



DEMOCRATS OF THE MORONGO BASIN
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2020

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by President Johnny Tolbert.

Matthew Campos led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA: Deniantionette Mazingo moved and Matthew Campos seconded approving the agenda as presented. The motion passed

MINUTES: Matthew Campos moved and Deni Mazingo seconded the approval of the minutes as presented. The motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT: Yolanda Brown reported that we have \$3686.32. There is a \$400 outstanding bill for the Chamber of Commerce Ad. It was moved by Howard Knowlton and seconded by Gary Biggs that the report be accepted pending audit.

Eddie Tejeda, candidate for SB Board of Supervisors from the third district spoke for 15 minutes. He welcomed questions after his speech.

OUTREACH: Rich Mettling reported that the Market Table is up and running. They are expanding to include the 29 Palms Market and locations in Yucca Valley. He welcomes volunteers. They continue to be a presence at the JT Market.

WOMEN'S MARCH : January 18th the Club is joining the national movement and sponsoring our third annual event. We will be on the corner of OWS Road and HWY 62 from 10 – 12. A poster party will be held at Debra Gail Savitt's home on Wednesday the 15th. Contact her if you are able to attend. We again ask for only positive messages. We also ask that no profanity be used. Rich is contacting the SB county sheriff for the first amendment officer protection.

LABOR DAY EVENT: Rich would also like us to host/plan a Labor Day event that would draw a wider net in Southern California. He envisions other clubs joining us, speakers, information, promoting of our candidates and food. After a long discussion it was decided to ask Rich to gather a committee and come to our next meeting with a solid budget proposal.

POLITICAL RESEARCH AND STRATEGY: Deb Dunaway has prepared a list of open positions in our local and regional area. Please consider running for a position. Town Councils, water boards, health care districts, school boards & more. Johnny Tolbert announced he will run for the Morongo Valley SSD.

SCHOLARSHIP: No Report

FUNDRAISING: There is a fundraising dinner at Steak'n Shake on January 29th from 4:30 – 8:00. There are flag pins, stickers & constitutions. Debra proposed that her Plant Parenthood program could benefit the club. She is selling trees that are native to our Morongo Basin. We will have bumper stickers and t-shirts.

CADEM: SB County Eboard is not certain when a term for a newly elected members should begin. The proposal is a month after the election.

MEDIA: Deb Dunaway continues to promote club activities and interests on Facebook. Beverly Scott volunteered to notify the radio station of our events.

CHAMBER: Beverly is attending the YV Chamber events regularly and she reports our activities and events. The directory should be available by January 15th.

DENIANTIONETTE MAZINGO: Club member Deni is the endorsed candidate for AD 42. She spoke about her passions for finding a humane solution for the homeless crisis that is growing; for children and veterans who need support, health care and improved quality of life.

YUCCA VALLEY LIBRARY: Paula rose to report on the history of the former bank building that is being converted to a library. Many club members were not aware that the Town Council purchased the building without a clear plan about how the town might use it. That purchase came out of town funds. It then sat empty for about 10 years with no taxes paid and no use found. Recently the decision was made to spend county and town fund for asbestos remediation and remodeling, costing more than 3 ½ million dollars, to relocate the library. Originally the librarians assessed the building and determined it inadequate and unnecessary. When the project is completed it will be at least \$5 million dollars of public monies spent on this unnecessary project.

RALLIES PLANNED: January 25th “No War With Iran” sponsored by other groups will be at the corner of Park Blvd and the hwy in Joshua Tree. They hope to be there all day. Another rally is planned by 350.org calling attention to the climate crisis. These take place on Fridays at the same corner.

ENDORSEMENTS: Discussion was held on voting to endorse one of the candidates for third district supervisor since we have heard them all. The bylaws call for a committee to interview. The possibility of declaring the general meeting a “committee of the whole” was rejected. President Tolbert will appoint a committee to bring a report to our next meeting.

DAWN ROWE: Gary Biggs suggested we all contact Governor Newsom and request he appoint a Democrat to call his attention to the problem, the court ruling and the future.

ADJOURN: It was moved by Gary Biggs and seconded by Paula Durrant to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Durrant
Club Secretary