

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

GRAND DEMOCRATS

April 24, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Hamilton at 6:32 p.m. with him leading the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

President Hamilton welcomed all attendees including new members and guests.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES No corrections or changes were offered to the Minutes of the March 27, 2019 meeting. The Minutes are approved as posted on the Grand Dems website.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS President Hamilton announced that on Saturday any Grand Dems who wish may participate in "Adopt a Street" led by Sally and John Nuerenberg should meet near the corner of Mountain View and Reems Road.

He summarized concerns occurring at the National and State levels, noting we are "living history" right now. President Hamilton mentioned recent local news stories related to Kelli Ward's tenure as State Republican Party Chair and Russell Pearce's inflammatory comments made at local rally.

President Hamilton noted the importance of unions and his own involvement in a union. Referring to the evening speaker's topic, he asked all in attendance who were in unions to raise their hands. An impressive number responded.

TREASURER'S REPORT President Hamilton asked Treasurer Paula Wilson to give the Treasurer's Report. She reported that we currently have a balance of \$3,783.27.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: President Hamilton asked Dianne Miller, Membership Chair, to announce the number of Grand Dems members. She indicated we have a total of 275 members with 3 new memberships just received.

Social: Pattie Doss reported that several social activities are being tried. The April game night was a great success. Plans will be made to go to a local comedy club in the fall. Another gathering at State 48 Brewery will be held in May. Watch for an email alert for date and time.

Fundraising: President Hamilton introduced Nancy Martin, a member of the Fundraising Committee, who announced there will be several fundraising events

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next fall including one at President Hamilton's home on Sunday, November 3rd. Anyone wishing to assist Ms. Martin with fundraising should contact her or President Hamilton.

OLD BUSINESS

The Grand Dems Board approved not only a redesign of the promotional coffee mug available for \$10 but a Grand Dems "branded" table cloth for the check-in table and a "feather flag" for use at various Grand Dem events. He noted that the vendor, J&R Graphics and Printing, is a union shop.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Hamilton described that a member in attendance had shared a new way to contact US Senators and get a response. He will share this through an upcoming eblast.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKERS

Joyce Bergen, Programs/Public Relations Co-Chair, introduced the speaker Joe Murphy, Political Director of the Arizona AFL-CIO. In the most recent election cycle he was involved in the successful Union's voter turnout operation. The Arizona AFL-CIO is very interested in any proposed legislation affecting workers. They regularly sponsor "A Day of Action" at the state capitol so all working people can come together and fight for decent and equitable pay for work, affordable health care, quality schools, vibrant communities and a secure future for all. He responded to questions from the audience.

50-50 RAFFLE

The drawing was held for the 50/50 raffle which collected \$71, half of which was won by an attendee. That person donated their share of the proceeds to Nadaburg Schools.

NEXT MEETING

The next Grand Dems General Meeting will be Wednesday evening, May 22, 2019, with guest speaker Terry Goddard, Board Member of the Central Arizona Project representing Maricopa County. He will define drought as it relates to Arizona today, give an update on the Drought Contingency Plan, and share ideas of how we best can alleviate drought.

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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Hodgson, Interim Secretary