SCSH Democratic Club

May 21, 2020

Note: The March 2020 SCSH Democratic Club meeting was cancelled due to the coronavirus.

This meeting of the SCSH Democratic Club was held remotely using Zoom. President Avi Greene called the meeting to order at 11:11AM. Due to the circumstances of the meeting, there was no flag salute. There were no new members.

Treasurer’s Report – Howard reported no dues were collected. There was one expense, a payment of $20 to democratic headquarters, leaving a remaining balance of $1095.

Vice President’s Report – Peggy reported on the Indio City Council meeting. She will post the information to the Democrats in SCSH website (democratsinscsh.org). At the Indio City Council Meeting, topics discussed included: the sale of a land parcel to the RV park at the corner of Jefferson and Varner, whether or not to get involved with eviction protection during the pandemic, Community Block Development Grants, whether wearing face coverings in public places should be required (to be decided later).

President’s Report – Avi Greene reminded us the club still needs a Vice President for political action as well as a Hospitality Chair. Avi invited all members to look at the new tab on the club’s website, “You’re Fired.” There is a list of people who have left the Trump administration. Let Peggy know if anyone was inadvertently overlooked. Avi stated that he emailed the minutes from our last meeting this morning so will ask for members to review for approval at our next meeting. Avi participated in a virtual meeting with our U.S. Representative, Dr. Raul Ruiz, with only three democratic clubs participating due to short notice. Among other topics, Dr. Ruiz talked about tribal security and his input to the CARES act. On his website, Dr. Ruiz has a large section on COVID19 and the steps to take to reopen. He was concerned that the pandemic could resurge given a vulnerable older population as well as the number of people who live in poverty.

How to participate in the upcoming elections was discussed with a focus on the focus on close senatorial races in various states. The Jaime Harrison campaign in South Carolina responded and more information will be forthcoming regarding texting and postcarding. Regarding the Biden campaign, TEAM JOE has an app that can be downloaded and includes information related to training and donations. Avi told members there is a virtual town hall for the Biden campaign the following Saturday.

Agi Kessler reported that the State Party held elections and 2/3rds of the candidates were reelected. The California Democratic Party decided that the scheduled July 2020 meetings will be held on Zoom. Usually meetings are held in a variety of locations but now will be one large meeting. The deadline to apply for a ballot to support a certain candidate is 5/28/20. Contact Agi if you want to vote and she will direct you to the right place.

The Riverside County Democratic Party (RCDP) held elections on the 11th and 12th of May. RCDP was the first to organize electronically and the electronic voting worked well. Assembly District Chairs and Vice Chairs were elected.

On June 3, 2020 at 3PM there will be a virtual house party related to the Census. Agi and Avi will have a conversation with Bridget about how to participate in reaching out to others to complete the 2020 Census.

Agi spoke about some of the emotional issues impacting everyone related to the shelter in place order and the coronavirus, what is happening on the national level and where the country is due to non-leadership. The importance of the U.S. Senate races was noted.

A discussion was led by Avi about the club helping with one of the senate races. After some discussion, the Arizona race of Mark Kelly was identified as a good choice. Agi agreed to get contact information for the campaign and get back to Avi.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:41PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Kasdorf