**FFDC General Meeting**

**29 November**

President Devin Gould presiding.

Devin announced the following upcoming club events: Christmas Party, Tuesday, 6 December and next Annual Meeting, Tuesday, 24 January 2017.

The FFDC has $8000 in the bank.

Devin then took nominations for club officers, as follows.

**President**Gabriel Panek
Abraham Salcedo

**Vice-President**
David Menegon
Frank Wilkinson

**Corresponding Secretary**
Jerry Ferguson
Ben Wetzler

**Recording Secretary**
Teresa Malyshev

**Treasurer**
Saul Nadel

**Members-at-Large (6)**
Posie DiSesa
Lynne Feibelmann
Sheila Fine
Arlene Kayatt
Greg Krakower
Matt Lombardi
Betsy Mayer
Bob Menna
Peggy O'Reilly
Elana Schwartz
John Wagner
Lee Wiggins

Tim Foley, political director of CIR/SEIU, addressed the club, giving an overview of policy advocacy opportunities for club members in the coming months and years.

A break-out session followed his remarks. Club members formed groups of 6-10 people to discuss the following three questions:

“**What should the Democrats do better?**?”

“**What are your 4 most important issues?** ?”

“**How can the FFDC (the Four Freedoms Democratic club most effectively support a progressive agenda?** ?”

Many issues were discussed in the small groups and reported back to the meeting. The most common issues were: electoral reform (including voter suppression and the electoral college), combating climate change/environmental protection, safeguarding women’s health, and jobs and poverty. Other issues included (in alphabetical order): CUNY’s funding, free, trade, hate, housing, immigration & immigrant’s rights, income inequality

money spent to protect trump & his family, NATO, net neutrality, Obama care & health, Obama’s legacy, prison reform, responsible spending, social security, vulnerable communities, world peace.

The club activities that the members were most interested in developing were creating position papers, having issue focused action agendas and partnering with with other clubs or groups. Members also felt that we should (this time, in inverted alphabetical order): work for down ballot candidates, remember to connect national and local issues, push for ‘perfect’ bills, resisting compromise, organize to campaign for candidates, organize lobby days, identify strong candidates, focus efforts on (local) struggling communities, find opportunities for lawyers to work pro bono on local issues, develop outreach activities to engage more of the community in our activities, create questionnaire or report card for candidates

During member time, Abraham welcomed new members. State Committee Member Jonathan Piel updated the club on ideas for becoming more involved in the State Committee.

Devin closed the meeting.