

Kingston Democratic Committee Meeting March 19, 2019

Meeting Location: The Beverly Lounge, 224 Foxhall Ave. Kingston NY, 12401

Present: Bob Gollnick, Tom Hoffay, Lynn Johnson, Ameer Peterson, Jeff Moran, Jeffrey Morell, Bob Gillon, Amy Fradon, Matt Dunn, Ashley Dittus, Pat Finch, Joseph Donaldson, Kathy Mihm, Reynolds Scott-Childress, Douglas Koop, Richard Kelder, Steve Noble, Brian Cafferty, Abe Uchitelle, Steve Schabot, Matt Branford, Bill Reynolds, 2 others.

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Reading of minutes of previous meeting/Motion to dispense w/ reading of minutes of previous meeting. Bob Gillon motioned, Joe Donaldson seconded, motion passed. Pat Finch commented that she appreciated the quality of the minutes.

4. Introduction of Guests

a. Jeff Moran – Ulster County Executive Candidate. Jeff gave a speech focusing on intergenerational poverty issues in Ulster County. Also advocated for a website focused on County services, spoke about the growing housing crisis, and environmental concerns. In the midst of collecting signatures to get on the ballot.

b. Andy Pekarik and Amy Fradon: Neighbor to Neighbor Program. Andy mentioned this is an arm of the Ulster County Dem. Committee. They presented a powerpoint and Amy spoke about their policy. It is mainly to get away from the “ASK”, and instead to build community connectedness. I believe they said they had already presented their thoughts or actually worked in Woodstock and the Town of Rochester. For canvassing, they use the Minivan to cut 20-30 door turfs, then go out in teams of 2. They initiate a conversation which begins with listening to voter concerns, then validation, then informing them of Dem views. Voters are categorized in the Minivan for later use. Closer to the election they work in 3 waves. 1 – Strong Dems – contact in advance of the Special Election. 2 – For

regular elections, the rest of the Dems and select NOPs – contact 1 month before the election. 3- Maybe from the results of wave 2, select voters who need more encouragement – ones who are maybes. Contact them a week to 10 days before the election.

5. Bills and Communications: There were none.

6. Treasurer's Report. Same as last month.

7. Unfinished Business. None.

8. Committee Reports:

a. Fundraising Committee: Ashley and Ameer are working on a fundraiser for the City Committee at Santa Fe possibly on Sunday 4/28 in the afternoon.

b. Communication Committee: None.

c. Outreach Committee: None.

9. New Business:

a. Treasurer – Joe Fitzgerald resigned from the position. Ashley Dittus nominated Liam Kahn, Bob Gillon seconded. Matt went through the 3 time ask, no other nominations, all were in favor. Liam accepted.

b. Petitioning Status: Possibly turn in at HQ March 30th at 11 am. Focus on Wards 6, 7 and 8. Liam is cutting turf for Ward 8 and will distribute to Committee members.

c. Meeting Location/Date for April Meeting. Keep date – Tuesday, April 16th. Meet at LIS – new restaurant/bar on Foxhall.

10. Elected Officials Reports:

a. Steve Noble: Planet Wings issue – proposed public park use. Kingstunion – Planning Board is lead agency. Will be several public forums. Expect a negative declaration. New recycling bins are coming – new ones for paper and cardboard, old ones for metal, glass, plastic. Will ultimately save money. Grants should cover cost.

b. Jeffrey Morell: Ward is concerned and talking about traffic issues.

c. Douglas Koop: Ward concerned w/ traffic safety, wants speed bumps. Finance situation is good. \$50 million in grants are in progress. Spending is lower at this point than it was last year.

d. Steve Schabot: Deep the creek plan on the Rondout. Adding bulkheads on the creek. The Rail Trail is making its path through Ward 8. Concern with Pike Plan survey.

e. Rennie Scott-Childress: Housing hearings are happening focusing on tenants/homeowners/land owners/developers/homeless. Have been well-attended and well-covered. Dan Baker will speak on April 8th. Also rent control. Infrastructure work is happening. Pay raises for the mayor and possibly for the Council will be tied to coli, removing them from political consideration.

11. Good of the Order and Adjournment.

A motion was made and seconded for adjournment, and we did.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Johnson, Secretary

4/8 /2019