

RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2017 MEETING

OPEN MEETING:

Approval of Minutes from January 2017

Treasurer's Report- Bruce Sloane reported that we have \$2,192 in the bank. We received a small check from Act Blue.

Ross introduced our guest, Tristan Shields, who has recently announced that he will be running for the 18th District against Weibert. He is a resident of Rixeyville and is just getting organized.

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership Application Form- Suggestions have been made recently that we should revise our membership form. There is a feeling that our current form discourages some from joining the committee because of its wording. Ross distributed copies of a revised form which he had prepared. There was general support of it by those present. Hank Gorfein did wish to emphasize that members must agree to support only the Democratic party. Judy DeSarno moved to use Ross' form for new members tonight. A final form will be approved at a later date.

Expressions of Feelings against Trump- The bus trip to D.C. and follow-up meeting at the theater had good attendance and were considered very successful.

Goals for the Year-

1. Elect Democratic Governor, Lt. Governor and Attorney General
2. Find someone to run against Weibert. 2 candidates have come forward, Tristan Shields and Green Party candidate. Ross and Judy DeSarno plan to talk with the Green Party person before our next meeting.
3. One Virginia 2021- this has gone as far as it can this year.

Talking Points for anti-Weibert candidate-

1. Taxes- Hank Gorfein explained the connection between cutting funds to a connection to a ty taxes in property taxes. Unfunded mandates from the state drive up property taxes. All powers not specifically given to the county go to the state. It was felt that Trump voters will listen to tax talk.
2. Health Care Insurance- Weibert is opposed to extending Medicaid, and he is vulnerable on this. An estimated 400,000 people in Virginia lost out on the refusal to extend Medicaid. If we gut ACA the people will lose.
3. Education-

NEW BUSINESS:

Plans for RCDC to capitalize on present momentum-

- 1. Judy DeSarno suggested that we should form as Issues Committee which might include Mary Sherman, Jed Duvall and Hank Gorfein. John Burns would help with his lists of members and friends of the Committee.**
- 2. Young people needed. UVA and JMU students have been contacted.**

5th District-

Hank reported that there is an idea afloat to ask Jane Dittmar to run for its chair. He believes that we should concentrate on state issues and work on our local voters. This is where we may have some influence on election outcomes.

Blue Grass Brunch-

Ross asked for someone to come forward and be in charge of the event. Food will be the biggest challenge.

MEETING ADJOURNED