

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
GRAND DEMOCRATS
September 25, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Hamilton at 6:30 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Hamilton welcomed all attendees including new members and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: No corrections or changes were offered to the minutes of the June 26, 2019, meeting and the minutes were approved as published on the website.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: President Hamilton introduced John Bower with Outlaw Dirty Money and reminded attendees that he has petitions available for anyone interested in getting signatures or to have those petitions with signatures notarized.

President Hamilton introduced Marge Clark with Valley View Community Food Bank and she thanked the Grand Dems for all of their support and announced the annual fundraiser for the Food Bank will be held at the Briarwood Country Club on November 2 at a cost of \$100.00 per person. She also informed the audience that the Food Bank will be moving to a new location at 107th Avenue and Peoria Avenue in about 3 weeks. She told us that they are serving 500 clients weekly many of whom are seniors.

President Hamilton also introduced Frank Reed who gave us an update on the bond to be voted on November 5 for the Nadaburg School District. The bond is seeking \$2.4 million to expand their district to build a high school. Many members of the Grand Dems and LD-22 assisted in mailing postcards to voters in the district to encourage their vote for this bond and he thanked everyone who participated.

President Hamilton introduced Michael Moscato who is a candidate for CD-8. He informed us that at the National Level CD-8 is now considered "in play" as a possible flip. He thanked the Grand Dems and LD-22 for all their hard work making this possible.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer, Paula Wilson, reported our current balance is \$2,935.50.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP: Dianne Miller, Membership Chair, reported we currently have 291 members with some new members joining this evening along with others who have taken the membership forms.

SOCIAL: President Hamilton reminded the audience of the following upcoming events: Monday, October 21, at State 48 Brewery, happy hour at 4:00 p.m., which previously saw 20-25 in attendance. LD-22 members have also been invited. There will be a game night in November with the actual date to be determined. The December 11 shared Holiday Party. Sign up for the Holiday Party at a cost of \$25.00 is available at the back of the room and will be available at the October and November meetings as well.

FUNDRAISING: President Hamilton reminded everyone of the November 3 event at his home from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 and sign up is available at the back of the room. Sign up will also be available at the October 23 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: President Hamilton introduced two representatives from LD-22 (our Legislative District) to update us on their activities.

Howie Neiberg informed us of events organized by LD-22 for rallies and encouraged everyone to become engaged. He gave us the website for LD22 Democrats.com for further information about events. They rally in front of Congresswoman Debbie Lesko's office.

Bobbie Kithcart announced an upcoming Healthcare Forum they have organized for October 26 and passed out flyers for the event. It will feature 3 prominent physicians who will talk about medicare, and other proposed plans for the future of healthcare in the U.S. She encouraged everyone's attendance and questions.

SPEAKER: Susan Walling, Program Co-Chair, introduced Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Associate Professor, ASU School of Social Work and Director of the Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research.

Dr. Sepowitz gave a very informative talk about sex trafficking and what is currently being done to assist victims across the country and locally. She is recognized as an expert on human trafficking locally, nationally and internationally. She is the Clinical Director for the first HUD funded permanent supportive housing program for sex trafficked women and their children in Phoenix, AZ, entitled Phoenix Starfish House.

President Hamilton thanked Dr. Sepowitz for her presentation.

President Hamilton introduced Joyce Bergen, Program Co-Chair, who informed us that the October 23 meeting will be a forum of the CD-8 candidates, Bob Musselwhite, Bob Olson, and Michael Muscato.

The drawing was held for the 50/50 raffle which collected \$70.00, half of which was won by Ethel Brown.

President Hamilton announced that there will be a discussion round table after this meeting for anyone wishing to participate. The discussion leader is Howard Neiberg.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Cotton, Interim Secretary