

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD DEMOCRATIC CLUB VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

Executive Committee Attendance: Charles Gaba, Chair; Corinne Shoop, Vice-Chair; Gail Whitty, Treasurer; Miriam Imerman, Recording Secretary; Debbie Rosenman, Trustee

Not Present: Nicole Bedi, Corresponding Secretary

Speakers: (see below)

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. Charles Gaba, Chair, presiding.

Co-host: Debbie Rosenman

Charles called for approval of the agenda. The agenda was **approved**. He next asked for approval of the last meeting's minutes - **approved**.

Chair's Report: Charles Gaba reported that the club has endorsed the following candidates:

- Bridget Mary McCormack, for Michigan Supreme Court
- Jason Strayhorn, for State Board of Education. The club now has nearly a full slate of endorsed candidates.

Approximately 300 lawn signs have been distributed, and another batch of signs is coming in. Charles reported that he has raised more than \$1.7 million in online donations for candidates. He has added donation links on the Club's web site for all candidates endorsed by the BBDems.

Gail asked club members to put their names in the chat box if they can distribute lawn signs. Higher-quality card stock lawn signs are available from the OCDP, for a donation of \$25.

Treasurer's Report: Gail Whitty reported that the club currently has approximately \$4,200 in its account. We are encouraging people to join the club. Dues are \$15.00 per year.

Precinct Delegate Report: Debbie Rosenman reported that precinct delegates are out connecting with voters. We are encouraging all voters to complete and mail in ballots, for greater safety. Precinct delegate training will be on September 16. A copy of the voter guide will be on the club web site the next day.

Birmingham Parks Ballot Issue: Gail Whitty presented on this proposal, which asks for approval of a \$11M bond for the parks. The projected cost will be \$51.00 per \$250,000 of assessed home value.

Endorsement of Lorie Savin, Clarence Dass: Charles proposed that the BBDems endorse Lorie Savin for 6th Circuit Court. By motion made, seconded, and **carried**, the endorsement passed.

Endorsement of statewide ballot proposals: the 2 proposals were described. Proposal 1 would require a search warrant for law enforcement to access electronic data. Proposal 2 is for the Birmingham parks.

Guest Speakers: The following candidates were introduced:

- Ellen Lipton, candidate for State Board of Education;
- Jason Strayhorn, candidate for State Board of Education;
- Shirley Stancato, candidate for Wayne State University Board of Governors;
- Eva Garza Dewaelsch, candidate for Wayne State Board of Governors;
- Lori Ajlouni, candidate for re-election, Birmingham Public School Board;
- Samuel Oh, candidate for Birmingham Public School Board;
- Nash Salami, candidate for Birmingham Public School Board;
- Luke Joseph, candidate for Birmingham Public School Board
- Siva Kumar, candidate for Bloomfield Hills Public School Board;
- Renita James, candidate for Bloomfield Hills School Board;
- Dr. Dima El-Gamal, candidate for Bloomfield Hills School Board

Club members asked questions of the candidates. Charles thanked all the guests for their time. He noted that this was the last official full club meeting before the election. Absentee ballots will be mailed out on September 24. He noted that the different candidates were very representative of the diversity of the Democratic Party.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and **carried**. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35. **Next meeting: September 21: special meeting with Gary Peters.**