

LD4 Democrats of Maricopa County

General Meeting Minutes

Total Wine, 1416 N Litchfield Rd, Goodyear

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

6:30 PM



6:35 PM

1. Call to Order & Welcome

2. Approval of Agenda/Previous Minutes

3. Introductions – 16 Present

Cathy Hozian, Wayne Harris, Ingrid Stromberg, Mary Salsman, Rick Salsman, Michael Cunningham, Nora Cunningham, Ed Stone, Susan Stone, Robyn Taylor, Karen Peters, Gerae Peten and Judy Wargula; Guests: Joe Downs, Linda Thor, Lisa

4. Guest Speakers

- Joe Downs, candidate for Maricopa County Treasurer
 - Background information – Served as a PC and treasurer for District 28; earned a MBA in Finance from ASU; worked in three positions at Merrill Lynch; became a financial advisor at Ameriprise.
 - Platform as County Treasure Role: AZ's most important investment is education; Prop 123 only gets us 10% closer to the average funding for education in the U.S; AZ needs to make more investments and not rely so heavily on property taxes; proposes to increase the annual state funds; 3.1 Billion investable funds (includes regular securities, mutual fund index, short term bonds, and Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac) the investment portfolio of stocks and bonds include pull down of 6.2% return; a more appropriate portfolio for returns would yield 120 million per year; AZ Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) supports better investments.
 - Accountability of office must improve; currently there is none in Maricopa County; horrible allocations of taxpayer's money exists; 23.8 million went to Sheriff Arpaio's legal fees; Cut 70% of polling places in AZ.
 - Find on FaceBook: Joe Downs for Treasurer; 2 million voters in county; needs donations to support candidacy.
- Dr. Linda Thor, candidate for Maricopa Community College District Governing Board- At-Large Countywide seat
 - Background information – Will become a 1st time grandmother October, 2016; obtained 2,272 signatures to qualify; career love for community colleges – first position held in West Los Angeles, came to Rio Salado in 1990, became Chancellor of Foothills Silicone Valley in 2010, returned to AZ July, 2015.
 - Platform issues – Current Board very polarized; ten colleges in Maricopa Community College District; \$1.5 billion budget; these colleges change people's lives; a strong advocate in communities and the legislature; It's unconscionable that AZ disinvested in community colleges – created 12% decline in enrollment. Must return to public good-not private benefit.
 - Seven seats on the Board (5 geographical districts – 2 At-Large); four up for elections.

5. Chair's Report

- Avondale Field Office – Up and running as of June 3, 2016
 - Registered approximately 400 new voters since opening. Focus on increasing voting at the polls and PVL; we're at the lowest voter turnout, i.e. 34%, since the last election, but voter turnout increased

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

<https://twitter.com/LD4Democrats>

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since the Presidential election. Turn AZ Blue!!

- PC count –900 elected PC's. PC training in development.
- Strategy Session July 16th 4-7PM
- Still Need: Interns, Volunteers (voter registration, phones, doors)
 - Short-terms projects need support to complete goals by mid-August.

6. Treasurer's Report

- MCDP Assessment – Last Payment of \$500.00 completed.
- Checking account balance - \$114.76
- \$100.00 expense payment to MCDP,
- \$61.00 Income from raffle
- Membership Dues - \$20/person or \$35/couple

7. Old/New Business

- Tickets NOW Available Thursday, Sept. 15 Fundraiser – Morrie & Eileen
 - To be held at the Old Pueblo Café, 102 N. Old Litchfield Rd., Litchfield Park, AZ 85340.
 - Tickets for sale - \$25.00 per ticket
 - Event co-hosed with two other Legislative Districts – each must sell 50 tickets – See Eileen for tickets. Half of proceeds goes back to districts. Cash Bar included.
 - Dessert Auction – Morrie to be auctioneer
 - Members are asked to donate a dessert – please include ingredients on a 3" x 5" index card (allergy info)
- Petition drive: Dark Money & Water Conservation Board
 - Bill Elliot – Organization to Stop Corruption Now!
 - Petition to vote against SB 1516
- New Business
 - Proposal made to initiate a Political Trivia Night
 - Groups of four people
 - Categories could include: politics, music, national and state politics.
 - Hozian suggested the game, Cards Against Humanity – a Question and answer game format that can be revised into a political version.
 - Pizza donations will be solicited to support event and prizes will be awarded winners.

8. Upcoming Events

- MCDP Executive Committee Meeting July 20 5:30pm
- Next LD4 Democrats Monthly Meeting – August 9 6:30pm
- Summer Convention, UFCW – August 20

9. Adjournment

8:15 PM