

Roanoke City Democratic Committee
January 24, 2018
Meeting Minutes

The Roanoke City Democratic Committee met on Thursday, January 24 at the Grandin Co-Lab. Chair, Stephen Niamke called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Minutes for November 2018 were approved. There was a social event in December, therefore there are no December 2018 minutes.

Treasurer, Ryan LaFountain, reported a balance on hand of \$3714.76, report attached. Members can sign up for monthly donations at our website, roanokedems.com or at our facebook page. Ryan also reported that RCDC has moved accounts to Freedom First Credit Union. The subcommittee is exploring office space. Monica Thomas will be organizing the next Moonshine and Democrats event (tentative date is August 31st, 2018) and requests volunteers, her report is attached. The subcommittee also requested volunteers to organize a fundraising breakfast before the St. Patrick's day parade.

Robin Barnhill discussed RCDC involvement in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, on March 16th. RCDC will march with Salem and Roanoke County, committee banners will be allowed. No politics are allowed. Salem, Roanoke County and RCDC will share costs.

Chairman of the Nominations and Elections Subcommittee, Mark Lazar, reported that Trish White Boyd was appointed by the City Council to the vacancy left by John Garland. Mark also listed upcoming elections: House of Delegates District 11 and 17; State Senate 21st District ; Clerk of Courts, Roanoke City . Our Nominating Committee representative will be Stephen Niamke. RCDC will have until February 26 to determine the mode of nomination (convention, caucus, or primary.) Mark then read off a list of new members who did not have positions on the committee, and asked to see them afterwards to help assign position.

Anne Piedmont, co-chair of the Membership Committee reported the success working with other local Democratic Committees at the Women's March. Membership is planning a New Members Packet.

Chair, Stephen Niamke, listed highlights of the Executive Committee Report, report attached. Colleen Burns has been appointed to co-chair the Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

Mark Lazar, gave report for the 6th Congressional District Democratic Committee (CDDC), report attached.

Jennifer Lewis, acting Chair of the Waynesboro Democratic Committee, and former Congressional Candidate, gave a brief report. Julie Wagner and Liz Saloma were nominated to membership last month. Their nominations were approved. The Chair opened the floor for nominations for membership to the committee. Monica Thomas nominated Robert Carpenter, it was seconded and Robert accepted the nomination. Ellen Valentine nominated Alexis Hughes,

it was seconded and Alexis accepted. Ryan LaFountain nominated Josh Young, it was seconded and Josh accepted. Colleen Burns nominated Jonathan Craft, it was seconded and Jonathan accepted. With no further nominations, the Chair closed the floor. Chris Fury added that new members should submit current address and contact information to Mark Lazar and Anne Piedmont.

In New Business, Mark Lazar moved that RCDC purchase a new banner at a cost, not to exceed \$100. It was seconded. Ryan LaFountain suggested the motion be amended to raise the amount to \$200. The motion as amended, seconded and approved .

Chris Fury moved that the RCDC recognize Gary Crawford for his generous donation of meeting space in the Co-Lab; gift not to exceed \$50. The motion was seconded and approved.

Robin Barnhill moved that the RCDC recognize Ssuny Shah for his contributions; gift not to exceed \$50. The motion was seconded and approved.

Ryan LaFountain, proposed a plan to continue using the CoLab for meeting room for the next six months at a cost of \$50 per month. Ellen Valentine moved to accept the proposal: it was seconded and the motion approved.

Darius Smith moved that the Policy and Platform ad-hoc Committee outline their objectives. The motion was seconded and approved.

Presentations and Candidates: Terri Price announced her candidacy for Clerk of Courts, Roanoke City. The incumbent for Roanoke City Clerk of Courts, Brenda Hamilton discussed her work and her candidacy for the seat. Jennifer Lewis announced she is planning to run again in 2020 for Congress, 6th District.

Announcements: Mark Lazar shared Indivisible efforts regarding the fight against the government shutdown.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31pm

Guest Speaker: Roanoke City Treasurer, Evelyn Powers