

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
GRAND DEMOCRATS
NOVEMBER 16, 2016

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

The pledge of allegiance was led by Jim Dobbins.

A motion to accept the minutes of the October 26, 2016, meeting as published on the website was made by Ethel Brown and seconded by Sharon Forbes.

The President gave the Treasurer's report. He reported the election fundraiser raised around \$1,400. Currently our checking account balance is \$2,335 and savings account balance is \$300.00. President Reed also informed members of the decision by the Board to donate more monies the end of October to several local candidates before the election. We received thank you notes from some of these candidates which Linda Cotton read.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Social: Our Committee Chair, Diane Miller, was absent so President Reed gave her report. We had 16 persons attending the Blue Dinner this month. President Reed reminded members of our monthly social events—Blue Breakfast, the 1st Thursday of the month at 8:15 a.m. and Blue Monday Dinner, the 2nd Monday of the month at 5:00 p.m. Both events are held at Coco's in Sun City Grand.

Membership: Dues are now due for the new year beginning in January.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Kids Grand Hand fundraiser we have been participating in for the last several years has gone away. We received a letter thanking us for our support but indicating that counselors at Dysart have informed us that other programs are now filling the gaps for in-need students. The Board discussed this and decided that we would now collect donations for the Valley View Food Bank.

A member suggested we consider Nadaburg School District and another member wanted to know if we would collect food for Valley View Food Bank as we had done in the past. President Reed said these suggestions would be something for next year's Board to consider.

SPEAKER:

Our speaker this evening was Terry Young, Chief of Police, City of Surprise. He has an extensive law enforcement career and has served as Chief of Police in Surprise since July 2015.

Chief Young gave us an overview of types of crime in Surprise and what his department is doing to combat them. He strongly supports citizen interaction with the department and strives to do outreach activities. The Department has monthly Citizen Satisfaction Surveys they review to improve their performance with our citizens. He is also an active participant in the training of his officers and believes meeting minimum standards is not good enough.

The Chief fielded numerous questions from the audience and offered to be available after the meeting to meet personally with anyone with additional questions or concerns. Two websites mentioned to see what is happening in your area are: nextdoor.com and raidsonline.com.

President Reed thanked Chief Young for his presentation and gave him one of our Grand Democrats coffee mugs.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Nominations: President Reed, Nominations Chair, presented the slate of candidates for 2017. They are:

Bill Shields, President

Roger Rhodes, Vice-President

Linda Cotton, Secretary

Paula Wilson, Treasurer

Harriet Kahn, Member-at-Large

Diane Miller, Member-at-Large

Frank Reed, Member-at-Large

Also, the following Committee Chairs were announced:

Membership Chair, Paula Parkel

Social Chair, Diane Miller

Program Chair, Barbara Nelson and Sharon Levinson

Elections Chair for 2018, Barbara Nelson

Public Relations Chair, Same as Program Chairs

Fundraising Chair, Judith Bridges

Nominations Chair, Frank Reed
Webmaster, Joe Williams

The nominated Board was introduced and other nominations were solicited from the floor. No further nominations were made and a motion was made to accept the nominations as presented. A vote was taken and all nominated candidates were elected.

President Reed announced the Holiday Party for December 14 and reminded members to sign up and indicate whether they would bring an appetizer or dessert. Flyers for the event were available at the membership table and the notice has been placed on the website as well as email blasts sent to current members.

The 50/50 raffle drawing resulted in Roger Rhodes winning and donating his share back to the Grand Dems.

No further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Judy Bender, seconded by Ethel Brown and the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Cotton, Secretary