



DEMOCRATS OF THE MORONGO BASIN
July 13, 2019
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 by First Vice President Johnny Tolbert.

First Vice President Tolbert announced that the Board would need to meet immediately following the General meeting today.

Pledge of Allegiance: Matthew Campos led us in the pledge.

Dianne Greenhouse welcomed everyone by name.

Agenda: Gayl Swarat moved and Gary Biggs seconded that the agenda be approved as distributed. The motion passed.

Minutes: Norman Scott moved and Deborah Dunaway seconded that the May minutes be approved as distributed. The motion passed.

Treasurer: Yolanda Brown presented the report. The bank balance is \$3949.78. There is \$138.20 in paypal, \$93 in the cash box, 57.66 in checks. The total is \$ 4238.64. Dianne Greenhouse turned in a \$600 check from Arturo at Las Palmas. Our total is \$4638.64. Gayl Swarat moved and Gary Biggs seconded that we accept the treasurers report pending review. The motion passed.

Marc Greenhouse reported for the Fiancial Review sub-committee. Johnny Tolbert, Gayl Swarat & Marc reviews the books through June of 2019. No discrepancies were found. Yolanda is keep excellent records.

Vice-President Tolbert introduced our speaker Geary Hund, the Director of the Mojave Desert Land Trust.

Geary gave an exciting presentation on the superb work MDLT is doing to preserve the desert lands, preserve corridors for the animals to maintain their travel paths, work with agencies to fund purchases, create a seed bank to save endangered Mojave plants, train volunteers for a variety of essential tasks – from desert clean up on precious sites to monitoring lands that are “free standing” from a park or preserve. Here is a link to their annual report: <https://www.mdlt.org/annual-report-mojave-desert-land-trust-reaches-new-conservation-milestones/>. Surfing about their website is so exciting and so positive. MDLT.org. He encouraged us all to become members and support the superb work they are doing. He urged us to contact him directly at his work email: geary@mdl.org.

OUTREACH – Dianne Greenhouse reported that Avi Showalter will help with the table but does not want to work on Saturday. We need someone who will manage that activity.

CANDIDATE DEVELOPMENT: Jessica Mason, a new resident of Yucca Valley, stood to introduce herself. She is getting acquainted with our community in order to run for office. She eventually wants to serve in the House.

FUNDRAISING: Watch for announcements about restaurant dates

LIAISON: The process whereby Delegates to the National Convention being held in Milwaukee this year is almost ready. Anyone wanting to apply to become a delegate should start getting ready to make application.

LIAISON: We have our Charter in place.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Deb Dunaway reminded us to please “like, share, follow” when there is a post we want the world to see ! We all must help spread the word.

CHURCH & STATE: The eboard was distressed by the news that the Town of Yucca Valley had contracted with a Christian Church to rent town property for their Sunday worship services. We chose to write a letter. After researching court rulings on the subject, I learned that the courts have ruled in support of religious use of public buildings as long as the government does not endorse or promote the religion. We did not send a letter

LIGHTS4LIBERTY Report: Deborah Dunaway reported on the demonstrations held Friday the 12th at several Southern Ca. locations and across the country. The purpose of the demonstrations was to protest the inhumane, cruel and abusive treatment of detainees. Yolanda spoke for us all by saying that we will not succeed until all of the shelters, warehouses, and places where innocent refugees are being held are closed.

Debra Savitt rose to introduce herself as a new resident of Yucca Valley who is deeply concerned with the “Trumpville” store set up at the corner of 247 and 62. She as spoken with the ACLU, the Yucca Valley town manager and members of the YV Town Council. She will continue seeking information and place an information table at or near the corner.

Jennifer Decker called our attention to a PBS program done by Rick Steeves called “Fascism in Europe”. She prepared a hand-out with information from that program. She reported that the program was disturbing.

Gary Biggs rose to suggest we prepare a folder with Club information to give to new club members. The folder would include our bylaws, committee information, officers, club values and information needed to become an informed members.

Paula Durrant reported that the eboard voted to print cards with information in English and Spanish explaining to refugees who are approached by ICE. We hope to get those into the community quickly.

Beverly Scott reported that she attended a “Community Vital Signs” meeting. She learned that STD’s are up in the 15-29 year old community. Congenital Syphillis is also up. In SB county poverty takes 7 years off a persons life. Our county unemployment is 8.2% - higher than the national average. Our graduation rate is higher than most of CA.

Deni-Antoinette Mazingo rose to introduce herself again and announce she is a candidate for the AD42 seat. Analysts have told her she can win this time. She needs help and money and volunteers. She left donation envelopes with Yolanda. Find her on facebook.

Sara Lee rose to celebrate SB 307 passing both houses.

ADJOURN: Paula Durrant moved and Dianne Greenhouse seconded that we adjourn our meeting at 12:00, noon. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Durrant

Club secretary