

October Monthly Meeting

Date: Monday October 28, 2019

1. Call to Order; Establish Quorum; Approve Agenda from Chairman Fletcher

6:35 pm meeting called to order

A Quorum was established

- Gordon Fletcher
- Sydelle Moore
- Jatarious Frazier
- Anthony Roberson
- Emily Lucio

Agenda moved by Emily to Approve. Second by A. Roberson. Approved.

September minutes moved to approve by J. Frazier. Second by A. Roberson. Approved.

2. Minutes: Review minutes from September 2019 meeting from Secretary Lucio

3. Officers' Reports:

- a. Gordon-Andrew Fletcher
 - Welcome from the Chair
 - Had a great event for Ward Five seniors at Denny's.
 - Save the date for the Ward Five Holiday Party- Thursday, December 5th.
- b. 1st Vice Chair – Sydelle Moore
 - Working on budget items
- c. 2nd Vice Chair – Jatarious Frazier
 - Putting together committee budgets
 - Encouraged participation and involvement
- d. Treasurer's Report – Michael Talley (presented by Anthony Roberson)
 - Oct. 10th filed report with Office of Campaign Finance
 - Received a donation of \$100.00
 - Revenue of \$24.00 from the 50/50 raffel at the Ward 5 Dems Meet and Greet
 - Expenses of a total of \$648.27
 - \$172.47 refreshments at the August retreat
 - \$98.80 for Ward 5 Meet and Greet refreshments
 - \$150.00 photographer
 - \$225 for videographer
 - \$2.00 bank service charge
 - Current balance \$8,694.75
- e. Correspondence Secretary Report – Hazel Thomas
 - No report at this time.

4. Committee Reports/Approval of Committee Budgets

a. Voter Registration & Education Committee – Landon Jones

Last month there was a voter registration education meeting. There is a follow-up meeting tomorrow by phone. Encourage people to come to his house this Sunday to promote engagement and to talk about future events.

Encouraged collaboration with Ward 7

b. Ways/Means & Fundraising Committee-Virginia Edwards

Charlotte Lewis has resigned. Virginia Edwards has taken over that role. Her role will be focusing on raising revenue and generating income for the organization.

c. Communications Committee-Loren Coleman

There is a new chair. Enid Doggett has decided to step down. Loren Coleman has taken over the role. We are trying to communicate on all levels. One of the things Loren is doing is assisting with Facebook live.

d. Awards Committee – Adrian Jordan/Anthony Hood (presented by Sydelle Moore)

At Ivy City Smoke House. Capacity of 120 people. Cost per person is \$30.00. Ticket cost per person \$40.00. Proposed sponsorship \$1,200.00. Award cost \$500.00. Total expenses \$4,100.00. Revenue projected \$6,000.00. Emily Lucio made a motion to approve the budget of expenses of no more than \$4100.00. Anthony Roberson seconded. The motion approved.

e. Statehood Committee – Caroline Petti

Trying to build the committee. Encourage sign-ups. Highlights from submitted report- there was a hearing in The House on September 19, 2019 on DC Statehood Bill. The Ward Five Dems played a very prominent roll. There was a huge turnout. All of the overflow areas were full. We have 222 co-sponsors in the house. That is enough. We still have a ways to go in the Senate.

Chairman Fletcher acknowledged that we have lost two big figures this week- Congressman Cummings and Former Congressman Conyers.

The Chairman asked if there are reductions that could be made to the budget submitted. The request was for a total of \$1,000.00. All of these items are considered important. Refreshments can go through a different committee. Reduce the giveaway's and the brochures by \$50.00 each. The remaining expenses would be \$600.00. In addition encouraged to find ways to raise revenue and sponsorship for give-a-ways. We want to build collaboration and find partners. If possible consider reduce promotional budget an additional \$50.00. Chairman Fletcher recommended a budget of \$500.00. Sydelle made a motion to approve the \$500.00 budget. Anthony seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.

f. Seniors Committee- Bob King/Hattie Pierce

Last Thursday there was a senior event at Denny's. It had a great turnout from various senior buildings in Ward 5. The ice cream socials will be a follow-up in March. Those are usually very successful. The goal is to focus on Ward 5 Dems. They want to have the largest voter turnout for the election next year.

f. Membership Committee-Ruth Pagani

No report

5. New Business

a. Voter Registration/Coat Drive at Local Church in Ward 5 (Chairman)

This is one way of bringing more people into the organization. Our next event will be a voter registration coat drive. Bill Lewis is working with Our Redeemer Church at 1725 Michigan Ave. Also working with Faith United Church of Christ. Goal is to get more people connected to the Ward 5 Democrats. Former Chairwoman Mobley suggested that we might consider having multiple organizations send a letter. It was moved by Robert that the Ward 5 Dems draft a letter in support of voting machines at Fort Lincoln with proper guidance perhaps from other elected organizations. Sydelle asked to amend it to say that we would like to have this as an option in all senior buildings in Ward 5. Emily Lucio suggested amended it to say eventually at all buildings but that we want to start with this as a pilot program. There was a second to the original motion to include all senior buildings in Ward 5. The motion did not pass. A second motion was made to send a letter to B of E for voting machines in Fort Lincoln. The motion passed.

The Ward 5 Democrats will be sending a letter to the Board of Elections.

b. Voting Machines in the Senior Buildings of Ft. Lincoln (Bob King)

Chairman Fletcher reported that the Fort Lincoln Civic Association is the largest organization of seniors in the city. They have inquired about having voting machines located in their building to avoid having to transport seniors and to make it easier for them. We hope to start with a pilot program located in this neighborhood. Anthony Roberson noted this is an excellent idea. Other attendees also felt this was a good idea. Note: this will be for early voting. No response from the Board of Elections at this time. It was noted that Plymouth House on North Capitol and Riggs Road currently has them.

c. Ward Five Democrats Holiday Party – December 5th (Ruth)

d. Guest Speaker – Washington, DC Democratic Party Chair (Charles Wilson)

Update from the DC Democrats. He acknowledged the work of many people in the room. They have hired some new people in the organization. Our biggest role is to get people to vote. We focus a lot of our efforts on areas outside of DC. Plan to work on the upcoming VA race. Chairman Fletcher is leading the voting efforts and leading a training tomorrow. The Environmental Council is meeting tomorrow at 7pm. One Saturday a month they invite a prominent person to come talk at a breakfast at Busboys and Poets on V Street. Nov 20th is a debate watch party. Location TBD. He encouraged people to come out to the watch parties.

The Black Caucus has been re-booted. They are hosting an event called Chop it Up on Nov. 22nd at 6:00 pm. Then a holiday party and another debate watch party in December. Mobile App- Mobilize us/dcdems.

There was a discussion about the 2020 Convention in Milwaukee. The DC Hotel will be shared with the state of Louisiana. Delegate locations are coming up. The process starts in January and the election will be in April.

Concerns were raised about the issue of delegates being taken away or changed by the DNC.

Other ideas were raised by Caroline in regard to the DC Statehood issue and the connection to the DNC.

6. Announcements

Michele from Councilmember Nadeau's vote by mail act. She is looking for feedback. Several other states have done this. Hearing for this is Wednesday at 10:00 am at the Wilson Building.

Rip Preston announced that DC National Guard and Mayor's office on Veterans affairs and spouses job hiring event in NOVA.

7. Adjournment at 8:15 pm

29 people in attendance