FAUQUIER COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 20, 2018

The February 20, 2018 monthly meeting of the Fauquier County Democratic Committee, held at 10 Hotel St., Warrenton, VA, was called to order at 7:30pm.

The co-chairs welcomed and thanked a large crowd of attendees.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: The Secretary reported that FCDC currently has 105 members. Further, there is a 26-29% open rate of FCDC emails containing announcements of events and other important activities of the Committee. This comprises approximately 275-310 people opening the emails. The Committee also relies on communicating with members and the public via facebook and the web page at [www.fauquierdemocrats.org](http://www.fauquierdemocrats.org)

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes from the January, 2018 meeting.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The treasurer reported on current income and expenditures with a resulting balance as of 2/20/2018 of $2594.37. The Audit Committee completed its work and issued a statement of findings and completion.

VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT: The vice-chair read a statement about the beginnings of our form of government and changes and progress over several centuries. The purpose was to focus us on how and what kind of change we, as Democrats, want to make, both nationally and locally. The vice-chair stressed the importance of talking with young people to learn how Democrats can meet their needs and interests.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR: Virginia Asciolla. Please contact her at any time with ideas and subjects to be posted on facebook and the web page. She is totally engaged in the exchange of ideas and communicating with members and the community at large. People should use the “contact us” box at the bottom of the web home page. The Committee continues to work on updating the web page.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New members: Four individuals were voted into membership: Marshall magisterial district leader Irv Woods nominated Kimberly Fogle and Eric Lucas. Scott district deputy leader Michael Hammond nominated Jamie Wilson Duffy and Jonathan Duffy. All four were unanimously voted into membership.

2. The 5th CD Democratic Committee will hold a convention on May 5th at the Fireman’s Hall, Farmville, Virginia, to choose the Democratic candidate running for the US House of Representatives from the Virginia 5th congressional district. This will be the Democratic candidate oopposing incumbent Tom Garrett.

FCDC will hold its caucus to choose our 17delegates to the 5th CD convention (total number of delegates from all Committees in the 5th = 250) sometime the week of April 16, pending locating a venue of sufficient size for our local caucus. The time and location will be broadly communicated to members and the public. Membership in FCDC is not a requirement to attend the caucus and vote on our delegates; however, all attendees to our local caucus will be required to sign a participation form whereby they pledge not to support any person running against the Democratic candidate.

3. The Virginia 1st CD is holding a primary on June 12.

4. Commonwealth Dinner update: Saturday, May 24; 6 pm cocktails; 7 pm dinner and program. Alwyngton Manor, Falmouth St., Warrenton. This is our largest fundraiser of the year, the proceeds from which are used to support our campaign office. Secretary Anne Holton, Senator Kaine’s wife, is our keynote speaker. Also speaking will be the four candidates running in the 5th CD for nomination as the 5th CD Democratic candidate for US House of Representatives. Tickets can be purchased through ActBlue by clicking on the event from our web page or responding via the RSVP card from mailed invitations. Seating is limited to 220 so it is vital to send your reservations as soon as possible.

5. Birthday party for Senator Tim Kaine: Saturday, March 24, 3-4:30 pm, Old Busthead Brewery at Vint Hill.

6. 1st CD candidate forum: Monday, February 26, 7pm, Salem Church Library, 2607 Salem Church Rd., Spotsylvania, VA. Doors open at 6:30 for question submission or

Email questions (1 per person) to DickToye@comcast.net

7. David Roos, member of The Plains town council, spoke on the importance of being active in local politics and the importance of local elections. The best way to prepare for higher office is to begin at the local level, being active in local groups, and honing listening skills. Local elections are held May 6 but there is a process to get on the ballot that begins months prior to election day.

8. Warrenton town council and mayoral election: May 1. Sunny Reynolds is running to keep her at-large seat. She asked for signatures on her petition, as well as campaign and election day support and volunteers.

9. May 1: election day for The Plains town council, Remington town council and mayor.

10. FCDC Happy Hour: March 2, 6:30pm, McMahons in Warrenton.

TOPICAL WORKGROUP REPORTS

First Friday: David Wiedenfeld, who has chaired our First Friday table for years, asked for a volunteer to take over that job. Al Carota volunteered.

Moms Demand Action: Carolyn Woodard informed on methods to learn how much money is donated to our representatives by the NRA. State Senator Jill Vogel VA 27th and 18th district delegate Michael Webert both have A+ ratings from the NRA. *Text student64433 or ready64433 for information*. Moms is providing logistical support to local students organizing and participating in a *national school walk out* *March 14th*. Fauquier HS students are in the planning stages; Moms will provide support to groups from Kettle Run and Liberty. Moms will be writing *Thoughts and* *Prayers postcards* to elected officials who oppose any gun safety measures or even debate on gun issues. *March for Our Lives* on the national mall, Saturday March 24. More details on buses and organizing locally to participate in this march will be coming soon on Fauquier Indivisible fb.

Fauquier Indivisible continues attending, organizing, and communicating about Resistance efforts and events. Postcard parties every other Wednesday at Worthog Brewery. Next postcard party: Wednesday, Feb. 21. This is great fun and very worthwhile. Postcards are written to support Democratic candidates all over the country, including important special elections in many states.

CANDIDATE TIME

Andrew Sneathern, 5th CD candidate, addressed the group.

Ben Cullop, 5th CD candidate, was represented by Kim Doherty.

RD Hufstetler, 5th CD candidate, was represented by James Corti.

Sunny Reynolds, at-large seat candidate, Warrenton Town Council addressed the group.

Ronnie Ross, potential candidate for Virginia state senate 27th district (incumbent Jill Vogel), introduced himself.

ADJOURN: 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Treusch

Secretary