Committee Reports:

- a. Rules and Bylaws: NR.
- b. Community Outreach: Janet Kiley states next food drive is in July. Brian True spoke of roadside cleanup on April 23rd at 9:00 a.m. at Bennington Twp Hall, come as you are, bring a friend, need at least 9 people. Kirk and Janet state how fun it actually is. Janet spoke of parades- need people to sign up. May 14th is Durand Railroad parade, Paul and Aaron have already filled out applications for Durand and Laingsburg.
- c. Finance and Fundraising: pasta and politics is June 7th at Bennington Twp hall. Special meeting next Wednesday at Guidos at 6:30 to finalize details. Aaron asks for volunteers.
- d. Membership and Candidate Recruitment Committee-Chris Clissold states she is reaching out to people who are writing letters to the editor.
- e. Young Dems: NR
- f. 4th District: NR.
- g. Extra-Party reports: NR.
- h. Communication and Technology: Janae spoke of need for volunteers for this committee and each committee.

Good and Welfare:

Mark Zacharda spoke about state convention and he spoke of voting for the Michigan supreme court justices, he states Berstein and Bolden.

Brian True spoke of donating to Ukraine through “eyecare for Ukraine”

Janet Kiley spoke about grand opening of Greater Laingsburg Recycler on April 24th from 2-4

Tony Newman said April 23rd there is a tree planting at Shiatown.

Adjourn: Motion made to adjourn by Kirk Rheaume and seconded by Karen Grennell.

Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Becky Perry