

RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2017 MEETING

**OPEN MEETING:**

Ross opened the meeting by giving 3 goals for the year. 1) Find a candidate to oppose Weibert. 2) Elect him or her. 3) Work on redistricting in 2021.

Minutes approved from December 1, 2016 meeting.

The Treasurer reported \$2,271 in our bank account.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Trash Pickup- Ross commended the work of the trash picker-uppers. A picture appeared in the local paper.

Discussion of Hank Gorfein's proposals from December meeting- they were: 1) to get a more positive and clearer message out to the voters and 2) to initiate greater outreach in and out of the county. Hank thinks it might be good to reestablish some old standing committees. Possibly this would bring in new faces and get others more involved in the work of the committee. Some members thought that it would be good to suspend the committee idea until more clarity on our goals has been made. Emails could be sent asking for further input from members.

Discussion of ways to find good candidate to oppose Weibert. Judy DeSarno suggested meeting with the chairs of neighboring counties for ideas. Ralph Bates met a man in Chester Gap who expressed interest in running for the office. Ross will talk to him.

Rural Caucus- Hank Gorfein said that it would probably be held in August. He did not feel that it would be helpful to participate in it. Gwen Bates said that she had heard USDA's Vilsek speak and that he seemed good on rural issues.

Reports from the State Central Committee and the 5th District Committee meetings- Hank Gorfein attended these meetings. At the first, Northam and Kaine spoke. A decision was made to have primaries this year.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Our Guest, Christine Smith- Christine came to us to explain her ideas for forming a Women's Democratic group as a way to unify others in our community. It could sponsor things outside of RCDC and plug into things not being done right now. It could also plan trips to events in DC and charter buses etc. Ross said that Christine could be the chair of the group. A motion was approved to have Christine get going on this project.

**Calendar for 2017:**

April 1- Blue Grass Brunch

May 28- Gadino Winery Fundraiser

June -Primary

Labor Day Weekend- Yard Sale

November-Election Day

MEETING ADJOURNED