

## **USC Democratic Committee Meeting Minutes** **September 25, 2018**

Attendance: Fran Campbell, Jason Fincke, Bernadette Fincke, Terry Aikin, Deb Allen, Linda Descutner, Andrew Zahalsky, Erin Urban, Mary McIntyre, Jodi McClelland, Marlene McNaughton, Maria Miller, Donna Kavov, Ed Kavov, George Bockosh, Peg Babnick, Anne Kulli, Katie Mazzocco, Jess Vishner, GERALYN Austin, Joshua Segall, Peter Schnore, Tyler Gellasch

Attendance Guests: Noah Erwin (Sharon Guidi Campaign Manager), Lucas D. Bezerra (Our Kids Our Commitment)

Mary McIntyre started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:05pm.

The nomination to approve minutes was made by Maria Miller, seconded by Jodi McClelland. The minutes were approved by all.

Peg Babnick, treasurer, reported that there was no activity this month and there is \$3,884.15 in the account.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Elections & Data Mining

Bernadette Fincke reported that she created a database on Google Drive which she will share with poll watchers. It is set up by ward and district alphabetically. This database lists all Democrats in Upper St. Clair and has voting record columns (voted, absentee ballots, age, etc.). Laptops are needed for the database. Everyone thanked Bernadette for her hard work. Jason Fincke reported that he needs volunteers for poll watchers and slate cards. Poll watchers should wear neutral clothes; volunteers passing out slate cards should wear their Democrat shirt. It was reported that the Young Democrat Club at the high school could not pass out absentee ballots at school; the Young Republican Club also needs to be included. Peter Schnore said that when he wears a suit as a poll watcher, no one questions him.

#### Inter-Communications Outreach/Partnerships

Geralyn Austin reported on Mt. Lebanon Day of Action which was held on September 15, 2018. This information will be included in the Democratic Newsletter. There were several speakers. *Vote Local Pa* ([www.votelocal.pa](http://www.votelocal.pa)) wants to spread the Democratic PA resources more evenly. Conor Lamb is running ahead in his district; they want to send his donation money to another candidate in Pennsylvania that has a closer election.

*Generation Z* is getting young Democrats engaged.

*Why Courts Matter* ([www.whycourtsmatter.pa](http://www.whycourtsmatter.pa)) Federal and state judges are trying to stop the appointments of David Porter and Brett Kavanaugh.

*Campaign Smart Justice* reported that Pennsylvania is ranked seventh for the highest number of prisoners and first for the longest parole sentences. They would like to get this lowered.

Deb Allen reported that Sharon Guidi's campaign has volunteers writing postcards every Wednesday, from 7:00pm – 9:00pm at Barbara Shaw's Law Office. They are also writing postcards for a rotation of candidates on Thursday from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at the Galleria. Also,

Deb also stated that the Bethel Park Democrats are hosting a debate on October 9, 2018 from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. There are currently 49 seats available for this debate.

Communications – Jodi McClelland said the Speaker Series on Gun Control scheduled September 12 was rescheduled for October 10, 2018.

Events - Mary McIntyre talked about hosting an after election party for Sharon Guidi. It would be held in conjunction with Bethel Park and Peters Township. Locations could be Al's Café or Crown Plaza Hotel. Jason Fincke made a motion to spend \$500 towards the party for Sharon if Bethel Park and Peters Township also spend \$500. The motion was seconded by Tyler Gellasch and passed. Mary is looking for a chair for the Christmas party.

Recruitment – Mary McIntyre reported that there are 12 openings for committee people. Appointed committee people can vote in endorsements. The committee is also looking for Democrat candidates to run for commissioner and school board.

Outreach – No new business.

**Old Business:** There are Democrat shirts for sale. Lucas Bezerra reminded everyone about the Our Kids, Our Commitment referendum on the ballot. After the referendum passes, they will decide how it will work. He said for a \$140,000 house value, \$36 would be added to their taxes.

**New Business:**

Swing Left wants to move resources from one district to another that does not have resources. They also have teaching videos and it is nationwide.

The Democratic Committee has three possible names for school board: Jess Vishner, Natalie Livingston, and Anne Kulli. Taylor Gellasch is going to speak with the current school board. He is also going to speak with Hemina Krishna Bachia to see if she is interested in running.

Jason Fincke made tent cards with names for each ward and district.  
Noah Erwin passed out Sharon Guidi yard signs.

Upcoming events:

October 3 – Weinstein Event at the History Center – \$50

October 7 – Michael Doyle Picnic - Free

October 9 – PA House Debate, 7:00pm – 9:00pm – Bethel Park Community Center - Free

October 10 – Speaker Series – Gun Control - Free

October 25 – October Rally in CharValley – Scott Township Park - Free

The meeting ended at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Descutner