

## Green Valley Democrats

Minutes of the Board Meeting August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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

**George took the roll:**

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

Nelda Lobb, Tom Lobb, and Doug Syme were excused.

### Minutes

The minutes of the July 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting were accepted as distributed.

Two items were approved by on-line votes:

- 1) August 12<sup>th</sup>: The Banner was approved as the eight votes received were all in favor.
- 2) August 3<sup>rd</sup>: The motion to increase the Outreach Committee's Budget and allow \$2,000.00 for Project 2025 response was approved by all the eight responses received.

### Treasurer's Report: Lois

Lois explained that her Report was for July. The summary was for August to date, including the deposit made 8/28. It looks very healthy.

Lois noted that she had increased the amounts in the cash pouches in the desks by \$25 and \$35 and put in small notes as these are to allow making change. The \$60 came from red box donations.

The July report showed good income. The expenses reflect the double payment of rent and purchase of yard signs.

Lois explained that the Bank Statement for Credit Cards was \$188 more than the receipts she had for Dues and Merchandise so she adjusted those categories up proportionately. She does not know exactly how this is happening but felt that it is ongoing. She thinks it may be duplicate payments. She noted that reversing payment on the CC machine is only possible on same day.

The Beacon Report schedule is noted.

Two Treasurer trainings were offered. No one signed up for Tuesday but three people (Sandy Eckstein, Bryan Lane, and Robert ?) attended on Thursday. This session was on "What must be done" and a follow-up session will explain "How to do it". The session went well, and Sandy will substitute for Lois when she is on vacation from 8/31 to 9/3. Henne asked about giving her the check book but Lois has already given George three checks should they be needed. It was decided that Lois will give Henne the check book while she is away.

Henne asked if the double charges were from Act Blue or the CC machine. Lois said it was from the CC machine as Act Blue was self balancing. George said the CC machine charges can be reversed beyond the same day but it is more complicated. It was agreed that only George and Lois should do this.

Staff must be mindful that a CC is not declined. Also, the door to the back room must be open to get a good signal from the router.

George will be present for morning and afternoon staff training on September 10<sup>th</sup>, but Lois will be at the afternoon one only.

Lois said that Sandy has great potential as a future treasurer.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

### **Headquarters: Judy**

Judy said her report covers most everything. She said business at HQ is very enthusiastic. More staff is being added and a new shift starts on September 14<sup>th</sup> – Saturdays from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. The 9/10 Staff Training will help fill the need. A third person in the office will also help.

HQ will be closed on Labor Day.

We Care for September will be Voices from the Border and the Samaritans. We will ask for underwear, socks and toiletries.

Judy asked if anyone would be going to Arivaca to bring the second batch of donations. George will ask Susan Sheets.

Lois noted that Mark Eckstein was mopping the floor at 9.30 this morning. Judy said the cleaning service comes twice a month. She thanked Mark for doing this as things are so busy.

George told Judy he is picking up 200 Harris signs and a plethora of t-shirts. Judy had ordered some smaller t-shirts and magnets.

Judy wondered if we should get the cleaner in every week for the next few months – George asked her to check the cost.

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

Tom noted that next meeting will be at 4.00 pm on Zoom on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Pool Party – 30 people expected – announcements September 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter and also a few days later. Also in GV News – Henne said HV News may not publish if the event has a ticket price.

Halloween event may also not be published in GV News but flyers were posted in local businesses. Gift certificates will be kept for later events as there are plenty of prizes.

Tom listed businesses who gave prizes for Pool Party.

Trivial Pursuit is scheduled - \$15. October 13<sup>th</sup> – Henne asked for details a month in advance to get out publicity.

Halloween event – planning mostly in place but who does drinks? CPAC or us? George said alcohol will be by CPAC. George suggested that date should be confirmed with CPAC.

Election night party is confirmed for Findley's Restaurant.

Christmas Party is December 7<sup>th</sup> in Room 203. RSVP by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Venetian / Sphere in Vegas is being sought as prize for Annual Auction.

Possible venues for a wine event in Elgin/ Sonoita are being investigated. It is hoped for a Wednesday in January.

Henne gave John Vandebrook's address to Tom and Tatianna and the committee will all sign a letter of thanks.

It was suggested that Rune Vineyard's be checked out – their wine is excellent.

### **Membership: George for Tom & Nelda**

The lists have been cleaned up and 10 old members were identified of whom 6 renewed.

George re-emphasized the procedure for taking membership information and putting it in Lois' folder. She will then distribute it. Volunteer forms are to be copied on green paper and put in Volunteer box.

At this time there are three needs for Volunteers – canvassing, postcards, and phoning – if somebody wants to do something else, note it. Lois suggested that old membership forms be trashed and only the new forms be used. George said that the Master Forms be checked and copies be made from Masters only.

### **Programs: Sandie**

Attendances have been great – 92 were at last Saturday's event.

September is all set, and the meeting next week will finish plans for October.

There are two possible dates in November if suitable topics are identified.

George noted that, in future, announcements will be handed out as people arrive at meetings and this will allow only a few immediate/important announcements at the end of meetings.

Xandie said a committee member had resigned and wondered if a replacement should be sought.

### **Publicity – Henne**

The newsletter will be long as there is a lot happening.

A "What's Happening" summary at the start of the newsletter was suggested – Henne said she would need it soon. George will send it immediately.

Nancy Anacker has told Henne that getting announcements to GV News from afar is too difficult. George asked that a letter of thanks be sent to Nancy from the Board – Judith will do so. Henne has a potential replacement – Kathleen McCullough.

Henne is asking Beverly Hughes to learn how to do newsletter and help in proofreading.

George said that a list of house parties needs to be made.

### **Voter Outreach: Arlynn**

Judith has a party for Brian Johnson on the morning of September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Arlynnne said 80+ people were at the postcard party on 27<sup>th</sup> July, and that they had to turn people away. The postcard party on August 23<sup>rd</sup> was better organized with kits prepared in advance- 70+ attended.

Arlynnne said that they had hoped for more postcard – only 2,000 were received of 5,000 requested.

Arlynnne said that postcard-writing is very popular with our membership but canvassing is less so. Another canvassing is planned for Saturday and Arlynnne emphasized the need to knock on doors.

We will have presence at the Sidewalk Sales day in October.

Arlynnne said that house parties are being organized.

Phoning information is at HQ for those who wish to do so.

Judy asked if there is a program to offer rides to polls. Arlynnne has a list of previous volunteers. However people in our area seldom need this.

George said that anyone buying a Harris sign is being given an Engel sign free - we must encourage down-ballot voting.

### **At Large: Judith**

The house party on September 14<sup>th</sup> is at 10.00 am. George asked Judith to send a group photo to Henne.

### **Volunteers – Laura**

Henne asked if a change is needed with sending forms to Laura. Laura is forwarding them to George and Wendy who is entering the information in a single spreadsheet.

Wendy is checking bad spelling/emails.

A volunteer is needed to break down the information for each committee. Henne thought Wendy could do it. George will ask Fred DiAngelo.

The lists will be long at first.

Judy said she is sending emails saying that HQ staff are not needed at present but office tasks will arise. She invited the Board to let her know of tasks for volunteers.

George said the actual work that volunteers want to do needs clarification.

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

ADOT has told us that we may not put signs at the entrances to the freeway.

The group meeting at Esperanza and LaCañada want to put flyers in HQ – George asked for thoughts as we support this initiative but don't sponsor it. Lois said we should keep this separate and not have flyers in HQ. It was agreed that we should remain apart from this group for a number of reasons, not least insurance/liability. Arlynnne felt that we should be more sympathetic.

The Propositions – the AZ Party (ADP) has proposed voting Yes on Prop. 139 (Abortion) and No on all others.

Henne asked that we discuss the Open Primaries/Ranked Choice Voting (Prop 140) – George said the flaw with Prop 140 is that it would allow Legislators to decide how many people get to the General Election Ballot. After that explanation it was agreed that we would oppose Prop 140.

September 28<sup>th</sup> we will have a program on Propositions.

Arlynn advocated for supporting the ADP's recommendations and Henne said that the Newsletter would say that unless the meeting decided otherwise. LD 19 agreed to the ADP recommendation and Slate Cards will say this.

It was agreed to support the ADP's positions.

Countdown to Victory Rally on September 21<sup>st</sup> in Quail Creek – it is hoped Gallego and Fontes attend. Kristen Engel will be there. George asked for a motion to split the cost of food with Quail Creek – our share would be about \$400. Henne moved and Judith seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

George said he would like an Ad for Stop Project 2025 – 4x5ad in GV News will cost \$375 – Sandie proposed a motion to do this and Judith seconded. George said the timing of the event may be revised. The motion passed unanimously.

George also showed a proposed Postcard against Project 2025 to send to Independents. The wording needs to be revised to be sure to be accurate. Henne showed what is to go in the newsletter.

Henne proposed a motion to buy postcards using the wording in the Newsletter at a cost of some \$500. Arlynn seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

Arizona Healthcare Rising will visit the Discussion Group on September 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss Prop 139 - all are invited. There will be postcards and yard signs.

Jim Cubie donated small American Flags to be given away.

We have a great volunteer (Mike Malenfant) who has gotten our audio system to work. We need stands for the speakers to project over the people. George asked for a motion to buy stands for \$47.69 each from program's budget. Lois moved and Sandie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Judith said that Indivisible sent out information about Project 2025 including that if Trump is elected Civil Servants who were not loyal could be fired. George invited Judith to forward the email.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business:** - None

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 2.00 pm MST.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Doug Syme**

Secretary