

Green Valley Democrats

Minutes of the Board Meeting

February 8th, 2024

George gaveled the meeting to order at 2.03 pm.

Doug took the roll:

Present through the online use of Zoom: George McGaughey, Lois Connell, Laura Callejon, Tom Hladky, Tatiana Hladky, Judith Holley, Judy Knape, Nelda Lobb, Arlynne Ostlund, Henne Queisser, Sandie Stone and Doug Syme

Tom Lobb was excused.

Minutes

The minutes of the November 9th Board Meeting were accepted as distributed.

The minutes of the December Annual meeting were noted and will be presented to the 2024 Annual Meeting for approval.

The minutes of the January 11th Board Meeting were accepted as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Lois

Lois reminded us that the Annual Treasurer's report would be presented to the membership at the February 10th General Meeting. It was agreed that the Annual Report would be presented, as provided, with the word "Draft" removed.

Lois said the January Report was routine.

George asked about Act Blue direct deposits – Lois will investigate.

George will follow up as to why it appeared that Frank (Cleaning) had not cashed the January payment.

Doug moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Sandie seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

Headquarters: Judy

Judy reported that preparations are underway to open HQ five days a week.

We care will support Sahuarita Food Bank in February and Border Outreach in March.

George noted that Susan Reynolds will be away for a while so donations to Casa Alitas will be interrupted.

Fundraising: Tom H

Tom gave Lois Budget Numbers for the Blue Wave Auction.

The committee had lost two members, but three new prospects were being checked.

It was noted that Continental Plaza will be having a shredding event on March 29th.

400 invitations are going out for the Blue Wave Auction and sales were to start the following week. Lois said DCQC would be buying a table at the BWA. How to determine the level of reservation and meal choice was a question – Lois said that DCQC will send payment with a list of names.

Membership: Nelda

Nelda reported that 163 memberships were in hand for 2024. The number for 2023 was 356. Tom L has updated the membership list as of February 1st. The Budget Request for Membership is \$500 which, inter alia, will be used for postcard reminders to be sent out late March. George asked that an e-blast go out early March to reduce the postcards needed. Henne will need a timely list of unpaid members before the eblast is sent – Henne suggested that Tom could generate a suitable group in Constant Contact.

Programs: Sandie

Sandie is still waiting to hear from Raul Grijalva. She will fit him in when he lets her know.

George will set up the green wagon for the meeting on Saturday. George will carry out the Annual Report and then hand over the meeting to Sandie. Lois will be present, but she felt that a simple slide presentation would be appropriate. She will answer questions if they arise.

George said there is a new candidate for Corporate Commission – Joshua Polacheck – he will check his information and get it to Henne as well as post it in HQ.

Publicity: Henne

Henne noted a significant increase in traffic at the website including sign-ups for the newsletter – about doubled in both cases. Henne agreed with George that David Dunford may have contributed to that, but that being an election year is probably the main impetus.

George is still looking for someone to takeover Facebook.

Henne is looking for more people to join the Publicity Committee.

Voter Outreach: Arlynn

Arlynn thanked Sandie for a great line-up of Speakers.

They had two working meetings, one a house-party demonstration to give people a firm footing in running such events, and Greg Frostrom was present - for his benefit also.

The second working meeting was a Petition Palooza which, despite the weather, about 100 people attended. Those attending were glad to meet candidates including those from LD 19, CD 6, and Pima County.

The next meeting will be February 26th. Working to make AZ Blue will include writing postcards, holding events, working with AZ Coordinated Campaign, Voter Information, and Ballot Initiatives.

George will give the new “Party Box” to Arlynn for decoration at their meeting.

At Large: Judith

Nothing to add.

Volunteers: Laura

With help from Tom L, the Volunteer List has been revised.

The basic database now breaks down into categories which will help the committees find volunteers. George will print the list with the categories. Henne asked that George send the list by email also.

Arlynn asked if Campaign Outreach would be better as Voter Outreach – George agreed to make the change.

Doug suggested that as the main 2nd language that might be useful is Spanish, “2nd language” be changed to “Spanish”.

Tom asked to whom corrections should be sent - Laura will accept corrections!

The list is longstanding so, after the first so many names, the entries are dated. Laura will add a “date of request” entry going forward, as any order will be lost once the entries are broken down by category.

The existing list was used for the BWA.

The list will show whether a person is a member. Some positions require members only (e.g. HQ Staff), but help may be acceptable in other cases.

President's Report: George

George reminded us that Matthew and Helen Boyd as well as Dean and Carolyn Chaussee are moving. George has thanked both Matthew and Dean for all their work, including both being Past-Presidents. Matthew has still to resign from LD 19. When he does, an election will follow.

Petitions re. open primaries – where do we stand? With our present set-up in LD 19, it was agreed not to support this initiative. We will look at Ranked Choice as a separate issue later.

PPE – do we endorse Joe Biden? Thomas moved that we support Joe Biden. Lois seconded the motion which passed unanimously. This vote of support will be in the February 15th Newsletter.

Udall Dinner is on May 11th – in the past we have bought a table at \$10 each with the tickets at \$150 each. George will reserve a table. Those wishing to attend should forward a check to Lois and we will send a combined payment. Lois heard that the tickets are \$180 each. George will clarify.

Arizonans for Abortion Access – we have turned in 255 signatures. Statewide over 250,000 signatures have been turned in. George asked that we get petitions in as soon as possible.

George asked that we put in the Newsletter that we all celebrate International Women's Day – March 8th. Henne noted that AAUW has an event that day and will check if it is open to non-members.

George has yet to talk to Simon Rosenberg. The Fundraising Committee suggested trying for end-April/start-May. Doug worried that snowbirds would be leaving. George said he had heard from people in LD 18 and LD 17 who expressed interest in such an event. It would be advertised statewide. George worried that it would be late in the election cycle. George reminded us of the need to sell at least 150 tickets to break even. George will investigate a joint effort with QCDC.

New Business:

George said that Nancy Stanley has a good friend in end-of-life care which may impact her ability to be at the BWA. If necessary, a substitute will be found.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on March 14th at 2.00 pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3.00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Syme

Secretary