

Democrats of Greater Novi

Membership meeting minutes: Tuesday, July 16, 2019, 6:30pm, Novi United Methodist Church.

***NOTE:** all ballots cast by club members in good standing as determined by the bylaws

Chair **Brittany Pinnock** calls meeting to order at 6:33

Minutes from the June 18 meeting approved, agenda approved.

Chair's Report : Thanks to Megan MacAllister for her leadership, looking forward to working with the club in helping get Democrats elected & furthering Democratic causes.

Treasurer's Report (Marian Mahoney): first quarterly report due July 22

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

Elected Officials Report:

Gwen Markham (County Commissioner, District 9): working on budget

Committee Reports:

- **Membership:** (Aaron Martinez): working on crafting our local platform, encouraging members to participate, upcoming meeting on July 22, 7pm.
- **Precinct Delegate:** (Diane Smith) upcoming Day of Action- July 23 -
- **Planning & Fundraising:** (Marian Mahoney) 5 people participated in 2nd meeting on July 7. Debate Watch party on July 31 with Northville club. Major fundraiser Oct 12, Sat, 1-5pm. Chili Cookoff (including soup, pastas, desserts) goal of raising \$1000 to help local candidates. Bringing back 50/50 raffle. Asking for any interest in personalized name badges - see her for more info. Looking for volunteers for meeting hospitality.
- **Endorsement Committee:** (Marcus Jackson): had first meeting, selected Beth Morris as Chair, sent out candidate questionnaires & got responses, next steps to
- **Outreach Committee:** thanks to those participating in Adopt-A-Road, gave old sign to Jim Pearson, new signs are up on 10 Mile at both Haggerty and Novi Roads.
- **Communications Committee:** (Ann Kowalczyk): setting date for next meeting

Elected Officials Report:

Dave Woodward (Chair, Oakland County Board of Commissioners):

Democrats are now in the majority, despite gerrymandered districts. Bold, progressive agenda. Working together with Wayne and Macomb county boards. Will take on climate change issues, Democrats led Safe Drinking Water initiative, water purification in schools. Testing lakes, setting standards for septic tanks, invasive species, school breakfast program, criminal justice reform, affordable housing, LGBT rights, Title X, emergency contraception, need to count everyone, first woman appointed to Parks & Rec commission, public transit TO NOVI. Interested in running for Oakland County Executive.

Kelly Breen (Novi City Councilmember): GLWA will assess water main status, opposed to Chick-fil-a, fair contracting language, Pavillion Shore Park, new fire truck, life support transport, upcoming school bond issue (includes community center), upcoming infrastructure meeting, road study, internet service.

Brittany Pinnock makes a MOTION to remove “committee breakout sessions” from agenda due to time constraints, seconded, MOTION CARRIES.

New Business

Bylaws changes (Two thirds majority needed to pass.)

Aaron Martinez (Vice Chair of Membership & Outreach): MOTION to limit comments to 2 min per person per vote. MOTION CARRIES.

Brian Smith (Bylaws Committee Chair):

- MOTION to make MDP mandated changes (male/female chair/co-chair, adjusting club area of activity): MOTION CARRIES.
- MOTION to make changes to better define election committee rules. DEBATE: Jasper Catzanaro objects to the committee setting an election date & election rules, believes membership should decide. MOTION CARRIES.
- MOTION to add Communications Committee as a standing committee. MOTION CARRIES
- MOTION to change the name of the club to the Novi Democratic Club. DEBATE: Colleen Crossey mentions that NDC acronym already taken by Northville club, Aaron Martinez says we are in control of our branding and can accommodate. MOTION CARRIES.

Executive Board Appointments

- Appointment of Vice Chair to fill vacancy; simple majority needed to pass. Aaron Martinez: MOTION to approve appointment of Brian Smith (unanimously approved by Board) as **Vice Chair of Outreach & Organization**. MOTION CARRIES.
- Club is accepting nominations from the floor for vacant **Member at Large** board position. Ann Kowalczyk nominates Ron Kumon. Others have until Saturday July 13 at 11:59pm to nominate someone.

Jasper Catzanaro: objects to rule that club voting rights are restricted to those that are members in good standing for 30 days. Brittany Pinnock states that bylaws can be changed with a two thirds vote of the membership and 2 weeks notice. Brian Smith requests that language be submitted.

Two Minute Announcements

- Tina Ingles: coffee hour at Novi Coffee house, request for donations
- Colleen Crossey: candidate for City Council, municipal broadband, deforestation, community meeting
- Megan McAllister: thanks for opportunity to serve as Chair; going to run for 38th Rep
- Kelly Breen: fundraiser Simcheck , Andy Meisner, thanks for support
- Dana Fortier: democratic debate watch party, book signing.
- Grant: Organizing for America, Day of Action July 27
- Alex Dinser: candidate for City Council, fundraiser, Monday July 29, Andy Meisner, Sam Steckloff

- Gwen Markham: birthday party Aug 1, Dave Woodward, Dana Nessel, Chris Greig. Kim Brady 17-yr-old violinist will be entertainment.
- Aaron Martinez: requests birthday present in form of campaign contributions to Democratic candidates.
- Carolyn Upton: candidate for City Council

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm

50/50 raffle held