

LD4 Democrats of Maricopa County

General Meeting Minutes

Wayne & Ingrid's, 14580 S. 182nd Ln, Goodyear



Tuesday, April 12, 2016

6:30 PM

Call to Order & Welcome - 6:45 PM

Approval of Agenda/Previous Minutes

Introductions (21) Present

Guest Speakers

- Joe Rodriguez, Running for Maricopa County Sheriff-Not able to attend this meeting.
- Lisa Otondo, AZ Rep. – Running for State Senate.
 - Background – 2nd term @ State – Ranking Member for Education
 - MA – Master's Degree in Third World Studies
 - Began as a teacher – pushed to get more involved with women and children issues.
 - Policies moved drastically to the right – been through hell with what is going on now. KidsCare being stricken.
 - 4 members carrying loaded guns on State floor.
 - Appreciate Vic – a constant @ State House
 - What's happening at Legislature lately:
 - Mis-spending of funds by Speaker Gowen
 - Used State Car/Driver to do his campaigning
 - Kicked the reporters off the floor – Frank Stevens – previous trespassing violation.
 - Statements must be heard immediately by reporters – Democrats fought to get him back on the floor. Rule changed and the press showed up on the floor today.
 - Dr. Friese asked to please don't have loaded weapons on the floor. Republicans stated that they are above the law.
 - Proud of Dems, all of our voices, our united stand
 - A solid effort to take back our state.
 - No opposition for Lisa Otondo
 - Proud to work with Charlene
 - 24 Dems/36 Rep = 60
 - Budget Changes – Drastic @ the Counties
 - Juvenile programs cut
 - DeWitt on Fox News – Independents can vote – Statement wrong and never retracted
 - \$4 Million misspend for voter education – DMV-screwed up.
 - Strange hiring going on
 - Voter snafu disenfranchised many citizens.
 - Zero dollars slated for Universities.
 - School Facilities – 25% to 10% - \$30 Million taken away from schools.
 - They want to eliminate public schools
 - Empowerment Scholarships – death by a thousand daggers.
 - Question from the floor: No matter the advocacy, we have no impact? Vote those people out of office. 31 support the private school initiatives.
 - Write letters to them as if you are their constituent – hide send list (BC).

- Dark Money, voter suppression, K-12 Spending, State not funding colleges,
 - Need groups of people to speak out against all this.
- \$84 Million in corporate welfare for prisons.
- Charter Schools – STO’s (Student Tuition Organization) – Businesses hold the money until the last minute – mismanaged –up to 10% goes to administrative costs.
- Public schools only get 3-5%.
- Charter Schools profitable with no oversight and accountability.
- \$38 Million for the BorderStrike Force.
- Gov. Ducey – Angry with his position – Cut \$8 Billion from K-12 schools. \$3.5 Million as new money – it’s not. Money will not go to classes and teacher salary, they are misrepresenting the financial realities.
- Corporate Welfare – No return on investment
- Budget going through appropriations – time to lobby for what we want
 - Vying for buy-in bargaining.
 - How legislative moves between house and senate – offer a tour of the process.
- Charlene Fernandez
 - Worked for Pastor, Napolitano, and Grijalva
 - Degree in education-never worked as teacher; Went back for grad degree
 - Loves our Caucus – tight-only awesome together
 - Questions from floor: Morrie – Pro123 – Won’t raise taxes now. – Not enough substance to support. Taking more from State Trust Lands.
 - Pro – 124 – no arguments against. L. Otondo supports

Chair’s Report – 8:00 PM

- Elected PC Update (9 petitions out of 13) Tony, Jesus, Karl – outstanding)
 - Vic has special provision
- Garage Sale Results - \$150.00/Ingrid & Wayne matching funds.
- DNC Delegate Election - Cathy running – needs votes
- Petition Drive – April 24th Noon
 - Fun, water Great day.
 - Please sign petitions for Dems running
- MeetUp Account (Motion) – Karen funded for 6 months
 - Eileen Fein motion to discontinue; Wayne 2nd Unanimously approved.
 - Motion to suspend until later date—Motion by Mike – 2nd Wayne
- MCDP Memberships
 - Circle of Friends- \$1,000.00 per year/per group
 - Installments – go to web site and sign up
 - Victory 2016, only source of funding for additional headquarters in election year (\$16/mo. until Election 2016); receive lapel pin
 - Collected 425 signature at the Poll for Presidential Preference
 - 38 new people to mailing list from that event.
 - Booth @Friendship Park in Avondale, AZ –got 42 more signatures.
 - MCDP Chair’s Request:
 - Want suggestions for additional polling places
 - 116 polling places proposals – we want 200+
 - Jane McNamarra – Maricopa County Newsletter – let Cathy know of anything news worthy issues.
 - Candidates need 4,000 signatures – keep on pushing.

Treasurer’s Report

- Nov – Present = \$555.00 total income; \$225.75 Expenses; \$329.25 remaining balance.

<https://www.facebook.com/LD4Democrats/>

<https://twitter.com/LD4Democrats>

- US Bank charge no fees.
- MCDP Assessment – Partial Payment (Motion to pay next installment)
- Membership Dues - \$20/person or \$35/couple

Old/New Business

- Fundraising Committee – Morrie & Eileen
 - Brainstorming Ideas: Have candidates speak @ restaurants; bowling party – not @ Main Event; silent auction; dessert auction; 100-125 people@ Pueblo Restaurant – all Democrats owned business to support our efforts. – Putting together directory of such businesses. Not so excited of it in someone’s home event;
 - Silent Auction – need tables off to the side; and we solicit “Stuff”; restaurants, resorts, - email known democratic business owners to Eileen.
 - 50/50 raffle – Can do that at each meeting.
 - Cathy proposed that we invest in a LD4 Banner – Double Sided
 - To get pricing and we can vote next month
 - Ongoing – Canvass at Walgreen, etc.
 - Wayne motioned; Mike 2nd to have Cathy just order the banner.
 - May 17th – Next Petition Drive @ Compass Church – All day.
- Canvassing for:
 - Lisa Otondo – AZ Senate; Charlene Fernandez – AZ House; Jesus Rubalcava – AZ House
 - Joe Rodriguez – MC Sheriff; Adrian Fontes – MC Recorder; Michelle Robertson – MC Superintendent of Schools; Joe Downs – MC Treasurer
 - William Mundell & Tom Chabin – Corporation Commission
 - Alexandra Arboleda, Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Ben Graff, Jim Holway – Board of Directors, Water Conservation Dist.
 - Ann Kirkpatrick – US Senate
 - Marianna – running for Agua Fria School Board Member.

Upcoming Events

- Joe Rodriguez Campaign Kickoff – MOD, Phoenix April 14 5:30pm
- DNC Delegate Election Caucus – UofA, Tucson April 16 8am
- Ann Kirkpatrick Reception - 106TH & Peoria, Sun City April 30 1pm
- AFDW Fundraiser - Karsten's Golf Course Restaurant April 23 11:30am
- MCDP Diamond Event Dinner- 40 Owls Gallery April 30
- Next LD4 Democrats Monthly Meeting – Total Wine May 10 6:30pm

Adjournment – 9:01 PM