

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
GRAND DEMOCRATS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

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

The pledge of allegiance was led by Jim Hayden.

The minutes of the June 22, 2016 meeting were accepted as published on the website.

There was no Treasurer's report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Social: Diane Miller reported that attendance at Blue breakfasts and dinners during the Months of June – September was very good and resulted in the pickup of some new members. There were a total of 64 at the dinners and 38 at the breakfasts.

Elections: Barbara Nelson briefed us on election activities. She stressed the big Candidate Rally to be held at the Cimarron Center on October 1, from 2–4 p.m. She reported that Ann Kirkpatrick, U.S. Senate candidate, is planning to be there, but Paul Penzone, candidate for Sheriff, is not able to attend. He will however have a representative there on his behalf. Other candidates who will be present are:

Legislative District 22 candidates Michael Muscato, Senate, and Manny Hernandez, Representative. Adrian Fontes, Recorder, Joe Downs, Treasurer. Diego Rodriguez, Attorney, Michelle Robertson, Supt. Of Schools, Linda Thor, Community College Governing Bd., and Thomas Chabin and William Mundell, Corporation Commission.

Volunteers are needed for the Fall Fest on October 8 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A sign up sheet for two hour shifts was available at the meeting.

Fundraising: Judith Bridges announced that an election night Pizza Party will be held at a home in Sun City Grand on November 8, from 6-9 p.m. More specific information on this event will be forthcoming.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

A volunteer is needed to serve as photographer for the October 1 Candidate Rally.

John Landry volunteered.

Also needed is a Nominating Committee Chair to solicit candidates for officers for the Grand Dems for the upcoming 2017 year. The slate containing candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two Board Members-At-Large, will be presented at the October General Meeting and voted on at the November meeting. Frank has information sheets for all offices. Please contact Frank to volunteer for Nominating Committee Chair.

President Reed acknowledged the presence of candidate Manny Hernandez, Michael Muscato, and newly elected City Council member Jim Hayden at the meeting. He then

introduced Alexandra Arboleda and Ben Graff, candidates for Central Arizona Water Conservation District Board who spoke briefly to the group. The CAWCD operates the CAP and the Groundwater Replenishment Dist., which is charged with protecting our CAP water supply, preparing for drought and climate change, setting fair water rates and other matters essential to good water management. This is a non-partisan office but they requested that we vote for only three candidates who will work for sustainable water supplies for our community: JIM HOLWAY, ALEXANDRA ARBOLEDA AND BEN GRAFF.

Our speaker for the evening was Amanda Burke representing the Center for the Future of Arizona. The center is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization founded by former ASU President, Lattie Coor, in 2002. Their purpose is to help define and shape Arizona's future through an action-oriented agenda that focuses on issues critical to our state. They are attempting to engage Arizonans in helping define the Arizona we want and developing an action plan that will accomplish the stated goals. Among those goals and objectives would be issues around quality jobs, a great Pre-K-16 education system, access to affordable healthcare for all, a modern infrastructure, a sustainable environment, a culture that attracts and retains young talent and high levels of citizen engagement. Following her remarks, Ms. Burke engaged the audience in a Q & A session that focused mostly on education issues.

The 50/50 raffle collected \$70. The raffle winner, Sharon Forbes, donated her half of the money collected to the Water Conservation Board candidates, Arboleda and Graff.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Ashton-Beazie, Acting Secretary