

**North East Bexar County Democrats
General Membership Meeting
Grady's BBQ
Saturday, December 5, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.**

Exec Board Present: Bob Miller, David Coffman, Bryan Gerard, Gloria Dew, Jackie Christenson, William B. Johnson, Ian Straus, Madeleine Dewar, Jim Lucas

Absent: Kathy Lindley, Kathy Scheidel, Amy Putney, Bill Johnson

I. President Bob Miller called **meeting to order** at 10:15 a.m.

II. **Agenda was approved** as presented

III. **Introduced were candidates** Caitlin Howell -County Court Judge #5, Angelica Jimenez - District Court Judge #408, Milton Fagin, District Court Judge #408, Elena Villaseñor - District Court Judge # 131, Javier Salazar - Sheriff.

IV. **Speaker** Mabel Diaz, Community Outreach Specialist, Planned Parenthood Texas Votes:

A. Passed 2015 legislative session - cut funding for sex ed, lose funding by making it tiered funding, smaller clinics that don't provide abortion are still open - of the others only 10 are still open (no federal funding for abortion since 1976), Planned Parenthood is banned from schools, restrictions placed on judicial passes, (six other bills did not pass)

B. 2017 session will deal with the issue of insurance covering abortion.

C. Long discussion and Q&A followed - priority is to elect democratic legislators

V. **Minutes** of the November meeting were approved as presented

VI. **Treasurer** Bryan Gerard distributed an income/expense report showing a balance of \$18,546.35.

VII. **Chair's Report**-none

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Campaign and Candidate Recruitment Chair Ian Straus reported that the committee prioritized 4 activities: Work with Young Democrats to form high school clubs, Recruit candidates for local elections, collaborate with local organizations/do fundraising at local festivals, Distribute information about local elections.

Ian also spoke of the Lujan (R) vs. Uresti (D) runoff on Jan 26. BCDP is asking clubs to call identified voters in support of Uresti. Ian will get a list of talking points for volunteer callers. it was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the general plan, pay for and produce a postcard mailing (approx. \$200), and contact identified voters.

B. Communications - no report

C. Events and Fundraising - Madeleine urged people to take and distribute the flyer about the DWD, invited them to a DWD planning meeting on Monday 7th, and solicited auction items.

D. Government Action and Monitoring Chair William B. Johnson announced that NEISD school board will discuss renaming of Lee High School Monday at 5 pm public meeting at district office on Tesoro Dr. He questioned whether San Bernadino was workplace violence or terrorist act and pointed out that once again congress rejected a bill to expand background checks for gun buyers. He criticized Gov. Abbott and the State for filing lawsuits, even though they have no chance of succeeding - the taxpayers are billed for attorney fees. He commented on Abbott's recent trip to Cuba and Havana's refusal to work with him on some issues.

E. Membership - Chair Gloria Dew reported on income and expense for DWD.

F. Precinct Organization -vacant

IX. **Unfinished Business** - none

X. New Business

A. Nominations for officers and committee chairs need to be presented at the January meeting in preparation for elections at the February meeting. He asked for volunteers to serve on the nominations committee. Placido Salazar volunteered.

- B. The Club typically hosts 2 candidate forums as part of the Jan and Feb membership meetings before the primaries. It was moved, seconded and passed to host a judicial candidate forum at the January 9 membership meeting and a forum for all the other candidates at the February 6 membership meeting.
- C. After discussion about the pros and cons of endorsing candidates for the primaries, it was moved, seconded, and passed to make the February meeting an endorsement meeting. It was also moved, seconded, and passed that the Club not endorse presidential candidates for the primaries.

XI. Announcements

- A. Monday, Dec 7, 2:00pm, DWD Planning meeting, Vance Residence
 - B. Tuesday, Dec 8, 10:00 am and 6:00pm, Volunteer Voter Registrar required training to register voters in 2015 and 2016, Bexar County Elections Dept. Call to register 335-6625
 - C. Tuesday, Dec 8, 6:30 pm, BCDP CEC meeting, Luby's 911 North Main Ave
 - D. Friday, Dec 11 Fundraiser for Javier Salazar
 - E. Wednesday, Dec 16, 6:30 pm, NEBCD Exec Bd meeting, Vance Residence
 - F. Saturday, January 9, 10:00 am, NEBCD membership meeting, DR Semmes YMCA
- XII. **Meeting adjourned** at 12:10.