

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

GRAND DEMOCRATS

October 24, 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 September 26, 2018 General Membership meeting. The minutes are approved as circulated.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS He introduced current officers and asked each to stand to be recognized for their contributions to the Club throughout this year. There are a number of "meet the candidate" opportunities scheduled before Election Day. About 600 attendees were at the September 29th Rally at the Sonoran Plaza. He thanked three individuals who coordinated the event: Barbara Nelson, Sharon Levinson, and Marilyn Schultz. He noted that they went "all out" to make it a great opportunity to hear from the candidates running for state and federal office.

TREASURER'S REPORT President Rhodes reported our treasury is at a low point because the Club gave money to each of the candidates who are not running as "clean election candidates". However, our accounts will build again since it is membership renewal time. Currently there is \$689 in checking and \$500 in savings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rally: Barbara Nelson, Program Co-Chair, thanked all the many volunteers, including those from LD22 and the Northwest Valley Dems, who assisted in making the Rally a huge success. She noted that the highlight was hearing from the candidates running in the November election.

Membership: Paula Parkel, Membership Chair, reported that the Grand Dems membership in 2018 is 253 members, a new record. She is now collecting memberships for the 2019 year beginning in January and already has 16 memberships.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Officers for 2019: President Rhodes announced that he would not continue as President. He has been very active for the past 6 years and will continue to be involved, just not in a leadership position. Vice President Mark Hamilton has willingly agreed to run for President which leaves the Vice President position open. Paula Wilson is willing to continue serving as Treasurer. Bob Walling will run as

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Secretary. Anyone interested in serving as an officer should call President Rhodes or Vice President Hamilton. The full slate of proposed officers will come up for vote at the November General Membership meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Current Campaign: President Rhodes introduced Frank Reed, Chair of LD 22, who reminded everyone there are 13 days left before the Election process ends. He described all the volunteer efforts that were ongoing such as stuffing door hangers, writing and stamping postcards, and more. This close to the election, phone calls are being made to encourage everyone to vote. He appealed to everyone to assist in some way as there is a lot at stake in this election.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKERS

Ms. Nelson, on behalf of Sharon Levinson, Program Co-chair, introduced the speakers for the evening. Representatives spoke on behalf of Stan Arterberry, District 4 Maricopa County Community College District Board Member candidate, and Kiana Maria Sears, candidate for the Corporation Commission. Bill Pierce, candidate for State Mine inspector, spoke on his issues and concerns for the environment and mine safety. Wendy Garcia, Teri Sarmiento and Valerie Harris, running for the Arizona State Legislature in LD 22, shared their positions on various issues. Ms. Nelson urged everyone's support for these candidates and other Democratic candidates on the 2018 ballot.

Paula Parkel rose to thank ALL the candidates for their commitment to serve and extraordinary run in this election. Applause confirmed everyone's appreciation for the strength of all the Democratic candidates.

50-50 RAFFLE

The drawing was held for the 50/50 raffle which collected \$71 half of which was won by Mark Hanna in the drawing.

The next Grand Dems General Meeting will be Wednesday evening November 28th with AZ Republic newspaper writer Linda Valdez speaking.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Hodgson, Secretary