

NORTHWEST VALLEY DEMOCRATS
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Manny Hernandez in the Quail Room of the Foundation Building in Sun City West at 6:30 PM. Present were Lonna Fischer, Vice-President; Walt Bisbee, Treasurer; Margaret Cordovano, Secretary; Margarita Silva, Member-At-Large and Frank Copple, Political Action Chair.

Julie Gunnigle

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Julie Gunnigle, candidate for Maricopa County Attorney, spoke about what actions she would take as County Attorney. One action would be to take out corruption in the Attorney's Office, favorable treatment for well-connected people. Another action would be to treat addiction, gun violence and mental health as public health issues they are. Also, she would work to reduce Arizona's high incarceration rate by using treatment or placement for drug addiction and mental health problems. While which abortion law is in effect is still an unsettled question in Arizona, she would decline to prosecute abortion cases as a matter of prosecutorial discretion.

Ms Gunnigle stated that many voters do not vote the entire ballot. Voters need to learn to vote for all the candidates on the ballot. Now that marijuana is legal in Arizona, expungement of convictions for use of marijuana should be done. She has handled this for many persons with these convictions. See her website, gunnigle2022.com

Manny introduced the members of the board.

Treasurer's Report

Walt gave the Treasurer's Report. Expenses include \$196.00 for the meeting room rental, \$200.00 donations to each of 3 candidates for the state legislature, and \$232.00 for a post office box. We received a donation of \$250.00 from LD28 for our work to get LD28 candidates elected. We have a balance of \$2,663.89 in our account now and have over 110 members. Walt is collecting dues for next year, which are \$15.00.

Manny announced that there will be a rally for Democratic candidates at the Sonoran Room in Sun City Grand on September 24th from 2PM to 4PM. Candidates invited to attend include Mark Kelly for the U.S. Senate, Katie Hobbs for Governor, Kris Mayes for Arizona Attorney General, Adrian Fontes for Arizona Secretary of State, Martin Quezada for Arizona Treasurer, and Julie Gunnigle for Maricopa County Attorney. Also invited are candidates for the Corporation Commission, LD28 and LD29 House and Senate candidates and several school board candidates. To attend via Zoom, pre-registration is required. Pre-registration for in person attendance is strongly recommended. To register, go to www.granddems.org

Elections to the NWVD board will take place in November. Consider serving on the NWVD board as an officer or in an at-large position. There is a sign-up sheet for those wishing to serve on the Nominating Committee to select candidates for the elections.

We are considering what type of social event we would like to have In December. An informal picnic where we could play games has been suggested.

Speakers at our next meeting in October will be Stephanie Holbrook, LD28 candidate for the House and David Sandoval, LD28 candidate for the Senate.

David Sandoval thanked the NWVD for their donation to his campaign and welcomed volunteers.

Manny is trying to get more candidate signs. He will email when they are available.

Skip Wilson, LD28

Skip Wilson of LD28 explained the Get Out the Vote initiative to increase voter turnout. Focus will be on Democratic voters younger than 49, older voters who are not likely to vote, and older voters with no voting history. Also, certain independents will be included. We will distribute voter guides to 12,000 homes and mail voter guides to 4,000 households, apartments and homes in gated communities. NWVD is being asked to distribute 2,000 voter guides. The guides will have information on how to register and methods of voting on the left and information on the candidates on the right. Lonna is working to coordinate volunteers to distribute these. Distribution of the voter guides to households will take place between September 22nd and October 12th.

We need help to pay for the postage for the guides to be mailed. Maricopa County Democratic Party is paying for the printing of the guides specific to each district. We are passing around an envelope to collect donations for this.

A Golden Ticket voter guide will be available soon online at the LD28 website.

There will be phone banking and texting opportunities for volunteers starting soon.

Lonna stated that we need to pay \$1,000.00 for postage to send out the voters' guides and encouraged members to donate by putting cash in the envelope being circulated, listing name of the donor and amount donated.

Walt Bisbee was the winner of the 50-50 drawing in the amount of \$52.50 and he donated the money back to the club.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret D. Cordovano
Secretary

