

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD DEMOCRATIC CLUB VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
August 18, 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

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

Guests: Haley Stevens, Andy Levin

Total participants in meeting: 35

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Charles Gaba, Chair, praised the Democratic Party for a good kickoff to the convention. He noted that we all have worked hard for this moment.

Guest Speakers:

- **Haley Stevens**, Member of Congress representing Michigan's 11th District. Charles praised her work to protect funding for the Post Office. She urged Club members to vote as if their lives depended on it, because they do.
- **Congressman Andy Levin**. He has received more than 700 communications from constituents regarding the postal service. His goal is for Trump to be defeated by October 20 (10/20/2020). By that date, everyone will have had time to receive and return absentee ballots.

Precinct Delegate Liaison Report: Debbie Rosenman reported that there are currently more than 128 elected precinct delegates in the 4 communities represented by the Club. 67% of the available seats are filled, more than double the previous number. Precinct delegates can sign up for Virtual Phone Bank shifts with the One campaign, calling voters in their own precincts.

Approval of Agenda, Minutes: Upon motion made, seconded and carried, the agenda was approved. July minutes were approved.

Chair's Report: Congratulations to state primary winners: David Coulter - candidate for Oakland County Executive; Karen McDonald - candidate for Oakland County Prosecutor; Vince Gregory - candidate for Oakland County Sheriff; Marcia Gershenson and Kelly Dillaha, candidates for Oakland County Commission.

Martin Brook noted that no Democratic candidate has ever run for a position in Bloomfield Township. This year, we have Democratic candidates for 6 of 7 Township positions. There are also Democratic candidates for Southfield Township Board of Trustees. According to Bloomfield Township Clerk Jan Roncelli, turnout for the August primary was much higher than usual.

Treasurer's Report: Gail Whitty reported that the club currently has \$4,200 in its account.

Patricia Baley provided some history of absentee voting, stressing that it is safe and secure. She recommended that absentee voters sign their ballots and deliver them personally to drop boxes, to be sure. It is a 2-step process: applying for a ballot, then completing, signing and returning the ballot. If you ask to be on the permanent absentee voter list, you will get an application for an absentee ballot every election.

Charles reported that the Michigan Redistricting Commission had been formed. Out of 9300 applicants, 200 semi-finalists were selected, reduced to 180, and finally a randomized selection of the final 13 members was made: 4 Democrats, 4 Republicans, and 5 unaffiliated.

Corinne Shoop announced that if you are a dues-paid member of the Michigan Democratic Party, you will get an email by Aug. 20, inviting you to the Michigan Democratic Convention, Aug. 29 - 30.

On motion made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Next meeting: Sept. 15.