

**Monthly Meeting Minutes of the Newaygo County Democratic Party  
January 14, 2019; 6:00 p.m., Tamarac**

**Attendees:** Dallas Dean, Jan Walsh, Teresa Kpachavi, Sally Wagoner, Arnie Baker, Terry McIntee, Ellen McIntee, Susan Savage, Jerry Savage, Donna Hieftje, Robin Aslakson, Carol Newth, Jason Colella, Deb DiCello, Kathy Morrison, Michael Campeau, Furlo Bengtsson, Tim Bengtsson, Nan Powerwinski, Mary Thomas, Lenore Bacon, Jan Burch Williams, Gloria Switzer.

1. **Call to order and pledge; 6:00 p.m.**
2. **Approval of November minutes.** Approved.
3. **Approval of the Agenda.** Approved with two addendums – 1) Guest Speaker Kathy Morrison; 2) Treasurer’s report.
4. **Guest Speaker:** Kathy Morrison – gave information on a new Recycling Center to open in Fremont at Warner and 56<sup>th</sup> street, operated by Newaygo County; supported by environmental group CWAC. Volunteers needed to staff center. Sign-up sheet passed around, orientation dates TBD. Information – contact April Pickard, Board of Public Works, 231-689-7213 or [aprilp@co.newaygo.mi.us](mailto:aprilp@co.newaygo.mi.us)
5. **Chairperson remarks:** Dallas Dean
  - a. Texas Holdem’ – next one will be February 7, 8, 9, 10. Volunteer sign-up sheet passed around, need 3 volunteers per shift each day.
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> District meeting was held on January 12 at Spanky’s. Next district meeting March 2, location TBA.
  - c. County Convention meeting to follow tonight’s general meeting; required under state law rules that county convention be held prior to state convention.
6. **Vice Chair remarks:** Teresa Kpachavi – using VAN account to reach out to voters. Passed out sign-up sheets to volunteer for committees. Need to focus on canvassing this spring – going door to door to survey voters on issues and feelings about candidates. Will clean up VAN list and attempt to reach every door, not just targeted lists. Remarked that Bill Huizenga lost 2500 votes to Democrats in the 2018 election and Democrats gained 1500 votes, making it a net gain of 4000 votes for Democrats. Moving in the right direction!
7. **Treasurer’s Report:** Jan Walsh. Explained account balances – State \$853 (supports state and local candidates); Texas Holdem’ \$2864 (transfers to federal account as needed); Federal \$1126 (for office expenses, etc.); Administrative \$304 (pays rent to convention and meeting venues). All donations need donor’s name and address; donations over \$50 need to be reported to federal account. Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report, seconded and carried.
8. **Committee reports:** 2-3 minutes
  - a. **Fundraising:** Ellen McIntee for Shelly Ross – information about the fundraising committee. 2019 Annual Dinner/Silent Auction will be May 18, 2019 at The Commons of Fremont. This year’s silent auction will be sports themed; hoping to give a break to our very generous artists who donate every year. Details to follow. Group meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at various locations. Next meeting January 21 at Newaygo Brewing Company.
  - b. **Take Action:** Carol Newth – focus on education. Plan to hold public speaking forums on various issues and topics. Need to brainstorm topics and guest speakers. Forums can be held at various places throughout the county. Committee meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at Koffee Kuppe; meets in conjunction with Communications Committee.
  - c. **Communications:** Sally Wagoner – looking for people with a passion to write for LTE, e-news and social media assistance. Email Sally with ideas, pertinent news items, etc. [salwag.sw@gmail.com](mailto:salwag.sw@gmail.com). Committee meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at Koffee Kuppe; meets in conjunction with Take Action Committee.
9. **New Business:** State Convention Saturday February 2 at Cobo Hall. Must be a Michigan Democratic Party member or precinct delegate to vote at convention.
10. **Announcements:**
  - a. Governor Whitmer to have an event at the GR Public Museum January 26 from noon-2 p.m.
  - b. Next meeting date – February 11, 2019 at Spanky’s.
11. **Public comments, questions and concerns:** Jan Burch spoke about not getting any response from Rep. Huizenga about her concerns. However, Rep. VanSingel responded with his goals for the state congress. Funding for public schools and supporting higher education are his main focuses. Jan encouraged everyone to continue to contact our representatives. Robin mentioned contacting State Sen. Bumstead as well. VanSingel and Bumstead plan to hold public forum, TBD.
12. **Adjourned 7:10 p.m.**

Minutes submitted by Ellen McIntee/01/15/19