

# *The Federated Democratic Women of Portage Cty.*

Date: September 7, 2021

Place: Reed Memorial Library

Address: 167 E. Main St, Ravenna OH

## Next Meeting

Date: Oct. 14 (Thurs)

Time: 5:30p – Exec Com

6:00p – Gen Members

Place: Independence

575 E. Lake St.

Ravenna

# MINUTES

**Present:** Chris Clevenger-Morris, Suzanne Coia, James Demitrus, Kathleen Demitrus, Luanne Dennis, Dean DePerro, Denise DePerro, Becky Doggett, Delores Durbin, Paula Giulitto, Gloria Haven, Erin Myrla, Ashton Narzisi, Pat Nelson (via ZOOM), Terrie Nielson, Carla Reale, Leota Reale, Lucy Ribelin, Denise Smith, Bob Springer (via ZOOM), Norma Welling, Tiffany Welling

**Guest:** Ednah Borders, President of FDW of Ohio

## Call to Order:

President Haven called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

## Minutes:

The minutes of the August 10 meeting were read. There were several corrections

**Lucy Ribelin moved to approve the minutes; Delores Durbin seconded; motion passed.**

Secretary, Becky Doggett, has made the corrections to the Aug. 10 minutes.

## Member Concerns:

Melissa Long is in rehab at The Heartland of Twinsburg, 8855 Darrow Rd, Twinsburg, 44087. Her phone number is: 330-840-2910. She would love a call and cards.

## Reports:

### 1. Treasurer's Report: Lucy Ribelin

a. PAC Account balance is \$8,134.60

i. Expenditures were \$562.52 for the Meet & Greet event

ii. Recent Contributions equal \$945.00

iii. Profit from the Meet & Greet is \$382.50

b. Club Account balance is \$1,947.48

i. We will continue to spend down the Club account until Dec. 31. We will also continue to put dues money into the Club account through the end of the year. Then starting in January 2022, we will put the dues into the PAC account.

### 2. PC Fair: Denise Smith

a. It was successful. Thanks to everyone who worked in the booth.

b. Thanks to the Young Democrats for contacting the Fair Board to ban the sale and use of Confederate flags and merchandise. Denise read the Fair Board and the Merchant Agreement and it does prohibit the sale of Confederate flags or its image.

### 3. Balloon Affair: Denise Smith

a. Date: Sept. 18

b. We need a few additional volunteers.

4. Democratic Office:
  - a. We need a few more volunteers to keep the office open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 am – 2 pm through November.
  - b. Denise passed around a calendar to the members to volunteer. Also, you can contact either Denise at 330-671-8254 or Becky Doggett at 330-283-5144.

### Old Business

1. **V.O.T.E. Gala:** Pres. Gloria Haven
  - a. Gloria made a statement that due to the continued escalation of the COVID virus and our inability to secure a caterer and a speaker I believe we should cancel the Gala.
  - b. **Denise Smith made a motion to cancel the Gala and to possibly reschedule it in the spring of 2022, Norma Welling seconded, motion passed with one opposed.**
  - c. **Delores Durbin moved to create a six-member committee to explore the options for the next fundraising events and make recommendations to the members, Denise Smith seconded, motion passed.**
2. Constitution Review Committee: Pres. Haven
  - a. The Constitution Review Committee was scheduled to meet on Aug. 31 but the meeting had to be cancelled due to Pres. Haven's illness.
  - b. There was a question as to whether the approved committee members were listed in the meeting minutes. The Secretary reviewed a copy of the July 28, 2021 and the Aug. 10, 2021 minutes and yes, the members were listed and approved. Below is a list of the members:

- Gloria Haven, Chair	- Delores Durban
- Leota Reale	- Carla Reale
- Bob Springer	- Chris Clevenger-Morris
- Terrie Nielsen	- Ruth Ludwick
  - c. Pres. Haven stated that if anyone else would like to be involved with this review to please let her know. The Young Democrats offered to set-up a ZOOM call for members to participate. Pres. Haven and Judge Paula Giulitto thanked the Young Dems.

### New Business:

1. Pres. Haven introduced the topic of where is the FDW of Portage County organization going in the future with regard to membership.
  - a. **Denise Smith moved that anyone who believes in the principles of the Federated Democratic Women of Portage County and the Democratic Party of Ohio shall be eligible for membership with full benefits and responsibilities, Delores Durbin seconded.**
    - i. **After a very heart filled debate, the members voted by a show of hands: 14 (fourteen) members (including one member on ZOOM) voted yes, to approve and adopt the motion and 1 (one) member voted no. The motion was approved.**
  - b. **Terrie Nielsen then moved that based on the previous motion the Constitution Committee shall meet to amend the Constitution/By-Laws wording regarding membership and any other article in the document to be in line with the approved motion, Delores Durbin seconded. The members voted by a show of hands: 14 members (including one member on ZOOM) voted yes and 1 (one) member voted no. The motion was approved.**
    - i. The Constitution Review Committee will meet and develop a proposal to be presented to the membership at the next monthly meeting.

**Open Comments/Announcements:**

1. Denise Smith gave a special thank you to the senior members of the FDW. “You have done your job over the decades and completed the mission. You were ahead of your time. Without your efforts we would not be here today. Now everyone has a voice. Thank you.”
2. Pres. Haven also thanked Ednah Borders, President of the FDW of Ohio, again for her impactful conversation and wisdom. We want to continue our relationship with FDW of Ohio and our members are happy to assist the FDW of Ohio as we all move forward.

**Adjournment:**

Pres. Haven adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm.

**Next Meeting:**

Our next meeting will be on **Oct. 14 at Independence of Portage County, 575 E. Lake St, Ravenna.**

**5:30 p – Executive Committee**

**6:00 p – General Membership**