

# LIVONIA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

## Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2007

### Call to Order

The meeting was opened at 7:30 pm by President, Pat O'Neil

### Review of Minutes of Last Meeting

Linda Curry briefly described the last meeting which primarily consisted of the Results of the Presidential Straw Poll. The minutes were approved.

### Speaker

Jason Ellenberg, Political Organizing Director of the Michigan Democratic Party was our Speaker. He covered three main topics:

1. The 2007 Local Races around the State - The MDP looks at important local races around the state and lends support to those candidates. This year they will get involved with 22 races. Among them is the race for mayor in Livonia. One purpose for doing this is to build a Democratic "farm team". They focus both on helping the candidate with a strategy to win and in developing teams who can help them win. The Livonia mayoral race is a top tier focus. Brad Kent, from Maureen Brosnan's organization, spoke for a moment about Maureen and asked for volunteers to help with her campaign.

2. Looking ahead to 2008 - Michigan will hold a party-run caucus run by the MDP and local Democratic clubs rather than hold a primary that is run by the State at taxpayer expense. The caucus date will be February 9, 2008 providing no other States violate the DNC scheduling rules. The rule is that no State can go before February 5. If this rule is broken, we may move our caucus ahead. Jason provided a hand out with more details about how the caucus will be run.

For the National Convention Michigan will have 83 congressional district level delegates and 82 at large positions. It will be held August 25 - 28, 2008 in Denver.

3. Other races in 2008 - The 2006 election was great for Democrats and we see positive chances for 2008. The three most interesting chances are in our own 11th district (Thadius McCotter), the 9<sup>th</sup> district (Joe Knollenberg) and the 7<sup>th</sup> district (Tim Walberg). The MDP feels that there are no democratic congressional seats that are viable pick-ups for Republicans.

### Other Visitors

Kevin Priddy is running for City Council. He has been a life-long Livonia resident. He would like to work on improving Livonia including adding more places to bike and walk.

Eric Stempien is also running for City Council. He said the No. 1 problem was the budget. With state-shared revenues dwindling and little likelihood that will change soon, he said cities like Livonia are going to have to be prepared to see a good part of their budgets disappear.

Denise Littlejohn from the Obama campaign asked for volunteers and brought pamphlets for distribution. She also referenced some web sites of interest.

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## Reports

- Treasurer
  - Alan reported that through the end of May another \$95 in dues were collected. Expensed amounted to \$278.87 for mailings and room rental. Our current assets of savings, checking, caps and shirts total \$2,559.70. Liabilities for web site hosting are \$59.70.
  
- Committees
  - Linda Lieder reported she will be calling people to help with the membership committee.
  - Linda also reminded everyone about the garage sale for the coming weekend.
  - Frank Kalinski reported a big turnout (143) for Maureen Borsnan's ice cream social fund raiser.
  - Prank also shared the idea of the annual LDC September get-together that was talked about at the board meeting.
  
- President
  - Pat reported that the next meet may be at his house. We will invite Maureen Brosnan to be the guest speaker at our July or August meeting. The meeting she chooses will be held at the Senior Center, and the other will be a cook-out at Pat's house. Pat stressed the importance of moving the leadership of the city from "red" to more of a balanced blend of red and blue.
  - A by-law committee has been appointed to try to simplify the by-laws.

## Announcements

Richard Miga wanted to let everyone know that our new State Senator Glenn Anderson has become very active. He has already put 6 bills into committee. He encouraged everyone to show Glenn their support and appreciation.

## Update on Democratic Activities

Pat reminded everyone that the caucuses will be held here at the Livonia Senior Center and we will need 10 volunteers to help run the election that day.

## Old Business

No old business was discussed.

## New Business

Richard suggested that we create an endorsement committee. Pat mentioned that we have one in our by-laws. Richard is willing to serve on it, but it needs to become active soon.

Lee requested some LDC membership forms so that he could provide them to people who are interested in joining the club. Alan thought he might have some and offered to provide them. There are forms on the web site, but currently the contact information is incorrect.

## End of Meeting

Pat adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Linda Curry, Secretary