

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
GRAND DEMOCRATS
MAY 25, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Reed at 6:30 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Manny Hernandez.

A motion to accept the minutes of the April 27, 2016, meeting as published on the website was made by Harriet Kahn and seconded by Barbara Nelson.

The President gave the Treasurer's report. Checking account balance is \$5,832 and Savings account balance is \$1,242 for a total of \$7,074.00. President Reed announced that at our next Board Meeting the Board will be discussing using some of these funds to help candidates running for office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: We currently have 110 members. Membership Chair Paula Parkel reminded members that name tags can be ordered for \$10.00. Attendance this evening was 56.

Social: Diane Miller reported a good turnout for both breakfast (13) and dinner (25) for this month.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Reed announced that we have several petitions in the back of the room for signature for candidates as well as a petition to put Senate Bill 1516 on the November ballot. He encouraged attendees to sign these petitions.

He also announced that several candidates running under our Clean Elections procedures are in need of the \$5.00 donations allowed at this time and encouraged attendees to contribute. Those candidates are Michael Muscato, Manny Hernandez, Bill Mundell and Tom Chabin.

President Reed then introduced Bob Kaiser to tell us about Senate Bill 1516. The organization, Stop Corruption Now, is seeking signatures on a petition to repeal SB 1516 which made it easier for dark money to influence our elections. They need help getting 45,000 signatures on the petition to get this referendum on the November ballot. The deadline to submit signatures is the end of July. Mr. Kaiser said this is a bi-partisan effort because 80% of Arizonans do not like dark money. Their website is: **stopcorruptionnowAZ.com**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Reed introduced Marge Clark, Board Member of Valley View Food Bank who informed the audience about the food bank and invited everyone to their Fundraiser Bar-B-Q on June 24 from 5:30 - 8:30 pm. at the United Methodist Church in Sun City. She also informed everyone that contributions to the Valley View Food Bank are a direct credit on Arizona State income taxes up to \$200.00 per person.

President Reed honored Judith Bridges and her whole fundraising team for their excellent contributions to the Grand Dems for many years. Members of the team in attendance were asked to stand and were given a round of applause.

SPEAKERS:

Program Co-Chair Roger Rhodes introduced our speakers for the evening. Michael Moscato, candidate for Arizona Senate from LD 22; Manny Hernandez, candidate for Arizona House of Representatives from LD 22; and Jim Hayden, candidate for Surprise City Council, District 2.

Each candidate gave a brief bio and talked about why they are running for office and issues they are concerned about.

OTHER BUSINESS:

President Reed announced our June 22, 2016, speakers will be: Paul Penzone, candidate for Maricopa County Sheriff; Adrian Fontes, candidate for City Recorder; and Diego Rodriguez, candidate for County Attorney. He encouraged everyone to attend and bring friends.

The 50/50 Raffle collected \$64.00 and half of that, \$32.00, was won by Cheryl Falk.

President Reed reminded everyone of our Kids Grand Hand collection jar and encouraged their contributions.

No further business, Doisey Landry moved to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Cotton, Secretary

