

# **St. Joseph County, Michigan, Democratic Party**

Meeting Minutes (recorded by Dennis Smith in Mike Bobalik's absence)

June 13, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Andrew George at 4:12 PM

Guests in attendance from the Jon Hoadley Campaign: Dakota, Bianca, Tanya. Also Siobhan Leonard the MDP organizer for our District.

Dakota and the other representatives from the Hoadley Campaign expressed their appreciation in being permitted to attend the meeting, answer questions about the campaign, and announce the search for a paid (\$1000/mo, approx. 25 hours/wk through August 2019) campaign fellow. The responsibilities would include:

- Host fundraising events
- Be the county liaison to the campaign
- Organize events

## **Secretary Report**

The minutes of the May meeting were reviewed with one correction noted: The motion in May to approve the Gun Safety event was supported by Carol Higgins, not Judy Nelson.

Motion to approve the May 2019 minutes as corrected was adopted.

## **Treasurer Report** (Judy Nelson)

See attached report. Motion: Dennis Smith/ second (Carol Higgins)

To reimburse Dennis Smith \$75, prepaid by him for room rental at the Three Rivers Community Center for the Gun safety Training. Motion: Dennis/Carol (second) Motion Adopted

To receive the treasurer's report as presented. Motion adopted

## **Steering Committee:** Suzette Kingman-Lowry

Committee did meet to define party goals

1. Devise ways to project positive public image of the party
2. Help identify and Promote Democratic candidates
3. Devise and conduct a survey of our party members and wider community. Survey questions may be gleaned from the VAN and other sources. Issues to address include:
  - a. Health care, specific issues regarding women's health care and vaccinations
  - b. Environment – Green New Deal
  - c. Economy; wage inequity issues
  - d. Education, including student loan debt

## **Political Organization:** Paula Smith

The Committee has constructed and printed spreadsheets depicting all the elected offices in the county

One for every precinct will be printed

Priority for 2019/2020 – identify Democratic candidates for every elected position in the county.

**Membership:** Carol Higgins

No new members to report

Roadside cleanup - July 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM; Group to meet at King residence: 61800 S. U.S. 131

**Ways and Means:** D. Bordner, absent

Banquet date: October 3, 2019

Suzette Kingman-Lowry organizing the silent auction

**Precinct Organizing:** Paula Smith

Paula met with Siobhan Leonard to discuss precinct organizing strategies and recruitment of precinct delegates

The Party lost some precinct delegates since 2018 due to moves and illness

### **Old Business**

Gun Safety Event discussed. All is organized. Public Service Ads, composed by Angie Birdsall, freelance reporter for Three Rivers and Sturgis newspapers have been submitted.

### **New Business**

Party T-shirt design reviewed and discussed. Changes to the lettering graphic approved by consensus.

Possible shirt vendors discussed. Though a union shop is desirable, choosing a local printer deemed a higher priority by the group. Motion: Dennis/Suzette(second)

To allocate up to \$1000 for T-shirt production and designate Paula Smith as person to select the vendor and approve the final design. Motion was adopted

Sign-up sheets for the Three Rivers Water Festival and County Fair were passed around for volunteers.

Chair, Andrew George expressed his thanks to the Hoadley campaign folks for their participation.

Motion to Adjourn – Carol Higgins

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM