

Minutes

January 18, 2022, Birmingham Bloomfield Democratic Club

Call to order by the Chair 7:03pm/Roll Call of Officers

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Debbie Rosenman. Officers present include: Debbie Rosenman (Chair), Emery Pence (Vice Chair), Gail Whitty (Treasurer), Andrew Corey (Recording Secretary), Charles Gaba (Corresponding Secretary), Corinne Shoop (Trustee).

Approval of Minutes: Discussion (Passed)

Approval of Agenda: Discussion (Passed)

Chair's Report for January 18th

What a very busy time it has been this past month! We celebrated the holidays, the MI Redistricting Commission released the new maps, Omicron has been running rampant through our community and we are beginning our work for the 2022 election.

We are hoping that everyone will get involved in whatever way they can. Allen will be talking about our recruitment of precinct delegates. We are also looking to engage our high school students as "student interns." They can sign up to volunteer with the upcoming elections in our districts or to help our club leaders on club activities while getting credit for their required service to a class or a club. Our Vice Chair, Emery Pence, is in charge of this new program. He is reaching out to the local schools to spread the word but feel free to tell the high schoolers in your lives as well.

We hope that community members are also regularly attending our Bloomfield Hills and Birmingham school board meetings. Our school board members need our support while they are doing the difficult work of protecting our students during these troubling times. I will tell you more about the "School Board Teams" I am hoping to establish in the coming months to lead that support.

If you are not yet a member of the Michigan Democratic Party, you will want to join. You must be a paid member by March 10th to vote at the statewide nominating convention that is scheduled for Detroit on Saturday, April 9th. That is when we nominate the candidates for Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Supreme Court, State Board of Education, and University Boards. We will put the link in the chat.

We are nearing the end of our New Book Drive to support Pontiac Schools. If you still want to donate either new books or money to buy them, let me know.

Our February 15th meeting will focus on the recent redistricting. We have Max Lewis from the AFL-CIO to speak to us. We will also have Democratic Rep. Samantha Steckloff who will be running in the new House District 19, along with Sen. Jeremy Moss, who is running in the new 7th Senate district. This will give many of us an opportunity to meet them.

We hope to meet in person on March 15th at the Bloomfield Township Library. More to come on that as we approach that date.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Gail Whitty gave a Treasurer's report.

Precinct Delegate Committee Report: Allen Wolf gave the PD Committee Report. He noted the importance of filling each slot and there was discussion of new PD zones in the next election. Everyone should consider becoming a precinct delegate.

Postcard Writing Committee Report – Committee is taking a break but will resume in near future.

Guest Speaker: Chair Debbie Rosenman introduced Guest Speakers Jonathan Gold (Michigan Chapter President, Giffords Gun Owners for Safety) and Susan Yeghissian (MOMs Demand Action, Be SMART Program) to talk about common gun sense laws and informing parents of dangers regarding gun ownership/safety.

- Safe gun storage saves lives (at home, in the car, carrying on the street)
- Biometric safes cost as low as \$69. Stolen guns are a big problem when they are not locked.
- Gun owners must get raining. There were 6 million new gun owners since COVID started.
- BE SMART=**Secure** your firearms, **Model** good practices, **Ask** about guns in other homes, **Recognize** the role of guns in suicide, **Tell** your peers to be smart.
- This educational program reduces gun deaths and accidents. Safe storage is the adult's responsibility.
- Reach out to school boards and city councils to adopt the Safe Storage Resolution. Post information about safe storage on website and send materials home with students.

Good and Welfare:

Amanda Shelton is running for the position of Oakland County Circuit Court judge.

COVID tests are available free online starting today via Federal Government. Initial launch was scheduled for tomorrow. 4 per household.

Meeting next month is on Tuesday, February 15th on ZOOM at 7:00 p.m. Topic will be redistricting.

List of Members Present:

Allen Wolf, Amanda Shelton, Barbara Borden, Bill Gage, Cynthia Shaw, Debbie Quenaudon, Diane Anderson, Howard Baron, Jeremy Moss, Kelly Dillaha, Linda Zlotoff, Lucetta Franco, Margaret Brooks, Miriam Imerman, Nancy Reed, Prashanth Balusu, Ryan Olds, Susan Yeghissian, Jon Gold, Mike Whitty and Larry Lipton

Motion to adjourn. Adjourned, 8:14 p.m.

Duly Submitted,

Andrew Corey
Recording Secretary