

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
GRAND DEMOCRATS
JUNE 22, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Reed at 6:32 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Roger Rhodes.

A motion to accept the minutes of the May 25, 2016, meeting as published on the website was made by Sharon Forbes and seconded by Bonnie Green.

The President gave the Treasurer's report stating we have \$5,765 in our checking account and \$1,242 in savings for a total of \$7,007. He then informed attendees of the Board decision to donate \$250.00 to each of the five candidates running for local offices which includes our three speakers this evening. President Reed mentioned that since the Democratic Party was established in 1983 this is the first time we have five Democratic candidates running for local offices.

President Reed stated that there are 124,000 voters in LD 22 and 48 precincts. Of those voters, 25,500 are registered Democrats, 56,500 are registered Republicans and the remaining 42,000 are undeclared or independents. A goal we have as Democrats is to insure all Democrats vote and to persuade undeclared or independents as well as leaning Republicans to vote for Democrats.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Membership Chair, Paula Parkel, reported we now have 113 members.

Social: Diane Miller reported good turnouts for our social gatherings—8 for breakfast and 18 for dinner this month.

Elections: Barbara Nelson explained Clean Elections to the audience and requested interested parties to please donate to the candidates running clean elections. They are Michael Muscato, Manny Hernandez, Bill

Mundell and Tom Chabin. Forms were available in the back of the room for donations.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Reed also encouraged the audience to consider contributing to the five Maricopa County candidates who cannot run under the rules of Clean Elections but need a considerable amount of money to run their campaigns. Envelopes will be provided by our speakers this evening for their campaigns.

President Reed then announced our thanks to the Parkels who have been steadfast members and volunteers to the Grand Dems for years. Paula and her husband, Lynn, have been our Membership Committee Chairs and have volunteered for numerous other activities of the Grand Dems and we acknowledged their dedication.

SPEAKERS:

Program Co-Chair Roger Rhodes announced we will have three speakers this evening. The first speaker was Diego Rodriguez who is running for Maricopa County Attorney.

Mr. Rodriguez gave us his background and reasons for running for this office. He believes the office of the County Attorney should represent all of the people in a fair and equitable manner and wants to do his part to help Arizona fulfill its great potential.

A BREAK HERE REMINDING EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RAFFLE AND THE KIDS GRAND HAND DONATIONS.

The second speaker, Mr. Paul Penzone, is running for Maricopa County Sheriff. Mr. Penzone has an extensive law enforcement background and wants to promote a strong partnership between law enforcement and the community. He has previously been awarded for his ability to select and lead strong teams through complex and difficult challenges. He believes the Maricopa County Sheriff has a responsibility to make Maricopa County the safest community in America and he believes he will do that.

The third speaker was Adrian Fontes who is running for the office of Maricopa County Recorder. Mr. Fontes is an Arizona native and an attorney. He gave us his background and reasons for running for this office. The recent problems for voters in our State have compelled him to seek this office to improve the whole process of voting which he feels deeply about.

All of our speakers this evening were inspiring and presented themselves in an extremely qualified manner.

OTHER BUSINESS:

President Reed announced that we will not be meeting in July and August. He reminded attendees to check the website for our September meeting and to please attend. Plans for the September meeting are to have the other two candidates running for County office speaking—Joe Downs and Michelle Robertson.

He thanked all attendees this evening and encouraged them to join the Grand Dems.

The 50/50 raffle collected \$87 and the winner of half the monies collected was Diane Miller.

No further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Barbara Barksdale and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Cotton, Secretary

