

COCONUT CREEK DEMOCRATIC CLUB MINUTES

www.coconutcreekdemocraticclub.org

Date	Tuesday, November 1, 2016
Time	7:40 pm
Location	Coconut Creek Community Center
Attendees	Greg Gayle, Patricia Duaybes, Rene Chamberlin, Jim Lansing, Ronny Sydney and Penny Kalikow.

Meeting start

- Gayle called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm. Mayor Mikkie Belvedere led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Star Spangled Banner was sung by Whitney Houston. (Amazing rendition!)
- The club members and guests introduced themselves.

Agenda Items

- Gayle had a discussion on the upcoming the election in which members participated.
- Gayle than said that the Club was planning a fundraiser. There is an option to have the event in the northern section of the city in order to raise the Club's profile. He added that the Board has recommended that Club meeting be held in South Creek.
- In order to raise its profile, the Club will attend civic events when possible.
- Gayle handed out the Broward Democrat Party palm cards and asked that members give them out to others who had not voted.
- Treasurer Jim Lansing gave his report. The Club's balance is \$2,526.69.
- There was a discussion on the Club's fundraiser. One option is to have it in December; another is to hold it in January. If held in January, the cost would be lower. The theme will be a wine and cheese get-together. Members agreed to have the event in January.

- Broward School Board member Nora Rupert gave members information on local initiatives including Coconut Creek High School. She spoke on mentoring programs and the high school's new magnet program with Atlantic Tech.

- Mayor Mikkie Belvedere was the meeting's guest speaker. She spoke on the city's ballot initiatives and answered questions from members. Highlights from her discussion included:
 - The city plans to clean the lake and surrounding area by Coconut Creek High School. While the area belongs to the School Board, the city has decided to maintain it. Plans also include adding landscaping.

 - The mayor then discussed the eleven city amendments. As part of her presentation, she discussed the penny tax ballot question. She said that 31 cities agreed that this is the best way to get things done and the County will be responsible to use the money for roads, parks, etc. If a city did not submit plans to utilize the proceeds of the initiative, then that city would not receive any funds. She also clarified that the "penny tax" is considered a surcharge, not a sales tax. To administer the proceeds from the surcharge, a special committee comprised of non-elected officials will be formed.

 - The mayor then spoke about several planning projects as part of the city's Main Street project. She also told members about a program for youth with the City's police department.

 - The presentation ended with questions to the mayor.

Adjournment

- Gayle adjourned the meeting at 9 am and then showed short clip of President Obama.