

The Federated Democratic Women of Portage Cty.

Date: June 19, 2021

Place: Double R Bar-B-Que

Address: 4914 Prospect St., Ravenna, OH

Next Meeting

Date: July 13 (Tues.)

Time: 5:30 pm

**Place: Little City Grill
802 N. Mantua St.
Kent**

MINUTES

Present: Chris Clevenger-Morris, Brad Cromes, James Demitrus, Kathleen Demitrus, Becky Doggett, Delores Durbin, Gloria Haven, Bonnie Howe, Vicki Kline, Melissa Long, Ashton Narzisi, Carla Reale, Leota Reale, Lucy Ribelin, Denise Smith, Norma Welling

Guests: Brian Clevenger-Morris, Debbie Nelson

Call to Order:

President Haven called the meeting to order at 11:15 am.

Thank you to Denise Smith for taking the minutes of this meeting.

Minutes:

Denice Smith moved to wave the reading of last month's minutes and to approve the minutes, Norma Welling seconded; motion approved.

One correction was made: Bonnie Howe was present at the May 8, 2021 meeting.

Reports:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Lucy Ribelin
 - a. The CLUB Account balance is: \$2,425.38
 - b. The PAC Account balance is: \$12,165.31
 - c. Lucy suggested that the FDW reach out to a professional regarding expenditures of tax funds.
 - d. The finance report that was submitted to the BOE for 2019-2020 resulted in several questions regarding how various funds were allocated. We had difficulty finding the receipts and some expenditures were not clearly explained.
2. **V.O.T.E. Gala:** Leota Reale
 - a. **The date is Oct 14 at the Elks Club in Ravenna**
 - b. Guidos will be the caterer
 - c. We are still looking for a speaker. Possibilities are Sherrod Brown, Liz Walters, or Andre Washington
3. **Opening the Democratic Office:** Becky Doggett
 - a. On June 21 we will open the office
 - b. Hours are:
 - i. Mon – Wed – Friday from 10a – 2p
 - ii. Mon – Wed - from 5p – 7p
 - iii. Sat - from 11a – 1p
 - c. We have FREE Yard Signs for Judges Fankhauser and Poland and for Redistricting (Jerrymandering). We also have post cards for you to send to encourage our Reps. to begin the process of drawing the maps.

- d. Please contact Becky Doggett at 330-283-5144 if you would like to volunteer to work.
- 4. **Collaboration with County Democrats:** Denise Smith
 - a. Denise met recently with a number of Democratic groups, Aurora for Change, WAKE, Portage Citizens for Decency, Young Democrats, NAACP, and John Kennedy from the Democratic Central Committee.
 - b. This group is going to collaborate on county events and keep their respected membership informed. In addition, they hope to meet monthly to coordinate and reach out to people in the county to engage more frequently.

Old Business

- 1. **Tim Ryan Zoom Town Hall Meeting:** This event has been postponed due to Ryan having a scheduling issue. We are waiting to see if we can schedule an alternative date.
- 2. **Candidates Meet-and-Greet:** Leota Reale
 - a. Judges Mark Fankhauser and Kevin Poland will greet people on August 14 at Fred Fuller Park from 12 noon to 3 pm.
 - b. Please encourage people to attend and bring a friend(s).
 - c. We need volunteers to cook. Contact Leota Reale at 330-673-7793 or 330-631-7729.
- 3. **Overview of recent FDW of Ohio Conference:** Denise Smith
 - a. Norma Welling, Gloria Haven, Denise Smith, Delores Durbin, Melissa Long, Shirley Grund, Shelby Seibert, Becky Doggett attended the conference.
 - b. A primary focus at the conference was explaining two Ohio State Bills:
 - i. HP 294 – Anti Voting Bill
 - 1. This Bill places restrictions on a number of issues:
 - ii. HB 322 – Critical Race Theory
 - 1. This Bill will restrict teaching of Critical Race Theory in K – 12 grades.
 - c. Andre Washington, Second Vice Chair Ohio Democratic Party, gave an impassioned speech on the importance for all of us to dedicate ourselves in electing Democrats! The time is now and it will take all of us to move America forward in a just and sustainable way.
- 4. **Update of PC Central Committee Meeting:** Denise Smith
 - a. The meeting will be in-person on June 30 at Reed Memorial Library at 6:00 pm.

New Business:

- 1. **Financial Support for Local Candidates:** Frank Hairston
 - a. Frank spoke to the group regarding two local races, Marvin Woods for Streetsboro and Mark Hairston for Ravenna City Council. On their behalf he is asking the FDW to donate \$500 to each candidate's campaign. Pres. Haven told Frank that each candidate needs to send the FDW of PC a letter asking for support. Once received the FDW can respond to the request.
- 2. **FDW financial contribution for Judge's candidates, Mark Fankhauser and Kevin Poland:**
 - a. **Norma Welling moved for the FDWPC to donate \$1,500 each to Fankhauser's and Poland's campaigns, Bonnie Howe seconded; motion approved.**
- 3. **Volunteer of the Year Award:**
 - a. Pres. Haven passed out cards and asked each member to nominate one to two people for the Volunteer of the Year Award that will be announced at the V.O.T.E. Gala.
 - b. Pres Haven also asked if there were any nominees from the floor. Denise Smith nominated Lindsey Webb, a young volunteer who gave many hours of her time during the last election cycle to package candidate information packets.

- c. The cards were collected and given to Brad Cromes who counted the votes then gave the results to Pres. Haven.
- d. **Polo Shirts for FDW Members:**
 - i. We would like to order polo shirts for the FDW to use when we do service events throughout the County. The shirt will be navy blue and only men's sizes will be ordered. The cost will be around \$25.00 a shirt. Sizes were taken from members attending the meeting. If you were unable to attend the meeting, please email your shirt size to Becky Doggett at Doggett.becky@gmail.com.
- e. **Partnership with Young Democrats:**
 - i. The Young Democrats are conducting a post card campaign targeted toward people who voted for the first time in 2020. They would like the FDW to pay for the postage for the post cards.
 - ii. **Becky Doggett moved the FDW buy 500 postcard stamps for the YD campaign, Delores Durbin seconded; motion approved.**
 - iii. **On June 28 we will meet at the Democratic Office from 6 – 8pm to complete the cards. PLEASE JOIN US.**

Next Meeting:

July 13 (Tues) at 5:30 pm. Little City Grill, 802 N. Mantua St., Kent

Adjournment:

Pres. Haven adjourned the meeting at 1:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Becky Doggett
Secretary