

LIVONIA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Minutes
April 11, 2007

Call to Order and Candidates for Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees

The meeting was opened at 7:30 pm by President, Pat O'Neil. He announced that we would immediately hear from Brian Broderick, candidate for Schoolcraft College Trustee, because Brian's son was ill and he needed to return home as soon as possible. Pat mentioned that although this is a nonpartisan race Republican candidates were striving to unseat the Democratic trustees, Brian and Joan. He stressed that this makes it very important for club members to get out and support the Democratic candidates. After Brian, Joan Gebhardt spoke and pointed out that she has a special interest in Schoolcraft College because two of her children are attending the school at this time.

Livonia School Board Candidate Forum

Pat began this portion of the meeting by reminding those in attendance that we consider ourselves the party of compassion and individuals who practice the Golden Rule. He requested that the candidates focus on sharing their values as they gave their presentations. Each candidate was asked to keep their remarks, in addition to time for Q&A to a maximum of ten minutes.

To begin, Linda Lieder read a biography for Gregory Oke who is a candidate for the one-year term. Gregory was unable to be present due to a prior commitment. The remaining five candidates were selected to present in order based on a random drawing of their names.

1. Eileen McDonnell, not an incumbent running for a four-year term
2. Robert Freeman, current board secretary
3. Patrice J. Mang, running for the one-year seat
4. Steve Futrell, not an incumbent running for a four-year term
5. Lynda Scheel, current board president

The presentations were very informative and each candidate discussed their qualifications and goals for our schools. Many insightful questions were posed from the audience.

Pat expressed appreciation to the candidates for participating. He asked everyone present for feedback on the format of the forum, seeking to learn if individual presentations were favored over the debate-type of format. He invited everyone to stay for the LDC meeting even if they were not members, but had only come to hear the school board candidates speak.

Review of Minutes of Last Meeting

Linda Lieder briefly described the last meeting which primarily consisted of a special presentation by the President of the Farmington Historical Society. He shared the history of Michigan's Urban Transportation System dating back to the turn of the century. Linda passed the minutes around for review by those who were interested.

Temporary Appointment of Secretary

Pat introduced Linda Curry as the temporary club secretary and stated that nominations for the position would be taken later in the meeting. Voting will occur next month.

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Reports

Treasurer: Alan Baum reported that net assets totaled \$2,248.57, net liabilities are \$261.85 and 2007 income is \$50 from dues payments.

Committees: Linda Leider passed around a committee sign up sheet with roles requested by the new executive board.

President: Pat stressed the importance of the May election. He stated that poll workers for the Schoolcraft College trustees were especially effective and that volunteers were needed. Placement of lawn signs and any other means of help would be appreciated by all of the Democratic candidates.

Nominations for Secretary

Linda Curry was recommended by Pat for club secretary. There was nomination from the floor and it was seconded. Other nominations were invited and voting will take place at the next meeting.

Announcements

Linda recommended that the club members volunteer to clean John Stymelski Veteran's park on Saturday, May 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Old Business

Sam suggested the development of an open forum web site to share ideas. Pat said that he would talk to Richard and Carl about getting one set up.

Pat adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Linda Curry
Temporary Secretary