

Democrats of Greater Novi

Membership meeting minutes: Tuesday, June 18, 2019, 6:30pm, Novi United Methodist Church.

Meeting called to order at 6:33

Minutes from the May 21 meeting approved, agenda approved.

Chair's Report (Megan McAllister):

- Upcoming Day of Action to inform about permanent Absentee Voting & introduce our club

Treasurer's Report (Marian Mahoney): balance of Admin and PAC accounts, 63 members

Secretary's Report (Ann Kowalczyk): minutes of past meetings available on website

Elected Officials Report:

Christine Greig (House Democratic Leader): passed auto insurance reform package without Democratic support, although Dems were able to get some changes made, such as no penalties for lapsed coverage, and medical people reviewing claims; mandatory rider for coverage gap NOT included. Ways of paying for roads currently being debated. New bill proposed by Governor prioritizes roads that need it the most. Currently working on budget for next fiscal year. Discussed toll roads, road warranties, preventative maintenance for roads. Criminal justice reform: civil asset forfeiture, raising minimum age, cash bond. Educator's caucus formed. 2020 election: need to flip 4 seats in House to take majority - Novi is one of them. Novi is top priority - going to be a million dollar campaign.

Speaker: **Erica Peresman** (Voter Protection Director, MDP): Everyone can register to vote up through election day, and all registered voters can vote early. It's a big change in Michigan, and has the potential to affect voter turnout. Online registration coming soon. Last 15 days before election day: can go to local clerk's office (need proof of residency). Recent election using new rules worked out well. Absentee ballot must be received by Clerk by 8pm on election day. The biggest reason for invalid ballots is arriving late to the Clerk's office. EVERY BALLOT that is received on time IS COUNTED, including absentee ballots. Can signup online for permanent absentee voter status. Elections are run by City & Twp Clerks - there are 1720 of them in Michigan. Actively recruiting people to work on election day in potential problem precincts, and also to give talks about the new voter protections. Clerks required to be open minimum of 8 hours the weekend before election day for voting & registration. "Turn up the Turnout in 2020".

Committee Reports

Membership: (Aaron Martinez): reaching out to strong Dems

Precinct Delegate: (Ann Kowalczyk) upcoming Day of Action

Planning & Fundraising: (Marian Mahoney) Meeting June 9 (7 people attended); results of survey, debate watch party July 25 at Northville Sports Den, Chili & Soup Cook-off Sunday Oct 6, next meeting July 7, 3:30.

Endorsement Committee: (Marcus Jackson): planning first meeting, club members invited to participate.

Communications Committee: (Ann Kowalczyk): demoed event listing & calendar on website; submit events by sending to info@novidems.org

New Business

Joint Oakland County Democratic Party (OCDP) & Michigan Democratic Party (MDP) **Day of Action:** Saturday, July 22, 10am-3pm. Canvassing with tri-fold about permanent absentee voting & promoting our club.

Two Minute Announcements

- Maureen Horan & Karen Zyczynski: Wear Red for Ed June 25 --Lansing Capitol steps. Please write postcard to Cathy Crawford.
- Louise Weller: 11th District summer picnic, July 13, 4-7pm, \$25 tickets to support federal PAC for Haley, hosted at Wildlife Woods Park in Novi, special guests, adult beverages & chicken, tickets at www.11district.com
- Gwen Markham: 10 Mile preservation overlay, will last about 5 years; Board of Commissioners passed Ban the Box (application will not ask about previous criminal convictions); wore sash to honor her grandmother's participation in women's suffrage, 100th anniversary celebration this year.
- Diane Smith: fundraiser for Haley Stevens on Friday June 28, 6:30-8:30
- Joe Carpenter: firefighters invite city council candidates to speak at endorsement meeting Weds June 19 at Novi Firestation #4.
- Brian Smith: apply for Boards & Commissions; Novi Ambassadors program
- Colleen Crossey: candidate for City Council, asking for house parties for candidates
- Christine Ingles: candidate for Mayor of Novi, asking for support
- Kelly Breen: City Councilmember: moving forward with ring road by Town Center, paid for sewage retention facility because of rapid development, advocating for careful planning, grant from Oakland County commission for roundabout at 11 Mile, will have roads/development study session with county, may have bond including a community session; ladder truck has been purchased; water play area in Pavillion Shore Park ; attempt ordinance to require health & safety records of contractors; SEMCOG resources, trip to Lansing to advocate for local government, MML policy committee, facial recognition technology; thanks for attendance at Campaign Kickoff meeting, several upcoming fundraisers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm