

Shiawassee Democrats Monthly Meeting – March 9, 2022 7:00 p.m. All Virtual

Welcome and Call to Order: Chair Janet Kiley

All - Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of silence for pandemic, front-line workers, people of Ukraine

Native American Acknowledgment Statement – Chris Clissold

Motion to amend minutes from last meeting made by Aaron Ray, seconded by Bus Spaniola. All ayes.

Motion to approve February minutes and March agenda made by Chris Clissold and seconded by Bus Spaniola. All ayes.

Virtual Meeting Attendee: (24) Becky Perry, Neal Weingarden, Earl Weingarden, Aaron Ray, Greg Remington, Chris Clissold, Jerry Alan, Janae Fear, Marion, Ralph, Francis Spaniola, Kirk Rheume, Janet Horvath, Joanne Carlson, Brian True, Emily Stivers, Patricia VanLuven, Paul Ray, Anne Arwin, Mark Zacharda, Salman Rais Muhammad.

Chair's Report:

- a. MDP announced early canvass kickoff for up-ballot starting March 19-20.
- b. Voter protection 833-MIVOTES, voter assisted hotline, they want people to have access to this number before the May election.
- c. MDP is looking for volunteers, especially observers for the elections.
- d. Democratic party wants poll workers everywhere. May 15th is the deadline if anyone is interested.
- e. Coalition dinner is on June 25th, hosted by MDP.

Treasurer's Report:

- a. Treasurer Aaron Ray reported \$3,328.73 in the General Fund, \$384.92 in the Administrative Fund and \$5 in Savings for a total of \$3,718.65. Vote to accept the Treasurer's Report: Kirk Rheume made the motion, Paul Ray seconded the motion. All ayes and the report is accepted.

Guest Speaker: Joanne Winkleman. Janet Kiley introduced her. She is the voter service chair of league of women voters in Lansing. She presented on ways to vote, many bills put forth to change election laws. Questions and discussion followed.

Unfinished business:

- a. There is the issue of giving out our contact lists to candidates still. Aaron Ray made a motion to table this. Paul Ray seconded the motion. All ayes.

Committee Reports:

- a. Rules and Bylaws: NR.
- b. Community Outreach: Janet Horvath reports that the last day to bring food is March 18th. Brian True states that the roadside cleanup is from April 23rd through May 1st, debating what's best between a Saturday or Sunday and that we need at least 9 people. Aaron Ray reported that the Shiawassee Democrats were invited to participate in the Laingsburg parade on May 28th, and the Durand parade on May 14th and the Curwood parade on June 4th. Discussion ensued. This coming Monday there is a social event at McCurdy Park Community center, it is potluck style at 6 p.m.
- c. Membership and Candidate Recruitment Committee-Chris Clissold spoke about meeting with Kody Vitale, she is following up with people who write letters to the editor in the Argus that seem pro-democratic, anti-Trump and asking if they want to join.
- d. 4th District: NR.
- e. Extra-Party reports: Chris Clissold went to Woodhull twp meeting. Janae Fear spoke of the city of Owosso and Durand raising water rates.
- f. Communication and Technology: NR

Candidates in the area spoke:

Emily Stivers- running for the 75th district spoke about the new map and what she is running for.

Mark Zacharda- running for the 71st district spoke of his campaign and getting the word out.

Salman Muhammad-running for state senate

Greg Remington- spoke of possibly running for 4th district commissioner.

Good and Welfare:

Aaron Ray encourages people to try to donate to the people of Ukraine. Brian True also spoke of his friends in Ukraine.

The next meeting will be on April 13th in person. There is the endorsement convention on April 9th.

Adjourn: Motion made to adjourn by Brian True and seconded by Chris Clissold.

Adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Submitted by Becky Perry