

Green Valley Democrats

Minutes of the Board Meeting October 17th, 2024

Arlynn gavelled the meeting to order at 2.00 pm.

Doug took the roll:

Present online through Zoom: George McGaughey, Arlynn Ostlund, Henne Queisser, Judith Holley, Judy Knape, Lois Connell, Sandie Stone, Tatiana Hladky, Tom Hladky, Nelda Lobb, Tom Lobb, and Doug Syme.

Laura Callejon was excused.

Tom Chulski attended to assist Doug with the minutes.

Minutes

The minutes of the August 29th Board Meeting were accepted as distributed. The remaining minutes (September 20th and October 10th will be distributed later.)

The following On-line item was approved:

Publicizing Go Fund Me page for Ruperto Del Angel approved as votes received were all in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Lois

Lois noted that the sheer volume of activity is incredible; Sandie has been a great help in keeping up to date.

Beacon report was submitted Sept. 14 as required. The next deadline is Oct. 26. Lois has discovered that in-kind donations don't have to be reported

The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

President's Report: George

George reported that signs had been purchased to replace out-of-stock signs; also, signs that had been stolen would be replaced. He suggested reduced pricing for signs. Henne said that the previous meeting, when George was absent, it had been decided to sell all signs for 2 for \$10, with local signs free. This had been publicized in newsletter. George said this was too cheap as it would be a \$2 loss per sign. George recommended charging \$10 for the signs, and Judy suggested providing local signs free with purchase of signs that we bought. George conceded that if someone referred to the 2-for-\$10 price in the newsletter, they should get that price. He noted that some people from Sahuarita who may not be able to afford signs will be given them free. George noted that he is the only one authorized to buy signs and the Gloo Factory has so been notified.

Harris-Walz banner has been purchased for use at sidewalk sale. George would set up a QR code at HQ for those who have not gotten slate cards. Contributions to candidates were discussed, and it was agreed to

distribute available funds estimated at \$45,000; it was agreed some funds need to be reserved for non-election years. Initial distributions are to as follows:

Engel,	\$6,600
Bechtol,	\$1,000
Johnson,	\$300
Nanos,	\$300
Hill,	\$600
Aguilar,	\$600
Polachuck	\$600

The above motion was proposed by George, seconded by Judith and approved unanimously.

Headquarters Report: Judy

Judy reported fabulous level of enthusiasm. She said We Care donations of holiday foods for the Green Valley Food Bank are needed. We Care for November will be for Imago Dei School. Saturday opening has been very successful although canvassers put space at a premium. After the election she would like to keep a five- or even six-day schedule. She is looking to organize a thank-you lunch for staff after the election; she expects a cost of about \$500. She suggested we emphasize no-cost social activities to boost camaraderie that would not be fundraising in nature. A number of possible activities were discussed. Arlynn noted that Brindi's (old Javelina Run) said they would welcome activities and could accommodate up to 40 people; election night party with large-screen TV is possible.

Fundraising: Tom & Tatiana H

Trivia event was a success and will be repeated, possibly on Jan. 26th. Halloween party is planned; CPAC will sell drinks to GVD and we need to determine how to distribute it. Tom said he and Mark Eckstein are looking into state certification for serving alcohol. George noted that GVD insurance allows us to serve beer and wine but not sell it; ticket arrangement is acceptable. In answer to a question by Henne, said noted CPAC does not have personnel available to sell alcohol at the event. There was discussion about potential liability if someone is served too much; Tom said getting a state certificate is considered due diligence.

Tom noted that arrangements for a wine tour are coming together; it will be for 56 people. We're planning for a mystery dinner at Quail Creek with Quail Creek Democratic Party; hope is to sell 100 tickets - this event will be held after the Blue Wave Auction. Tom was not enthusiastic about having an election party. After further discussion, it was greed to investigate a get-together at Brindis.

Membership: Tom & Nelda L

Tom said membership is at least 565, some 200 over last year.

We considered supplying a laptop at HQ with a live Excel membership spreadsheet but decided not to because not all volunteers are computer savvy.

Tom recommended that membership and volunteer lists be kept as separate spreadsheets and that the committees not be combined.

Programs: Sandie

Sandie said the event of Oct. 12 was very successful. Programs are lined up through Jan. 11. Following a question by Henne, George said that invitations to the annual meeting should be sent to members only but others would not be refused entry; voting, however, would be by members only. Lois expressed concern that the total membership could not all be accommodated in Room 203, but others noted that attendance had never come close to the room's capacity.

Publicity – Henne

Henne said activity has been high with newsletters and eblasts and keeping the website up to date.

She said the email list is now over 1,100, and the open rate is over 60 percent.

Henne said making Constant Contact as the membership list is proving difficult to the point she believes that both the Constant Contact list and the Excel membership spreadsheet should be kept.

Arlyne asked about publicity for Sidewalk Sale Days (Oct. 24-26); Henne said she has not received the necessary information yet, and George said he would send it presently, including details about pictures of dogs.

Voter Outreach: Arlyne

Postcard party created 3,200 Arizona Corporate Commission postcards.

She said that, in working with the coordinated campaign, canvassing has been very successful, with shifts at 9, 12 and 3. She noted that canvassing would continue on upcoming weekends as well as Monday and Tuesday of election week; all comers are invited.

She said house parties have been successful; Helen Cox will be holding a house party for Brian Johnson on Oct. 26.

George noted that out-of-state people would be coming in for canvassing and putting up signs. He offered to invite Dan Shearer of GV News to photograph sidewalk sales activities.

Volunteers – George for Laura

George suggested considering creating a separate vice president for volunteers. Sandie said she thought one of the at-large board members could be tasked with running the committee. After further discussion, it was agreed to table the matter until the new year.

It was suggested that incoming at-large nominees be advised that their tasks may include the volunteers committee. It was felt that this would be acceptable to the nominees.

At Large: Judith

No report

Old Business –

Due to an oversight in the by-laws, it was proposed to add a paragraph stipulating that all executive board members be members of Green Valley Democrats. Judith proposed a motion to present this proposal to the annual meeting on Dec.14, and Lois seconded. Motion carried without dissent. Henne will include this by-law change proposal in the eblast along with the slate of board nominations.

New Business:

George suggested putting in The Green Valley News' vets ads a thank-you to "our Veterans for protecting our Democracy." He moved that we do so at a cost of no more than \$650, utilizing the same artwork as last year. Lois seconded the motion, which passed without dissent.

Arlynn reminded the meeting that it was suggested at the Oct. 10 meeting, that a volunteer appreciation eblast should be sent out, perhaps on Nov. 15.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Nov. 14.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Syme

Secretary