

## **Green Valley Democrats**

### Minutes of the Board Meeting

July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**George gaveled the meeting to order at 2.00 pm.**

#### **Doug took the roll:**

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

Arlynn Ostlund, Tatiana Hladky, and Tom Hladky were excused.

#### **Minutes**

The corrected minutes of the June 7<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting were accepted as distributed.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Lois**

Lois noted that Rent shows as zero. In error she had neglected to send it. The July rent was sent on June 27<sup>th</sup>. The June rent was sent with the late fee on July 1<sup>st</sup>. George and Lois are going to set up direct payment to avoid this happening again. She hoped this would be in effect by August.

Lois said that the Women in Blue deficit had been resolved and the event is now some \$35 - \$40 to the good.

Lois noted that she had not gotten update information about Beacon reports in time to add them to her report. She submitted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Beacon report on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Normally reports are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month following a calendar quarter but, in an election year, this changes. On July 27<sup>th</sup> a report is due for July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 20<sup>th</sup>. The schedule for the subsequent reports has yet to be published but, based on 2022, there will be report covering July 21<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>, another from October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 22<sup>nd</sup>, and a final one covering October 23<sup>rd</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> due on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The dates may be off by a day or two. George asked if any adjustments may be needed. Lois felt that there would not, especially as, having been through the process before, she has a better understanding of what is needed.

Lois asked if there were any questions. Henne asked if the donation to the Samaritans was how David Figueroa wished the \$250 that we sent in relation to the Shura event to be recorded. Lois

clarified that she had sent the check to David on the understanding that he would donate it to the Samaritans and Lois recorded it as a donation to the Samaritans. Henne wondered why it wasn't a Program Budget item. George suggested that the matter be reviewed at the next Programs meeting and they would let Lois know the decision.

Sandie asked if the two events held in CPAC were included in the report. Lois confirmed that the first event is in the June report and the second will be in the July report.

Henne asked if direct deposits were set up in Act Blue. Lois still has a problem with what Act Blue will permit her to do. In summary, Lois, George and Henne will get together to ensure that Lois has the full access that she should have.

Lois will be away next week and Henne will have the check book if it is needed. Henne will take Lois' Manila folder home so it is not unattended over the weekend.

George noted that a lot of cash was in the Red Box – he has reminded HQ staff of correct procedure and Lois said she would pick up the money tomorrow. Judy said she has told HQ staff that all donations over \$25 should have a receipt with the donor's details.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

### **Headquarters: Judy**

Judy said there was little to add to her report.

She is trying to contact a school in Amado to see what they might need. Henne said she had heard of an Early Childhood Learning Center in Arivaca. Sandie said she is with a group that donates Christmas gifts. Doug suggested contacting the Sahuarita Food Bank as Project Azul works in Arivaca and might know whom to contact. George will give Judy a phone number to contact SFB-CRC.

George wondered if there was any group needing water, given the recent heat. Judy felt that water was very voluminous. George would organize transport if needed.

The new phone system is working well but Judy would like to disable the feature that announces the caller. It was suggested to look for a manual on Google.

George noted that Staff check-in stuff is in the back conference room as of yesterday to improve privacy.

### **Fundraising: Tom & Tatiana H**

Tom and Tatiana were excused.

### **Membership: Tom & Nelda L**

Their report is short. They have no update on Constant Contact.

There are 397 paid members in 2024 – some 30 more than last year. This week Starr and Ray Omdahl have started calling last year’s members who have yet to rejoin in 2024 – this amounts to more than 100 people and they are about halfway into this exercise. George asked which day they pick up information at HQ – Tom said it varies. George said that many memberships have been paid in the last few days. Lois said she will be in HQ tomorrow and will get membership details to Tom and Nelda. Nelda said that Starr reported that some people who were phoned said that had already paid in 2024 and that it will be researched. Lois suggested checking Act Blue – Nelda said they have the monthly sheets from Lois so they will check those first. George said not to spend too much time on researching such cases as they may have paid in 2023 but think it was for 2024.

Nelda said that there are also cases of double payments for 2024 – she has noted the extra payments as donations. Lois said that she contacts people who have done this, either by email or by mail, and asked if the overpayment may be kept as a donation and to let her know if not. If she gets no response she notes the payment as a donation.

George asked how the coordination of the Excel spreadsheets and Constant Contact was going. Henne said she was going to mention this in her report – Becky has added everyone they know of – the numbers are hard to compare as some couples have only one email address and there are some members without email addresses. Again, everyone they know of is in Constant Contact. As there are three keepers of membership records, Henne proposes a meeting of Lois, Becky, with Tom and Nelda to discuss ongoing coordination.

### **Programs: Sandie**

This Saturday we have Rosanna Gabaldón and Stephanie Stahl Hamilton.

There is no Program on July 27<sup>th</sup>.

On August 10<sup>th</sup> the candidates for Arizona Corporation Commission – Jonathon Hill, Joshua Polacheck and Ylenia Aguilar. This will be a Zoom/Hybrid event. George asked Tom L to help pair the new microphone on Saturday.

Sandie asked George about the proposed joint meeting with Quail Creek – George has yet to get with Carol Smith who is out of town in Europe. George wants to discuss time of day to avoid darkness at the meeting’s end.

On August 24<sup>th</sup> we have Tim Steller and Dan Shearer.

September 16<sup>th</sup> we will invite Suzanne Droubie and Gabriela Cázares-Kelly. Sandie asked if we should also invite Dustin Williams – George said yes and Sandie said she will work on that.

Depending on who comes to the joint meeting with Quail Creek, Sandie said we should invite Kirsten Engel again before the election.

George noted that Tim Steller and Dan Shearer will talk about the Newspaper Business in Arizona. We should be thinking of questions to ask them.

Henne asked about the format of the joint meeting with Quail Creek – George said that he hoped to get all State and Local candidates. Kirsten has already said she will attend. George will try to get Ruben Gallego and Adrian Fontes. He was going to ask the Biden campaign for a video but let's wait and see. This would be an opportunity to get out information before the November election – either verbally or by having an information table. Gallego and Engel would certainly be given a chance to speak. The date will probably be sometime in September – it needs to be a joint meeting, so we do not have to pay for the room. George said both LD 19 and LD 21 will be included.

Sandie asked for a volunteer to help on Saturdays with setting up the sound system. Doug declined as he is in Pennsylvania. Henne suggested asking the Wednesday group. Laura does not have the latest list as Wendy Pendleton has been updating it. George had the list and will forward it to Laura. He suggested that he and Laura would need to make calls to those with capabilities in IT, Web, Computer and A/V.

George said the joint program is called Countdown to '24.

Sandie asked what our position should be regarding Biden – George advised that we “wait and see”.

Lois asked about the hoped-for Rosenberg program – she has payments from a few people who said to keep the money against a future event. Other payments had been returned or became donations as instructed. Lois wondered if there was any chance of the event taking place in 2024. George said that an in-person event in 2024 was not likely but he was hopeful that Rosenthal would speak by Zoom at Countdown to '24, especially if Biden was still in the race. He suggested that Lois contact the people and ask them what they would like to do. Henne said that She and Ed were in that category and Lois should take the money as a donation. Judith said to do likewise, so Lois thought that left only one person to be contacted.

### **Publicity: Henne**

.Henne drew attention to her report. She noted that they decided that there would not be a July mid-month update and wondered if anything was pressing. George said that Arlynnne had asked for a Blast for the Postcards event on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Sandie mentioned that there was a Town Hall event in Sahuarita coming up on July 20<sup>th</sup> for Save the Scenic Santa Ritas. Also, George noted that there are a number of House Parties taking place, mostly for Kirsten Engel.

George thanked Henne for our ad. in the GV News. He has copies for HQ. Henne noted that ours was the only ad. from a political group.

### **Voter Outreach: George for Arlynnne**

The Sidewalk Sale event was successful.

George noted that a woman has offered her house for an event in August for Kirsten Engel for about 70 people.

HQ is being reorganized for the expected surge of candidate literature.

Henne has added to the website the candidates' pictures and links to their websites. After the primary she will narrow that down.

### **At Large: Judith**

Judith reported that her husband was impressed with the amount of traffic to HQ. Otherwise, she has nothing to add.

George said that traffic had increased since the ballots went out and he felt that HQ staff had dealt very well with requests for voting advice. He thanked Judy for her staff's efforts.

### **President's Report: George**

There is a Ruth Ginsburg group meeting at La Cañada and Esperanza on Saturdays. They put a posting in Nextdoor that they were going to go to Continental Plaza to hold a big rally. The Plaza manager called George to tell him that this was not permitted. George agreed that we understood neither we nor the Republicans could hold political rallies in the Plaza. George will let the organizers know that they may not do this. George emphasized that we support this group but do not sponsor them.

George noted that there are some old electronic items (a PC and a Copier) at HQ. Gumper Computer Recycling will pick up the items. George wondered if we should invite others to bring stuff to recycle. Henne asked if the items work. George said the PC would need to be updated and Fred D'Angelo said it was not worth it. The copier does not work. Henne suggested giving the PC to the White Elephant, but Sandie said that the White Elephant has to pay for recycling. Doug and Lois dissuaded George from offering to gather items to recycle.

There are new signs at HQ which combine Biden, Engel and Gallego.

Women in Green have submitted over 10,000 signatures for the AAA campaign. AZ List is suing the AZ Legislature re. the wording (unborn or fetus). George asked if we might support a donation for their legal costs. Henne suggested inviting donations from individuals rather than a GVD donation. George said donation may be given directly via Act Blue. Henne said she could send it with the newsletter next week.

There will be a Zoom class on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2.00 PM at HQ. Doug offered to join the session to allow a remote Zoom experience.

George will give the "Anyone but Trump" sweatshirt to Fundraising to try to sell it.

George noted Poll Watchers are need for July 30<sup>th</sup> – he sent out a link. Henne asked if that too should be added to the update – George agreed.

The Memorial Service for John Lewis on July 17<sup>th</sup> will now be held indoors. George will send the new address to anyone who is interested.

We do not take donations for candidates – Judy has informed the staff.

George would like to appoint a facilitator manager for the Discussion Group. Next year, the new President could verify that facilitators for the Discussion Group are under control.

George said that he is focusing on local candidates (Engel and Gallego) rather than Biden at this time. George will coordinate with Arlynn to do canvassing for them, and for LD 21.

### **Volunteers: Laura**

Laura said that she has been out of the loop while recovering. Wendy Pendleton has been working the forms in her absence.

Henne asked if the version of the volunteer form on the website was the most up to date. George will check this. He noted that the committees will be getting names related only to each category. Voter Outreach has had detail added. George encouraged that everyone reaches out to the volunteers to let them know what is needed. There will be a new flyer in HQ to explain canvassing, phone banking, postcards etc. George reminded us that we cannot focus our efforts until after the primary.

George said that new volunteers are already being helpful. He is passing on names to Bryan Lane, the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Bryan will have input next month.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business:**

None

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on August 29<sup>th</sup> at 2.00 pm MST.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2.56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Doug Syme**

Secretary