



DEMOCRATS OF THE MORONGO BASIN
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES

AUGUST 10, 2019

The Meeting was called to order by President Johnny Tolbert at 10:13.

Matthew Campos led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dianne Greenhouse welcomed everyone by name.

AGENDA: Phyllis Moss moved and Matthew Campos seconded that the Agenda be approved. The motion passed.

MINUTES: Dianne Greenhouse moved and Joan Scott seconded that the minutes of the July meeting be approved. The motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT: The treasurer reported that there is \$4244.90 in our accounts.

AFFIRMING THE CHANGES IN BOARD

It was moved by Paula Durrant and seconded by Dianne Greenhouse that the General Membership affirm that Johnny Tolbert move from the First Vice-president position to the Office of President, following the written resignation of Rebecca Unger and the bylaws. The motion passed.

It was moved by Paula Durrant and seconded by Matthew Campos that the general membership affirm the President's appointment of Dianne Markle Greenhouse as First Vice President. The motion passed.

It was moved by Dianne Greenhouse and seconded by Paula Durrant that the Democrats of the MB return mail sent to us as spam, from right wing organizations, thereby causing them to pay a return fee to the post office. The motion passed.

Dianne Greenhouse introduced our speaker, Danielle Vanover. She is from the Reach Out group and Morongo Basin Community. A plot has been chosen, and work is underway. Members will be given a plot, pay a small rental fee, and be assisted in growing their own food.

Members had several questions including the need for regular and often ample water. There will be a drip system and other innovations to minimize the need for water.

She also reported that Reach Out has established a collection site for unused medications at the JT Sheriff's station. The third Saturday of each. month from 9-1.

GRASSROOTS HERO event: Deborah Dunaway reported on our plans for the September 22nd celebration in honor of our hero Yolanda Brown. Tickets are available on a sliding scale in order that attendees may also donate to Border Kindness. Members are asked to purchase tickets because the plan is to pay for our expenses through tickets. Any money after our costs is for Border Kindness. There will be a mariachi band, dancers, delicious Las Palmas food and much more. Tickets may be purchased through our Facebook page and Eventbrite.

OUTREACH: Matthew Campos and Dianne Greenhouse are organizing a potluck & movie night for August 14th. Bring a dish to share and plan to watch the movie "Rigged" which tells the story of Republican efforts at voter suppression and manipulating the 2016 election. Everyone is welcome. The potluck will begin at 5:30 at Aztec Mobile Home Park Clubhouse.

POLITICAL RESEARCH: Deborah Dunaway is working on a list of all available positions for the 2020 election. Matthew Campos spoke of the value and importance of public service and invited us all to consider running for office.

BYLAWS CHANGES:

It was moved by Gary Biggs and seconded by Dianne Greenhouse to remove the word "audit" from our bylaws and replace it with the words "Financial Review". The motion passed

It was moved by Gary Biggs and seconded by Matthew Campos to add this sentence to Article 8 Section C: It will be voted on at the next general meeting. The motion passed.

HATE-FREE ZONE: Paula Durrant presented a resolution calling for the Morongo Basin to be declared a "Hate Free Zone". It was moved by Paula and seconded by Gary Biggs that the club adopt the resolution. The motion passed.

We will take it to local government -YV Council, MAC Board, 29 Council, School Board, etc. and ask them to sign on to declaring the Morongo Basin a Hate Free zone.

BORDER KINDNESS: Yolanda spoke about her work in Mexicali. They continue to offer shelter, food, human kindness and assistance with the ever-changing rules regarding immigration.

IT was moved by Gary Biggs and seconded by Gayl Swarat the the meeting adjourn at 11:35. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Durrant
Club Secretary



RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MORONGO BASIN A HATE-FREE ZONE

WHEREAS, The President of the United States stated clearly that white supremacy, hate crimes, and bigotry have no place in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there has been a startling rise in hate crimes across the United States,¹ we have suffered more than one mass shooting incident per day in 2019,² one hundred citizens die from gun violence every single day,³ and groups of Americans are randomly chosen for mass murder; and

WHEREAS, a fear is growing among us all that the next incident could happen in our own community. With this growing fear there is a growing distrust of our neighbors and even our friends that creates a tense and unpleasant environment; and

WHEREAS, the Morongo Basin has a diverse population who report a growing number of incidents communicating racial, ethnic, sexual or other hostility from one resident to another;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we declare the Morongo Basin a Hate-Free Zone. We invite residents of the Basin to resolve to behave in public places respectfully and with civility and to keep any hatreds, fears of other people, or animosity in their homes. When at work, or at school, or the store, or public gatherings, we treat one another decently.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will invite the Yucca Valley Town Council, 29 Palms Town Council, the Morongo Unified School Board and the MAC Board to join us in declaring the Morongo Basin a Hate-Free Zone.

Democrats of the Morongo Basin
August 10, 2019

¹ From the U.S. Department of Justice website, accessed August 7, 2019.

<https://www.justice.gov/hatecrimes/hate-crime-statistics>

² CBS News <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/mass-shootings-2019-more-mass-shootings-than-days-so-far-this-year/>

³ <https://lawcenter.giffords.org/facts/gun-violence-statistics/>