**SAUGERTIES DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE MEETING**

**25 July 2017**

**Roll Call:**

* Members: Lanny Walter, Rick Cousin, Constance Bailey, Timothy Scott, Margo McGilvrey, Mary Anne Wrolsen, Michael Harkavy, Marcus Arthur, Barbara Boyce, John Remington, Nancy Schaef, Nejla Liias, Kathy Gordon, Chris Allen
* Nonmembers: Gary Bischoff, Marge Bischoff, Katie Holt,

**Approve minutes from May 23, 2017 meeting:**

Deferred until next meeting

**Treasurer’s Report by Margo McGilvrey:**

Balance as of 5/23/17- $4972.36

Collected at meeting $113

Check #117Website Development- $99.00

Check # 118 Microphone rental for Caucus - $35

Balance as of 7/25/17 - $4951.36

Good participation at July 4 parade. Connie spent her own money on flyer, has not billed us yet but we will expect she will.

**New member of SDC:**

Katie Holt gave a little background- Prof of Russian Lit on research leave now,

Nancy Schaef moves that Katie becomes a member.

John seconded.

All yay, no nay for Katie to be assigned to Disctrict 10

**Introduce prospective Candidates**:

**Bryan Flynn** – candidate for Congress

Feels the fight against the right has been going on for a long time, i.e., 1990’s NYC/Rudy Guiliani.

Founded Environmental Entrepreneurs, served as plaintiff for NRDC.

When we invaded Iraq, he vehemently opposed the war.

In 2004 felt that the Democratic Party was only focusing on war and anti-Bush. He and Gillibrand formed Young Democrats to advocate for single payer health care.

2007- He met Obama, decided to support him as opposed to Clinton.

In 2009 got invited to White House by Obama to thank him.

Feels Dem Party did not appeal to rural America in 2016.

3rd generation Greene County resident.

In his travels throughout the district he hears concerns about health care, women’s issues, water issues. Jobs- He feels automation and AI are the main issues. We need to retrain people for these changes.

Has worked in manufacturing and has moved jobs from overseas to the US- middle skill level jobs.

Lost his brother in the Lockerbie bombing. Organized and went to Washington and UN and got legislation passed to investigate and bring terrorists to justice.

Question- what is your business. Answer: Medical devices.

Where do you live? Hunter for 15 years.

**Fred Costello**- Candidate for Town Supervisor

Since the last time he was here, digging in.

Successfully petitioned on Democrat and Working Families Parties.

Working on a brochure and fundraising. Wants to do a fundraiser before the end of summer.

Town Board meeting tomorrow- proposals for signage changes. Zoning changes- allowed for riding academies for all areas; high density residential, etc. Special use process. Kings Highway- has not taken off the way it was intended, due to bad economy in 2008/2009. New zoning will allow more diverse business.

Signage- getting more like LED ttv’s. Restrictions about number of signs within a certain area, how often they can change message. Do these signs fit in with what we want for the area.

Budget- unable to stay within the cap. Ambulance district was getting less reimbursement. Contract with CDPHP was at its max, likely will increase.

Question/statement- Kathy Gordon; voter turnout is low. Hopes Fred and candidates can get Democratic voters out to vote. Fred says we need to articulate a solid vision.

**John** **Schoonmaker** – Town board

Feels we need to tap the energy and momentum to get people out to vote in local elections.

Local is where you can affect change and that can trickle up to county, state, federal level. Wants to get his generation more involved.

Wants to have a forum with High School kids about local politics and how it works. Wants to get town/village officials to speak to students about it.

Wants to hold forums, in addition to canvasing, where people can come and tell candidates what they want.

**Resolution for Canvass Plan:**

Nejla Liias attended the Ulster County Executive Committee meeting. Wants to have an integrated canvassing effort to serve as a template for 2018.

Multi-tiered effort.

Nejla moved that it be adopted, Kathy seconded.

Mike Harkavy would like to see a meeting with the candidates’ campaign managers, SDC to be delivering message of why county and town elections are important.

Mary Anne Wrolsen – We should put everyone in a room to talk, she can record, put it on local TV and we can send that out.

Unanimously adopted by the membership and is appended to minutes.

There will be 4 groups:

Neijla will head the Materials group

Voter identification/Get out the vote team – Kathy Gordon will co-chair. Will ask Bill to be co-chair

Events/Fundraising

Volunteer Organizing team- reaching out to other groups

**Share petitioning experience:**

We seem to have done fine. No challenges to our petitions.

Chris Allen- opponent, Maloney (R), did a write-in for our line. Chris is getting a challenge because Maloney’s wife notarized 120 that she did not witness.

Mike Harkavy –we need to protect our Democratic candidates. We need to allocate some funding for District 2, perhaps a mailing. Lanny- If Chris needs financial support from the committee, he needs to come with a proposal.

Chris wants Committee to fund $305 lawsuit filing fee.

Motion made by Nancy Schaeff, Seconded by Mike Harkavy to discuss a further motion for funding Chris.

Possible motion to support Chris if he can come up with the affidavits from voters by Monday. If he can get conservative voters who signed petitions to give affidavits that they were not properly witnessed, the Committee will fund his filing fee. This is for the Conservative line.

Lanny sees logic to do this for the Democratic line only.

Motion to allocate $305 to Chris if he has a viable case to set aside the Democratic OTB. Chris made the motion Nancy seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Ashley Dittus:**

Assuming she will be nominated to replace Vic Work. Thursday night vote in Kingston.

Mike Harkavy moved to endorse her, Chris Allen seconded.

Motion passed.

**State Committee:**

Nancy Schaef reports enthusiasm and energy was there today. Much emotion and charm. Number of resolutions put forth. One got thru that had not been for 4 years- face up to the IDC. Resolution to call the question as to whether the state Democratic committee would endorse candidates who are in the IDC. Hope is that the IDC will be dissolved.

Second resolution around Sanctuary. Hudson Valley was a very strong voice for State to become a Sanctuary state. Many cities stood up and declared themselves welcoming cities. Resolution went thru that the state take on being a “Welcoming” State- urging non-cooperation with Trump immigration agenda.

**County issues:**

* **Poll Inspectors-** Contact board of elections if you want to do this. You get paid. We will monitor the polls. We will talk about it later.
* **Ulster County Fair**

Exec committee thought we could do it on Aug 3. 2 spots open- Friday the 4th 3-6 pm and Sat the 5th  6-8. Mike MacIsaac will be there on Saturday. Is anyone available to go, hang out at the booth? No volunteers, except possibly Lanny.

**Announcements**

August 12 Citizen Action is having a big protest in Kingston at 12:00 noon.

Chris Allen’s fundraiser August 10 6:30-9:30 Stone Pony, Old Kings Highway, across from Solite. Rock n roll music.

Acting Secretary: Rick Cousin

SAUGERTIES DEMOCRATIC COMITTEE

CAMPAIGN PLAN

At a meeting of the Saugerties Democratic Committee held on July 25, 2017,  IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

                The SDC at its June 27, 2017 Party Caucus nominated for Town Board Fred Costello for Supervisor, and Paul Andreassen  and John Schoonmaker for Council Members;

                In June and July 2017 the SDC collected Petitions for Ulster County Legislature in District 1 Mike Mac Isaac and in District 2 Christopher Allen;

                It is the goal of the SDC to assist these candidates to succeed in being elected to the offices they seek;

                We have approximately three months until the November off-year election for Saugerties.  This election offers a critical moment to show our town and county that Democrats are fired up and ready to stand up to the values that make our country great.  That said, it will take a coordinated action to ensure that Democrats, in this off-year election, come out and vote;

                To pursue this campaign, the SDC needs to generate literature that explains to registered voters the reasons for participating in this off-year election and voting for these candidates;

                To accomplish this goal during the month of July and continuing in August 2017, a special committee will be formed to generate literature in close cooperation with the candidates which is appropriate for use by the SDC and to the extent possible by the campaigns of our candidates;

                To accomplish this goal the SDC will also form a lawn sign committee to engage with the respective campaigns to design the signs, to recommend to the SDC our contribution to help pay for the signs, and to assist in their distribution;

                To accomplish this goal the SDC and its allies need to turn out the vote of registered Democrats,  non-enrolled registrants (NOP) and new registrants by engaging in a door to door campaign to identify voters who are inclined to support our candidates;

                A canvass committee will be formed to plan and implement a September and October canvass in Legislative District 1(Election Districts 5--7, 9-10, and 15-16), Legislative District 2 (Election Districts 1-4, 11, and 13-14) and Legislative District 3 (Election Districts 8 and 12) which will be carried on in conjunction with the candidates in Districts 1 and 2 and with the town-wide candidates for Town Board;

                Besides identifying registrants inclined to support our candidates, the canvass will allow Committee Members to expand their familiarity with registered voters in their Election District, including their own neighbors and neighborhoods, in anticipation of the CD-19 campaign in 2018;

                The canvass effort  will focus upon Democrats who are not considered reliable voters because they did not vote in the off-year  election in 2015, but did vote in 2016 and upon all non-enrolled voters and new registrants who will be listed upon a unified walk list to aid the canvassers;

                Records shall be kept by the canvassers of each registrant contacted so that we can develop a data base of potential voters who favor our candidates, or some of our candidates;

                This data base will be used in a door-to-door campaign in late October, or early November to Get-Out-the-Vote (GOTV);

                To accomplish our goal of Victory to flip the County Legislature and help our Town Board candidates to triumph, we will seek the participation of registered voters who support our candidates who are not Committee Members;

                An online sign-up sheet will be created for each day of canvassing so that the candidates and canvassers will know who is canvassing, where they are canvassing, and how they can join the canvass;

                The canvass will take place during the week day hours of 4 to 8 pm and on weekends 2 to 8 pm;

                Each Legislative District will have established a home base, as its starting point, where the literature created  by the SDC and the campaigns,  and the data collection sheets can be picked-up before the canvass begins and turned-in at the end of each canvass;

                To generate excitement for the election as Election Day approaches and to raise money, a major event will be planned and a committee will be formed to plan that event;

                Smaller fund raising events, organized by the SDC or the candidates, will take place during the 3 month campaign period, and will be supported by the SDC to the extent possible; and

                SDC will entertain written requests for financial support from the aforementioned candidates, and the SDC shall allocate the resources it has and raises hereafter as best it can in accordance with the objectives of this Campaign Plan.

VOTE:  Yes \_\_\_\_\_            No \_\_\_\_\_                            Resolution approved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dated:  July 25, 2017                                                                                                      Acting Secretary

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                                                                                                                                                Acting Secretary