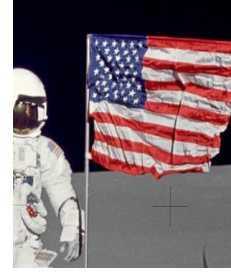


Minutes of the Wyoming County Democratic Committee meeting
May 25, 2021, via Webex, Tunkhannock



1. Call to order, pledge of allegiance to the flag.
2. Roll Call of Members: Jeff Zimmerman, Nadia Villanueva, Sandy Goodwin, Cynthia Stevens, Vicki Prekel, Abe Kukuchka, Lynn Manheim, Officers: Sharon Neumane, Treasurer, Michael Stabinsky, Vice Chair, Laura A. Dickson, Chair, David Martin, Secretary, Phillip Shebby, Patrick Mahoney, Molly Mahoney, Jean Harris, Nadia Villanueva, Howard Fisher, Barbara Reel, Karl Bestedder, Pat Carbone, Michael Klees, Caroline Ries, Janet and Bill Shaw

Guests: District Attorney Jeff Mitchell, Drew Eldridge Martin, Dr. Kevin Baumlin, Ernie King, Nancy Thaler

Excused: Howard, Mike S, Patty,

Present: Sandra, Patrick, Cynthia, Laura, Barb, Karl, Janet, Bill, Jean, Mick, Mike K, David

3. Report from District Attorney Jeff Mitchell: He reported on the conviction in the murder trial with the help of his team. The DA started an innovative initiatives with a \$600,000 federal grant for drug treatment and the “lifeline” program. His staff meets with potential clients. It's been successful. The “Brave “ program is used when charges are able to be dropped in exchange for a commitment for treatment. The narcan program has been in effect thru organizations and individuals, they can get the narcan drugl. He also started a homeless program by partnering with local hotels and got United Way and Rotary funding, and are able to provide hosuong until the clients are stabilized. Future plans include greater mental health resources, as that is a driver for criminal cases. In regards to BLM they have had training and awareness. He has never seen a complaint from someone re racial discrimination.
4. Candidate introduction: Dr. Kevin Baumlin, Chair of Emergency Medicine, Pennsylvania Hospital, and founder of Oak Street Initiative. He is a candidate for US Senate. He supports revision of community policing while supporting the police. He belives that economic justi needs to achieved. He wil support jobs with sick leave and a living wage, and these shpould be more than slogans and talking points. He supports affordable housing initiatives. He will be on a 67 county tour with Drew on the “Kitchen table tour.” He believes that chioldren need to be in class grades 1-12. He became a full professor in spite of a learning difficulty. His campaign will let us know when he is in the area. The Qak St initiative addresses many of these issues.
5. Ernie King, Commissioners update: He told about the “2nd ammendment sanctuary county” issue that was brought up in the commissioners meeting, and he was the only “no” vote. He spends a lot of time on the recovery plan. He gave a speech at the the visit of the “wall that moves.” There is a new full time public defender at the courthouse, and they are trying to keep

the prison population down. They split the secretarial help to two days with the PD and 3 with the Planning Commission, and saved office space rental as well. The jail is reopening to visitation in 2 weeks. A vaccine clinic will occur at the High school and will be weekly in Noxen and Falls. The county pension fund is now at 79 per cent and so is much improved. They have more control over investments. He reflected on the previous pandemics like polio and smallpox and how foolish it is to criticize the vaccine. The court house is open for business again next Tuesday, and will remain in hybrid status. He will check to see if county employees have the option of contributing to the retirement plan.

4. Approval of previous Meeting Minutes –Cynthia requested that the record be revised for the date for Founders day to 6/26.

a. Motion to approve made by Mick

b. Seconded by Cynthia

c. # in favor: All # Opposed:

5. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report – Sharon Neumane

a. Old Balance \$ 8306.78

b. New Balance: \$8190.82

c. Motion to accept made by David

d. Seconded by Janet

e. # in favor: All # Opposed:

6. Reports; Commissioner's report, Communications/FEC registration status

7 Old business: Laura; update on employer id # for committee. Report from Sharon on Fair booth mural status.

8. New Business; outcome of the May election. Sharon ran for Twp auditor, results unknown. Louis Marcho won the write in for Democratic candidate for coroner, but he is a registered Republican and we don't support such write ins. Cynthia said that Joe Peters was at the Nicholson polling place and had numerous signs in the area. She asked Jeff to make a similar appearance. Ernie pointed out that Peter's father was twice Scranton mayor.

The Susquehanna County Democrats are planning a Patriotic Picnic on July 18th from 2-4pm in Hallstead. The county party is invited to participate in the picnic. They are hoping to have candidates in attendance. They are also considering a fall rally for late September or early October as done in the past. Would we like to coordinate a weekend of events with them, as we have done before.

Follow through from Ernie on the BLM and local movement contact. He can pass on a cal in number for him.

The summer gathering is now set for July 27, at 6 PM at the green pavillion at Lazybrook Park (no rental charge). Laura, Barb and Sharon will coordinate the picnic, invitations to guests and candidates and basket raffles. Founders day will occur, Sat, June 26. Vicki had represented the committee in the past, and we've already paid for the event. They updated the application for 2021 and we are waiting our location assignment. We only purchased water previously, and Sharon still has candy. Sharon said we have everything that we need for the event, but donation of water are ok.. Laura will check with Vicki re Founders day. Bridge day in Nicholson is set for Sept 12, at the Nicholson Carnival grounds. We will discuss in June.

Mike will apply for a new Zoom account for \$165/ year. Mike will check with Sharon. Laura so moved, David seconded. Approved

9. Adjournment, next meeting date Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at 7.