

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD AREA DEMS

March 19, 2024

MINUTES

Vice Chair, Emery Pence called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

Roll Call:

Present: Vice Chair: Emery Pence, Recording Secretary: Corinne Shoop, Trustee: Nessa Fuller, Trustee Juergen Wiesenberger. Absent: Chair: Debbie Rosenman, Treasurer: Libby Dzurka, Corresponding Secretary: Dave Goodman.

The agenda was accepted as posted without objection.

The minutes from the February meeting were approved and accepted as posted.

Chair Report: Vice Chair Emery Pence

- 1) First “Thanks” to everybody who has done so much lately for our club and for Party and for our Democracy. I know we are all anxious about this critical election year, but I feel assured that with our hard work and focus, we will continue to fight for our belief that we as a club, state and nation can do better.
- 2) Please continue to carefully read our newsletter. In it are many opportunities for getting involved and making a difference. We know you can’t do everything, and you shouldn’t feel you have to but by using the newsletter you can prioritize and choose what you want to work on.
- 3) Martin Brooks has an event that he would like to inform you about so here’s Martin to tell you about an important event Campaign Launch on Sunday, April 7th at 11:00 am. Get address after RSVPing to martin.brook@comcast.net
- 4) Wake up for this one: Super-important: We will not be meeting here for our April 16 meeting. We will be at the Bloomfield Twp Library at 6:30 and WE WILL HAVE COOKIES. The Republicans have unhinged rants, and we have cookies. For you people who like to bake, please bring a plate to pass. Our topic will be book bans, attacks on libraries and the upcoming Bloomfield Twp Library elections. Our speakers will be Bloomfield Twp Library Director Tera Moon and Library Board Member Dani Gilman. Remember: COOKIES.
- 5) Recruit, recruit, recruit. From finding potential Precinct Delegates, to encouraging folks to come to our meetings, to dragging your neighbor to a rally, to discussing with your undecided brother-in-law why he needs to join the fight, we need you to reach out to find more troops for this election fight.

Treasurer’s Report: Vice Chair Emery Pence Vice Chair gave the Treasury Report in Libby Dzurka’s absence. There are two accounts: the general account and the PAC account. The general account is used to pay for expenses to operate the club. We encourage donations to both accounts, especially in an election year.

Committee Reports:

Precinct Delegate Committee: Allen Wolf, the chair gave the following report:

To many of you, it may seem like the election is still far away. But not for your Precinct Delegate Liaisons. They have been hard at work filling PD slots for 2024. All PD positions are up for election again on August 6.

For those who don't know, we have a Liaison for each community. Maureen Christensen for Birmingham; Richard Grinstein for Southfield Township and Jurgen Wiesenberger for Bloomfield. We have already identified 18 new PDs for 2024. New PDs stand and tell us your name and precinct. Combined with the 94 PDs from 2022 who have agreed to run again so far, we have 112 confirmed candidates already.

We have 71 more openings and about one month to fill them. So, we have some work to do.

I am really proud of our Precinct Delegates. Many are asking us what I can do now. "This election is so important. I want to get started." PDs are learning how to sign up for Wave Michigan and learning about the new voting laws. Many of them are here tonight. How many of you here tonight are PDs?

Last night, Lisa Brown spoke to all the PDs in Oakland County. Of the 26 attendees, 15 of them were from our club. Just 7% of the County's registered voters are in our club area but our PDs were 58% of that meeting.

With 71 more openings, we need your help. The following Precincts are full:

Birmingham 1,4,9. Bloomfield Township 1, 3, 13, 17. Southfield 3, 7 (Franklin).

Thank you for everything each of you has done already and thanks for what you will do to make sure we keep an authoritarian with 85 felony indictments out of the White House, book banners out of Library Boards and Moms for Liberty off our school boards.

Postcard Writing Committee/Student Intern Committee:

Emery Pence reported that there will be a student intern meeting on April 7, 2024, at Debbie Rosenman's home. Presently there are 40 members. Please feel free to refer any high school student that may be interested in joining us.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Guest speakers:

Unfortunately, Senator Jeremy Moss had to cancel at the last minute, due to late MI Senate session.

Martin Brook, the Bloomfield Township Clerk, presented “2023 Facts and Figures from the Clerk’s Office.”

Mr. Brook gave a detailed account of the business conducted and services provided by the Clerk’s Office. These services include processing passport applications and of course, overseeing the elections and voting process.

He then reviewed the statistics available to date regarding the recent presidential primary and a report on the changes in the new voting laws. Overall, he was very pleased with the process implemented by this office to accommodate the changes in early and absentee voting. He encouraged the attendees to volunteer to work in the upcoming elections and to get trained to become an election inspector.

Mr. Brook also opened the meeting for questions.

Announcement and Good and Welfare:

Shadia Martini announces canvassing opportunities.

Robin Dillard-Russaw, candidate for the 46th District Court announced that she had secured the necessary signatures on her petitions and thanked all that assisted in that effort.

The April meeting will be held at the Bloomfield Township Library located at Lone Pine and Telegraph Road. Be aware of location change!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Vicky Acosta
Diane Anderson
Prashanth Balusu (on ZOOM)
Howard Baron
Amy Barron (on ZOOM)
Martin Brook
Margaret Brooks
Christopher Chanko
Robin Dillard-Russaw (on ZOOM)
Ben Esquivel
Olivia Duval
Nessa Feller
Marcia Femrite
Greg Gamalski
Richard Grinstein
Miriam Halprin
Juliet Hentschel
Marilyn Kelly
Shadia Martini
Roger Mahanic
Robert Mattler
Sabrina Mayhew
Chris McKenna
Bob McNeely
Fred Newton
Ryan Olds
John Owens
Emery Pence
Linda Pence
Martha Phillips
Debra Quenaudon (on ZOOM)
Rakesh Ramakrishnan

Judy Robinson (on ZOOM)
John Ross
Harriet Shakir
Cynthia Shaw (on ZOOM)
Corinne Shoop
Gene Simms
Lynn Stephenson
Steve Sussman
Sheila Thornton
Adrea Unitis
Larry Unitis
Nikki Vinckier
Laura Wade
Jan Wanetick
Gail Whitty
Mike Whitty
Jill Wiesenberger
Juergen Wiesenberger
Allen Wolf
Tracy Zeman
Keri Zhao (on ZOOM)

54 in attendance (47 in person and 7 on zoom)