

Democrats of the Morongo Basin
 General Meeting Minutes
 10:00 a.m., October 14, 2023
 Online using Zoom &
 Jorge's Place, CMC Campus



Today's Meeting Agenda and Minutes of the September General Meeting were distributed to the membership before the meeting.

Club President Jo Ann Bollen called the meeting to order at 10:00.

<u>Board members present:</u>	<u>Club members present (in person)</u>	<u>Guests (in person)</u>
Jo Ann Bollen Liz Neff Dianne Markle-Greenhouse Deborah Dunaway Paula Durrant (Zoom) Rico Nadjar (Zoom)	Cody Briggs Matthew Mark Campos Mark Chappell Patti Domay Marc Greenhouse Gary Neff Joan Scott Norman Scott Luke Warner <u>Club members present (Zoom)</u> Stacy Doolittle Rich Mettling	Lisa Middleton

The Club recited the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Dianne Markle-Greenhouse.

We had a presentation by Club member, Stacy Doolittle, who is on the Joshua Basin Water District. This was about some of the challenges our communities face due to climate change, and how every person and organization has the opportunity to divest from fossil fuels and make more sustainable choices. We as consumers should make sure our providers (water districts, town halls, etc.) know that we expect them to make choices that are better for our planet.

Gary Neff moved and Joan Scott seconded approval of the Agenda, modified to include Lisa Middleton among our proposed endorsements. *Unanimous*. Cody Briggs moved and Mark Chappell seconded approval of the September meeting minutes. *Unanimous*.

Treasurers' Report: \$2,685.62 in the bank plus \$104 in the cash box.

Correspondence: New member, Luke Warner, is interested in getting involved. Welcome, Luke!

Reports:

- Voter Registration: We had 213 total new registrations, 168 of whom were Dem/NPP/Green/Peace & Freedom.
- Dawn Rowe Report: Liz Neff volunteered to keep up with her votes and report back.
- Environmental: The Desert Summit was informative, including info about using CEQA to slow/stop development; carbon sequestration; and a talk by Robyn Kobaly. There is a recording available.
- County Democrats: the Breakfast with the Democrats was a success! \$ numbers not yet available.

Other Items

- Lisa Middleton introduced herself to the membership.
- Liz Neff moved and Matthew Mark Campos seconded accepting the recommendation of the Board to endorse Derek Marshall (CD23), Lisa Middleton (SD19), and Christy Holstege (AD47). *Unanimous*. Congratulations to our endorsed candidates!
- Luke Warner volunteered to help table at the JT Farmer's Market.

- Our issues survey results were attached to the meeting agenda. Topline is that the climate crisis/environmental protections, affordable housing, and corruption are the most important items to our members. Thank you to those who participated!
- We need volunteers to make phone calls to local Dems who don't always vote in the New Year. Contact Jo Ann votemorongobasin@gmail.com.
- Always looking for volunteers to write a good Letter to the Editor; Dianne Markle Greenhouse and Stacy Doolittle expressed a willingness to do this.

Announcements:

1. Event for Chris Carrillo in Yucca Valley October 15, 3-5 pm. Talk to Deborah or Paula.
2. Event for our endorsed candidates Derek Marshall, Lisa Middleton, & Christy Holstege in Yucca Valley Nov. 11, Noon-2 pm. Talk to Deborah.
3. Next Board Meeting: November 5 at 2:00 pm, email DemocratsMB@gmail.com for zoom link.
4. Next General Meeting: November 11, 10:00 am, Zoom and in person.
5. Unity Home Fundraiser October 28, talk to Deborah if you'd like tickets.
6. Dianne Markle Greenhouse mentioned the adopt-a-highway trash collection she had proposed earlier. Cody Briggs had followed up, and the roads available in our area require 4x or 6x/year commitment, which we judge is too much to ask our members. Deborah mentioned that Club members could volunteer with MDLT to help clean up the desert.

Dianne Markle Greenhouse moved and Gary Neff seconded adjournment at 11:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Dunaway
November 9, 2023