



## COCONUT CREEK DEMOCRATIC CLUB MINUTES

[www.coconutcreekdemocraticclub.org](http://www.coconutcreekdemocraticclub.org)

Date	Tuesday, May 14, 2019
Time	7:30 pm
Location	Coconut Creek Community Center, Room 137

### **Meeting start**

- President Gayle welcomed the attendees and started the meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- A video showing [Star Swan](#) singing the national anthem at the 2016 Democratic Convention was shown
- Member Xavier Page led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Introductions**

- President Gayle introduced the following guests: Jayne Chapman (Congressman Ted Deutch's Office); Sam Stern (President Deerfield Beach Democratic Club); Jocelyn Absher (Sen. Kevin Rader's Office); Mikkie Belvedere (Coconut Creek Commissioner); Ron Lichtman (Mayor Bogen's Office); Willie Jones (Candidate for Broward County Sheriff); Andrew Smalling (Candidate for Broward County Sheriff); Alfredo Olvera (President Dolphin Democrats); Millie Raphael (Founder, Progress For Florida); Ruby Green (Candidate, Broward County Public Defender); Noah Fineberg (Candidate, Khurum Wahid); Ryann Greenberg (Dem Women's Club West Broward); Kayla Vanwieringen (Rep. Dotie Joseph Office); Tomas Alcala; Phillip Jerez (Progress For Florida); and Rose Marie Lewis (President, CADAC).

### **Upcoming events**

- The Florida Democratic Party will be hosting over 2,000 grassroots activists, elected officials, and major donors at Leadership Blue 2019. The weekend schedule includes trainings, meetings, and the highly anticipated Gala. The event will be **June 7 – 9, 2019** in Orlando. Click [HERE](#) for more details.
- The National Democratic Committee on June 26 and 27, 2019 the first primary debates will be at the Adrienne Arsht Center in downtown Miami. Each debate

will begin at 9:00 pm and be televised by NBC and its affiliated networks, including Telemundo.

### **First Guest Speaker**

- Gayle then introduced Senator Kevin J. Rader. The senator gave members an update on the legislative session. He spoke about the challenges of being in the minority in the legislature and then he highlighted bills that were not approved and bills that passed but were awaiting the governor's approval. He later answered a few questions from members.
- At the end of the presentation, Gayle gave Sen. Rader a gift for speaking.

### **Second Guest Speaker**

- Gayle then introduced former DEC Chairman Mitch Cesar. Mr. Cesar provided updated information on the legislature's attempts to restrict voting in the state. He provided examples of voter suppression and encouraged members to pay attention to legislative efforts to limit Amendment 4.
- He added that voter education is important and provided examples of how the county's Supervisor of Elections Office could help voters.

### **Third Guest Speaker**

- Jayne Chapman (Congressman Ted Deutch's Office) spoke about her role in the congressman's office. She encouraged members to contact her should they have difficulties with any federal agency. She emphasized that she was there to help all individuals.

### **Fourth Guest Speaker**

- Phillip Jerez and Tomas Acala (political directors for Andrew Gillum's campaign) presented on the Mayor Gillum's 2018 gubernatorial campaign. Their presentation consisted of an explanation of their roles in the campaign, background information on the 2018 Democratic primary campaign, and a Q/A session with members.
- Members asked a variety of questions on possible reasons for the outcome.
- The presentation was well received and members commented positively on both the content and the presenters.
- At the end of the presentation, Gayle and VP Farooqui gave Phillip Jerez and Tomas Acala gifts for speaking.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

- Gayle adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm so that members could ask each guest additional questions.