

KUTZTOWN AREA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Meeting Minutes August 9, 2009

Present: Karen Feridun, Rich Stine, Rosie Skomitz, Ron Stouffer, Dick Horton, Vanessa Moore, Robert Johns, Colleen Fitzgerald, Jeff Sicher, Darree Sicher, Cate Chensel, Kathi Ember, Breezy, Chuck Brown, Pat Brown, Larry Sechler, Judy Sechler, Joshua Neyhart, Dan Sauder, Lou Wentz, Carol Wentz, Bernie Ward, John Scott and Linda Kenepeske. Meeting was held at TC's and started at 7PM

Treasurer's Report: Rich presented the July receipts and disbursements and the bank balance and the report was approved for audit after Rosie motioned and Breezy seconded the motion.

Minutes: Dick motioned, Rosie seconded that the May minutes be approved as written.

New Business:

Volunteer sign-up sheets were circulated for the tea bagger rallies, voter registration at KU, The Chili Pepper Fest, and the Lyons' Fiddle Fest. If you would like to volunteer for one or more of these club activities contact Karen ASAP. Dick Horton asked if there would be interest in his hosting a fundraiser for County Candidates. The group indicated that there would be.

Old Business: The amendment to the by-laws was postponed until the September meeting due to a flurry of fiery emails prior to the meeting. Karen addressed the club about the need to disagree in a respectful and productive way at the meetings. She noted the need for the by-laws to reflect the actual activities of the club and pointed out that while it is appropriate at times to look back at what the club has accomplished that it is also important to look forward to what the club should be doing *now*. She called for the participation of more club members at meetings and club activities and stressed that the success of the club was linked to the active participation of all its members. The number of members who showed up for the August meeting was a good start.

A lively but mostly productive discussion followed with some highlights being: Judy urging the club to not rest on its laurels and to work together as a club. Chuck warned against running the club by rule of the lowest common denominator so as not to upset anyone. Lou questioned the appropriateness of allowing members not present to vote on a by-law amendment. Rosie called for members to disagree respectfully but to roll with the majority vote if their viewpoint was considered and not adopted by the club. Two members questioned the meeting location although they allowed that 3 votes and a poll of all club members had already occurred on the topic this year. John informed the club that its status as a state PAC/ 527 has been in effect since 2005 and presented Rich with copies of the papers. Josh spoke of the importance of the club to someone trying to get started in an election against an incumbent and, when questioned, said that the endorsement of the club in the primary would make a difference to his candidate. These are highlights of the discussion and I apologize to anyone who made other/similar points who was not credited.

Dick motioned and Rosie seconded that the club begin the process to allow endorsements of candidates in the primaries. Rosie then withdrawn her second and Judy seconded the motion. The vote was passed 18- 5 with one abstention. Dick and Judy voted against the motion.

The meeting was adjourned around 10PM by a motion from Dick, seconded by Kathi and approved by the members present.

Upcoming meetings: August 23rd Potluck and Politics. Check the KADC calendar on the website for healthcare, campaign fund raising and other events that are taking place this summer.

Note: Please submit any items you would like discussed at the business meetings to Karen before the meeting

Submitted by Cate Chensel