SCSH Democratic Club

November 19, 2020

This meeting of the SCSH Democratic Club was held remotely using Zoom. President Avi Greene called the meeting to order at 6:11PM. Due to the circumstances of the meeting, there was no flag salute.

Treasurer’s Report – Howard presented the Treasurer’s Report. $100 for dues had been received, $20 had been paid to Democratic Headquarters and the remaining balance is $325.

Vice-President’s Report – Peggy Mathieson reported that there were no new property issues near SCSH. The train to Indio for the festivals was no longer being considered. However, money set aside for that issue would be used to fund a study about getting a railroad line to Indio. The Tamale Festival was canceled. Financially the city of Indio is doing well and has benefitted by receiving a $700,000 grant from the Cares Act. The city council was considering how to use the money for rental assistance and utilities for citizens in need. An additional issue being considered is whether or not the County Fair will continue due to the costs involved.

Carole Nelson has been managing the postcarding by volunteers for democratic candidates. She asked about donations for the coordinator in our area who has been using her own funds. Avi Green will email the information to our members.

President’s Report – Avi Greene reminded us the club still needs a Vice President for political action as well as a Hospitality Chair when live meetings resume. Avi sent a letter to our HOA about the legal basis for the change in rules for signs. His letter was acknowledged but no response has been received yet.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Minutes from the previous meeting and the motion passed.

The following members were elected to the Board by acclimation:

Peggy Mathieson – President

Judy Wilson – Treasurer

Janet Kasdorf – Recording Secretary

The chartering process was briefly discussed. Twenty signatures from paid club members are needed and it was decided that Avi would email out the form that can be returned electronically or dropped off at his home. There is still some confusion about the membership roster. Calls will be made to members whose status is in doubt. A membership form is available on the club website and Peggy will move it to the home page so it is easier to access. Whether or not the club will add an endorsement process to our by-laws will be considered in 2021.

The November 3, 2020 election results were reviewed. Votes in California were still being counted with 330,000 remaining. In Riverside County, 25,000 votes remained. Biden was leading by 8 points in Riverside County. Results of the Coachella City Council resulted in a great showing for Democratic candidates. The Democratic candidates lost in Indio. Mary Jane Sanchez, candidate for Desert Community College District Trustee, is behind by 1700 votes. Regarding the statewide propositions, in Riverside County, only one proposition endorsed by the California Democratic Party was successful. The showing statewide was better with two additional propositions succeeding. The Biden-Harris ticket was leading by 5.9 million votes, heavily favored in California and New York. Dr. Raul Ruiz was successful at his re-election bid for the U.S. House of Representatives. Voter intimidation was noted in some heavily Trump areas. Agi Kessler noted that our small club contributed significantly to the election.

It was noted that next year’s membership dues are due on 1/1/2021. It was decided the Executive Board would meet to determine how members can pay as our meetings remain virtual.

Avi Greene thanked the Executive Board for their support and effort to keep the club going. He thanked the following members:

John Everett for his guidance and presence at all the board meetings,

Sue Everett for maintaining the club’s Facebook page,

Carole Nelson for her endless energy and volunteering for postcarding and telephoning and her continuous willingness to help,

Janet Kasdorf for effectively capturing the essence of our meetings and stepping up for next year,

Peggy Mathieson for our wonderful web presence noting the graphics in particular,

and *all members* who have participated in activities this year.

Many club members thanked Avi Greene for his dedication, enthusiasm and hard work this past year.

Since the club is dark in December, the next meeting will be January 21, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Kasdorf