

## KUTZTOWN AREA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Meeting Minutes September 13, 2009

Present: Karen Feridun, Rich Stine, Rosie Skomitz, Ron Stouffer, Dick Horton, Vanessa Moore, Dan Allen, Robert Johns, Colleen Fitzgerald, Cate Chensel, Chuck Brown, Darree Sicher, Carol Wentz, Linda Wood, John Scott, Dick Manderbach and Helen Manderbach. Meeting was held at the Walnut St. church annex and was called to order at 7:05.

Treasurer's Report: Rich presented the August receipts and disbursements and the bank balance and the report was approved for audit after Rosie motioned and Vanessa seconded the motion. Minutes: Dick motioned, Carole seconded that the August minutes be approved as written.

### New Business/Announcements:

- Dan announced that the Misc. Committee still needed help at the MAREA Energy Fest.
- Dick announced his fundraiser for the Democratic candidates would be held on Oct 12<sup>th</sup> 5:30- 8PM.
- Colleen and Karen spoke about the Fall Film Fest to be held throughout the area in October (see website for dates, times and titles) and asked for phone bankers for healthcare reform.
- Darree passed out flyers about an informal meet the candidates/ party night that she put together at TC's with music by Jack Murray. The party will be held at TC's Food and Spirits on Oct 28<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.
- Rosie injected some vigor into the discussion by speaking about the Single Payer Rally in Harrisburg on Oct 20<sup>th</sup>. On a motion from Rosie, seconded by Bob, a motion for the KADC to co-sponsor the legislation and rally with a donation of \$100 passed without dissent. Chuck will arrange caravan/carpooling for that day. Please plan to attend and see Chuck if you need a ride.
- Dick motioned/Linda seconded that the KADC donate \$150 to each candidate; Dennis Hess, Charles Corbit and Carole Snyder. Rich voted against the motion on grounds of the budget but the ayes would have it!

Old Business: Karen passed out a proposed Endorsement Procedure for the KADC which defined the procedure for the KADC to interview candidates, propose club endorsements and vote on those proposals. In a nutshell: Since the by-laws already state that endorsements are a function of the club this is not an amendment to the by-laws but a procedure that clearly defines the process. The KADC is a State PAC and 527 which limits the club's endorsements to candidates for State, County and Local offices. This proposal refers to endorsing candidates in primary elections. Only voting members of the KADC would participate. A committee of up to 10 members will serve as the point of contact for the candidates, will determine which issues the candidates would be questioned about (after soliciting club members for interview questions), will design the interview questionnaire, schedule and conduct the interviews. Voting members will have the opportunity of attending the interviews but the interviews will be conducted by the committee members. After the interviews have been conducted the committee will prepare written reports including the candidates' responses and their own evaluations of the candidates. All voting members of the KADC will be given the opportunity to vote on whether or not to endorse a candidate. 66% of the voting members casting ballots would need to agree on a candidate in order for the club to grant endorsement.

In the discussion that followed several issues popped up:

- Rich motioned, seconded by Carole that new paid memberships after September 1<sup>st</sup> would be good through the end of the following year. All present agreed in the vote.
- Linda mentioned the need for guidelines for the club's donations towards political mailings and that this issue should be addressed soon.
- The issue of the costs to contact all voting members was raised but since most members have an email address and the mailing costs to those who don't is minimal it was decided it was not a concern.

Finally, in a motion from Linda Wood, seconded by Ron Stouffer that the KADC adopt the endorsement procedure, as a procedure, in accordance with State PAC rules with the stipulation that the wording be changed to leave no doubt that ALL voting members would be included, was passed by the members present. Dick and Dan dissented.

The meeting was adjourned around 9PM.