

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

GRAND DEMOCRATS

November 28, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Rhodes at 6:30 p.m. President Rhodes led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

President Rhodes welcomed all attendees, including new members and guests, and asked them to stand to be recognized.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES No corrections or changes were offered to the minutes of the October 24, 2018 General Membership meeting. The minutes are approved as posted on the website.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS President Rhodes paid tribute to Ed Pastor, former US Congressman, who just passed away. He read a statement from Adrian Fontes, Maricopa County Recorder, who commented on about the life and legacy of Representative Pastor as Arizona's first Hispanic member of Congress.

President Rhodes noted this is his last meeting as President of Grand Dems. He announced he is stepping aside after serving 5 years as Vice President which included serving as President when President Bill Shields resigned to accept a position in Michigan early in 2018. He expressed his appreciation to all the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs who have supported him throughout his tenure.

TREASURER'S REPORT President Rhodes reported, on behalf of Treasurer Paula Wilson, that there is \$756 in checking and \$500 in savings for a total of \$1256. The balance will continue to grow as memberships come in for 2019.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Paula Parkel, Membership Chair, noted that the Grand Dems membership for 2018 was over 240 members.

Program Planning/Public Relations The incoming Co-Chairs for Program Planning/Public Relations asked Barbara Nelson, retiring Co-Chair, to announce the Grand Dems program scheduled for the January meeting. Steve Slugocki, Maricopa County Democratic Party Chair and Bobbie Kithcart, Legislative District 22 Chair, have been invited to discuss their perspective on the 2018 election, ideas for enhancing the "blue wave", ways to move forward towards 2020 and ways Grand Dems can best use their energy on upcoming elections.

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OLD BUSINESS

Arizona State Tax Credit – Nadaburg Unified School District Grand Dems support Nadaburg Schools through “money collected in a donations jar” as well as encouraging members to use the taxpayer credit program offered by the State of Arizona. Information was made available on how to use the state tax credit.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

Sharon Levinson, Co-Chair for Program Planning/ Public Relations, introduced the speaker AZ Republic newspaper columnist Linda Valdez. Ms. Valdez began by expressing her respect for Representative Ed Pastor and his unique ability to work across the aisle for the benefit of all. She shared stories from her life including her marriage to a Mexican citizen who, at that time, was an illegal resident. Over the years she has expressed her concerns on immigration issues through journalism. Now that the Democrats have made inroads in Congress and at the State level, she urges them to “not over reach” but to look to “moderation” as they go forth. In response to a question from the audience, she said, “Without a free press we wouldn’t have a democracy”. President Rhodes thanked her for sharing her thoughts and gave her a Grand Dems coffee mug as a token of appreciation.

NEW BUSINESS

CC&Rs and Bylaws Consent Process President Rhodes introduced Bob Aiken, member of the SCG Board of Directors, who spoke about the amendments and restatement of the CC&Rs and Bylaws and the consent process being followed to reflect the updated governance needs of SCG. He urged all SCG homeowners to complete the form in order to achieve the 67% of homeowners needed to make the changes to our CC&Rs and Bylaws. He responded to questions from the audience.

Grand Dems 2019 Board Election Listed on the agenda was the slate of Board nominees for 2019. President Rhodes asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none and in accordance to Robert’s Rules of Order he declared the proposed slate of Board members accepted by acclamation: President, Mark Hamilton; Vice President, Ken Hanson; Secretary, Bob Walling; Treasurer, Paula Wilson; Members at Large, Jan Ashton-Beazie, Joyce Bergen and Paula Parkel.

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50-50 RAFFLE

The drawing was held for the 50/50 raffle which collected \$96, half of which was won by Dianne Miller in the drawing.

NEXT MEETING

The next Grand Dems General Meeting will be Wednesday evening, January 23, 2019.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Hodgson, Secretary