



Marsh Creek Dems

Minutes of the Meeting on August 19, 2018 Mountain Mike's Pizza, Brentwood

I. Call to order – The inaugural meeting of the Marsh Creek Democratic Club was called to order by President Don Smith at 2:04 pm

II. Introductions

A. Don introduced the Marsh Creek Dem founders (Shannon Skinner, Judy Abraham, Linda Smith and Don Smith) who are serving as interim officers

1. Don Smith, Interim President
2. Shannon Skinner, Interim Vice President
3. Judy Abraham, Interim Treasurer
4. Linda Smith, Interim Secretary
5. They explained briefly why they had decided to start the club.

B. Don recognized our special guests

1. Vecky Elliott, Field Director for Congressman McNerney's Campaign said the Congressman was excited about our new club and will be attending a future meeting.
2. Monica Wilson, City Councilwoman, Antioch
3. Sue Higgins, Oakley City Council
4. Ellie Householder, Candidate Antioch School Board
5. Shagoofa Khan, Candidate for Antioch School Board
6. Thuy DaoJensen, Candidate for Brentwood School Board

C. Each individual introduced themselves and told why they had decided to come to the meeting. A common theme was "We cannot afford to sit back and hope things will change."

III. Guest Speaker – Monica Wilson, City Councilwoman, Antioch.

A. VP Shannon Skinner, introduced our Guest Speaker,

Ms. Wilson spoke on the topic: "Why Local Politics Matter". She talked about how local politics affects us every day and how important it is to elect local leader who reflect your values She participated with EMERGE California – <https://emergeca.ngpvanhost.com> whose mission is to increase the number of Democratic women leaders from diverse backgrounds in public office through recruitment, training, and providing a powerful network. Their vision is to change the face of power, politics, and leadership in this country in order to have policies that are responsive to all Americans. Training starts every December; deadline to apply is Sept 1st.

B. Ms. Wilson also spoke about Human Trafficking and the importance of HR767 - **SOAR** (STOP OBSERVE ASK RESPOND). The legislation will require training for all emergency room workers and hospital workers on how to spot human trafficking. HR 767 has passed the house and will come up for a vote in the Senate. Call your US Senators – Kamala Harris and Dianne Feinstein and urge them to support the bill.

IV. New Business

- A. Local seats up for election – Shannon called attention to the list of local seats up for election. We will identify the Democrats on that list at the next meeting.
- B. By Laws – A draft of the By Laws was distributed by Linda and Don gave a timeline for a vote. Everyone is asked to send any additions or suggestions for the By-Laws to Don before the next meeting. We will discuss the By Laws at the Sept. 16 meeting and a vote will be taken at the Oct. 21 meeting.
- C. Budget – Judy discussed the items the Club needs in the near term and long range. Dues money will be used to obtain these items. After we get chartered, we will be able to take donations so we can support candidates monetarily.
 - 1. Annual dues shall be \$20. Student/Youth \$5.00
 - 2. Prorated dues: Members who join after July 1st will be offered a prorated \$10 membership fee.

V. “Activate Yourself”

- A. Text Bank training was provided by Treasurer, Judy Abraham. The starting point is www.openprogress.com. Judy demonstrated how we can participate at home or in groups and reach a large number of voters.

VI. Announcements - there was a brief discussion regarding the many opportunities to get involved which are highlighted below:

- A. Future meetings will be held here at Mountain Mike’s Pizza on Sept 16th, Oct 21st, Nov 18th and Dec 16th. On Sept 16th we will discuss the By Laws, Train for Voter Registration and write postcards in support of Andrew Janz.
- B. Judy announced a step-by-step guide to make sure your friends and family have all the info they need to actually vote on Nov 6. That guide is at www.votesaveamerica.com
- C. Judy reminded everyone of
 - 1. Our Club website www.MarshCreekDems.org
 - 2. Our Club e-mail – Marshcreekdems@gmail.com
- D. Valerie Thurston announced she will host post card writing time at her home, in Antioch on Aug 26, Sept 2 and Sept 9. Postcards are sent to Democrats in Rep Devin Nunez urging them to vote for Andrew Janz, the Democratic challenger to Nunez. **RSVP** Valerie at valthurston2@gmail.com. She will send you the address.
- E. Shannon announced “Rise for Climate+Jobs+Justice”, a march, at 10 am, Embarcadero Plaza, San Francisco on Sept 8. For more info go to www.ca.riseforclimate.org.
- F. Ellie Householder and Shagoofa Kahn, Antioch School Board Candidates will be speaking at an Our Revolution Contra Costa event on August 26th from 4 to 6 pm at Pete’s Grill at 2709 Hillcrest in Antioch. They will be introduced by Antioch Vice Mayor Lamar Thorpe.
- G. Save the date – September 30th will be a pool party fund raiser for Sahgoofa and Ellie at Susana’s home. More information to come.
- H. Vecky Elliott Field Director for Congressmen McNerney’s Campaign said they are looking for volunteers. To volunteer, reach out to Vecky at vecky@jerrymcnerney.org
- I. Linda Smith, Secretary reported today’s attendance -- 43

VII. Adjournment – President Don Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:06 pm with thanks for all who attended!