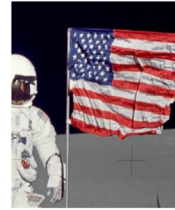


Minutes of the Wyoming County Democratic Committee meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2022, at 7, via Webex, Tunkhannock



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: Tega Swann, candidate for Democratic nomination for Governor, Victoria Stowell, PA DEMS, Regional Organizing Director, Ernie King, Commissioner, Lisa Longo, Organizer, Thomas Charles (Jackie Baker staff), Todd Zimmerman, Secretary Schuykill Democrats and on staff for Brian Sims, Ken Brocius, Nancy Thaler, Tori Stowell, Ernie, Jean. Mick, Jackie Baker

Present: Howard, Karl, Barb, Janet, Bill, David Cynthys, Sandra, David, Mike K, Laura,

3. Approval of previous Meeting Minutes –
 - a. Motion to approve made by Jean
 - b. Seconded by Mick
 - c. # in favor: All # Opposed: none
4. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report – Sharon Neumane
 - a. Old Balance \$ 8838
 - b. New Balance: \$8709
 - c. Motion to accept made by Mick
 - d. Seconded by
 - e. # in favor: All # Opposed:
 - 5.. Introductory remarks by Tega Swann, candidate for Democratic nomination for Governor.
Introduction of Victoria Stowell, Lisa Longo
Todd introduced the qualifications of Brian Sims re gender equity and renewable energy. He also advocated for Josh Shapiro. Jackie Baker, originally from Meshoppen, introduced herself as Susquehanna Stated Dem representative. She has followed the redistricting maps and if the map is as proposed she will stand in candidacy for Lisa Baker's senate seat. She opposes fracking in the Delaware river basin. Student debt is one of her important issues, as well as protecting the environment. The corporate tax base needs improvement too, increasing revenue. Tega Swan introduced herself as candidate for governor. She wants to move away from the cookie cutter approach to the old problems and focus on building PA from the bottom up, starting with diversity and inclusion as well as strengthening the labor force. Through equitable commerce we can help skilled and

unskilled workers and have more commerce. Reform of the criminal justice system is something that needs to be done, including more diversity in corrections staff. Businesses need to diversify productivity. We need a liveable wage not just a minimum wage. Unions can help and the importance of better healthcare is paramount. States have a unique position to help with these problems. This especially impacts seniors and many become impoverished as a result of health care costs. Women's rights are high on her priorities and more women in leadership are needed. As many as 49% of PA households are led by women. We need to focus on them.

6 Report from Ernie King, Commissioners update: The American Recovery Program gives the county \$5.2 million and he is encouraging residents to email him with suggestions as to how to use it. It needs to be spent in two years. Sen Casey has been helping him move the broadband project forward. That's going to be about ½ a million. He has a list of 35 other items. Mick suggested opening it up to the community. Ernie met with the Carpenter's Union re the Elk Lake vocational program and Ernie wants it to move from the high schools to include the prison system too. He meets with the Northern Tier Regional Planning Committee and mentioned the Deer Park Lumber expansion. We works with the Habitat for Humanity in the Mehoopany area to further low income housing. In Dec 2022 there will be a new election system and he is unsure if there will be enough local control of the election system. All totals will be generated at the state capitol. Flo attended with him and was not concerned about the changes. The County is in a 6 stage cyber security test.

7. Old business: Recruitment of committee members and officers for 2022-26 term. There are many vacant committee persons and the whole committee needs to think of who could be contacted. Laura mentioned the state committee and that they may endorse some state wide candidates. Cynthia mentioned she may need help with the financial audit. She and Laura will meet to complete.

8. New business: Plans for spring primaries petition circulation events in support of local and statewide races. No action. Petitions are collected Feb. 15 to March 8.

9. Adjournment, next meeting date Tuesday, February 22, at 7 via Webex.