

# LIVONIA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Minutes

February 14, 2007

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm with a welcome to all from President, Mike Mastela. He congratulated Joan Gebhardt on her appointment as Schoolcraft College Trustee. She stated this is a temporary position with an election on May 8<sup>th</sup>. She looks forward to our support.

## **Officer Reports:**

Treasurer, Alan Baum, discussed our financial status. A brief discussion ensued regarding membership. Joan G. offered to call members and encourage them to attend. Mike M. stated we have good attendance when we have speakers and good events. After the discussion, the Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Secretary, Linda Lieder, distributed a copy of the January minutes that were taken by Alan B. in her absence. They were accepted as submitted. (It should be noted that there were no minutes in the month of December, as this was the evening of our Holiday party.)

Vice President of Politics, Frank Kalinski, announced that he spoke to Jason Ellenberg of the MDP and he is interested in working with us and hopes we can generate candidates for city elections. Jason also reminded Frank that if we remove the gender clause in our bylaws, we must surrender our Charter.

Frank reminded the members that State Senator, Glenn Anderson, will be at our March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting from 7:00 – 7:30 pm. Bob Bennet suggested we ask the Senator to speak to our members that night. Frank stated that Glenn Anderson is on the Transportation Committee, so his visit will tie in well with our Transportation guest speakers.

## **Old Business:**

At the last meeting there was a proposed bylaws change that would eliminate the gender clause. Mike reminded the group of how this clause came about and that it was a requirement by the MDP if we wanted a Charter. It is a matter that should be addressed by the bylaws committee. A motion passed, with one dissenting vote, that the matter be referred to the new bylaws committee.

## **New Business:**

Mike reminded the members that March is the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Iraq war and that this seems to be an appropriate time to have a Peace Vigil at the Veterans Memorial at the corner of 5 Mile Rd. and Farmington from 4:30 – 5:30 pm. We will reach out to other clubs and Peace groups to attend. Also, we hope to have these Peace vigils on a quarterly basis.

**New Business: – cont'd**

Joan G. requested a copy of the membership roster in order to send campaign information. We were reminded of the privacy issues. The new board will set the policy on sharing information. For now, if Joan wants to send out an email, she can forward to the Exec. Bd. to be forwarded to the membership.

Joan also stated there will be three vacancies on the Livonia School Board in the May 8<sup>th</sup> election. She encouraged anyone interested to run for office. Bob B. encouraged the members to get informed on what's going on with the school board and suggested we host a candidate forum.

Richard Miga distributed a flyer regarding a dinner and First Ladies presentation hosted by the Garden City and Westland Democratic clubs, for anyone interested in attending.

**Elections:**

Prior to the elections, each candidate was given five minutes to address the members. Alan Baum and Linda Lieder gave brief statements, but since they are running unopposed, they were duly elected by a favorable show of hands. In addition the three Trustees, Bill Tehovnik, Derek Pennington and Joan Gebhardt were also elected.

Frank Kalinski and Richard Miga gave statements on their desire to hold the VP-Politics position. As Pat O'Neil was on a long planned vacation, his son read a statement on why he desires to serve as LDC President. In addition, R. Karl Burnett addressed the members on his desire to run for President.

The candidates for VP-Politics left the room. A vote by show of hands was taken with the following results: Frank Kalinski – 15 votes, Richard Miga – 4 votes. The candidates for President left the room and the VP candidates returned. A vote by show of hands was taken with the following results: R. Karl Burnett – 4 votes, Pat O'Neil – 15 votes.

Once the candidates for President returned, Mike announced the election results and congratulated the new President, Pat O'Neil and VP-Politics, Frank Kalinski. A motion passed that the elections be accepted. Alan B. suggested anyone interested in the Recording Secretary position please speak to the Exec. Board.

Mike was thanked for his service as President, with applause from the members.

**MISC.:**

Linda L. announced she has invites to a Citizens for Peace Fundraiser that will benefit the Livonia Library by providing books on Peace and Nonviolence and creating a search mechanism on Peace for libraries in the network.

With no further business, Mike thanked all for attending. Meeting closed at 9:00 pm.