

## **Minutes**

**May 16, 2023, 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), Cynthia Shaw (Corresponding Secretary), Libby Dzurka (Treasurer), and Corinne Shoop (Trustee) Not present: Andrew Corey (Recording Secretary) and Juergen Wiesenberger (Trustee)

**Approval of Agenda: Discussion (Passed)**

**Approval of Minutes: Discussion (Passed)**

### **Chair's Report from Debbie Rosenman:**

Welcome everyone to our May meeting. We are glad to see people engaged with our club, but we want to broaden our circle even more. Look for us to walk, with our club banner, in two upcoming local parades this month. On Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> we will be in Birmingham and on Memorial Day, we will be in Beverly Hills. There is a signup sheet on the check-in table and a Google form link in our recent emails. Join us! Bring others along too!

We want to let everyone know now that we will not be having a regularly scheduled club meeting in July. Instead, we plan to meet at a local venue in Birmingham, like Griffinclaw Brewery for a time to socialize on the summer evening of Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. This will give us a chance to enjoy each other's company. How do folks like that idea?

I hope you take a few minutes to read our emails, which come every two weeks. We would also like to include other related events in the area. Feel free to share them with others and have them sign up on our website to get on our mailing list. If each of us brings one more person to the club, we can expand our reach even more.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Libby Dzurka gave the Treasurer's Report about both of our accounts and reminded members to pay their dues. We have 145 paid members.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Precinct Delegate Report from Allen Wolf, PD Liaison

I want to thank each and every one of you in this room—you showed up. There is a lot going on.

I have been busy trying to recruit new precinct delegates for our club and other clubs in Oakland County.

You should have received several emails about different events coming up. On Sunday May 21 at 1 pm our club marches in the Birmingham Parade. On Memorial Day, May 29 at 11 am we will be marching in the Beverly Hills Parade.

Saturday, June 3 is the Ferndale Gay Pride event from 1 until 8 pm. DPDOC (Democratic Precinct Delegates of Oakland County) needs volunteers to man a table to recruit PDs. Sunday, June 25 from 1 until 4 is the Berkley Gay Pride event from noon until 4 pm. And DPDOC will again need volunteers.

We all worked so hard last year to bring about a tremendous election result. Now, many of us have turned our attention to other things. Many of us are catching up on all the things we couldn't do during Covid and while busy campaigning. We will be having local elections in the cities of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills this year and there will be a roll to play there.

There is some frightening news coming out on the National Stage and we have the slimmest margins at the State level. We want to continue developing our door-to-door skills this year to get ready. Look for advance training from DPDOC as well as training that Debbie and I will be conducting this year and next.

We need to keep the momentum going. Please see me or Debbie after the meeting to let us know what you can participate in. Thank you.

#### Cynthia Shaw gave a report for the Issues and Action Committee

Please see the flyer on the registration table for the campaign to collect items and donations for Big Family of MI, an organization that supports Foster Families and grandparents raising grandchildren in the area. Bring items to the June meeting and/or make donations on the website provided on the flyer.

Check out our club website ([bbdems.org](http://bbdems.org)) as we are improving it all the time. Note the "Elected Officials" tab on the main page. You can quickly find your elected officials (by precinct) and click the live link to connect with them.

Check out the Calendar of Events that we update regularly too.

#### Emery Pence gave the Political Influencers (formerly the Postcard committee) Report:

We are still asking folks to sign up to join this committee. Debbie creates a newsletter every few weeks with ideas of ways to contact your state legislators. During the months of July/August, our writers will be writing postcards to voters in Virginia to encourage them to vote in their 2023 election, when they will be electing ALL members of their legislature.

#### Emery Pence also gave a report on our Student Internship Program

Our Student Internship program is going strong. We have seen several successes lately. Lila Barron has been hired as a student intern by State Senator Mallory McMorrow for the summer. We have two interns, Gabe Efros and Jaxson Kaplan-Rudolph attending the MDP Legacy Dinner, sitting at the table with Governor James Blanchard. We have some seniors applying for a paid internship with AmeriCorps in Pontiac. We need more high school students to join our program. Please spread the word.

**Old Business: None**

**New Business: County Commissioner Charlie Cavell** explained what the commission oversees. He also led a lively discussion, soliciting our opinions and thoughts. He discussed how the commission is spending the funds coming in and their priorities.

**Good and Welfare:** Chair Debbie Rosenman opened up discussion for Good and Welfare

-Howard Baron talked about the importance of working to find school board candidates to fill the open seats well before the elections in 2024. He explained how the OCDP Education Subcommittee is already working on this.

Our meeting next month is on Tuesday, June 20th at the Bloomfield Township Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. with socializing starting at 6:30. We will feature Kermit Williams from Oakland Forward, Aisha Wells from Mothering Justice, and Kimber Bishop=Yanke from the Oakland County Task Force on Poverty and Homelessness.

Note that we will not have a scheduled meeting in July. Instead, on Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, we will meet at Griffinclaw in Birmingham for a social gathering.

**List of Attendees Present:**

Howard Baron	Charlie Cavell	Maureen Christensen
George Dilgard	Nessa Feller	Jean Goddard
Miriam Halprin	Sandy Hansell	Ann Honhart
Larry Lipton	Shadia Martini	Terri O'Brien
Jane O'Neil	Martha Phillips	Andy Ross
Kathy Ross	Gene Simms	Paul Stoychoff
Marti Szilagyi	Gail Whitty	Allen Wolf
Linda Zlotoff		

22+ 5 Board members = 27 attendees

Motion to adjourn. Adjourned, 8:35p.m.

Duly Submitted,

Debbie Rosenman. Club Chair