

Four Freedoms Democratic Club  
March Executive Board Meeting  
March 19, 2019  
7:05-8:00pm  
Genesis Bar & Restaurant

## Minutes

Attendees: Bridget Cusick, President; Frank Wilkinson, Vice President; John Bartos, Treasurer; Jerry Ferguson, Corresponding Secretary; Pierre Ratzki, Recording Secretary; Matt Lombardi, John Wagner, Arlene Kayatt, Ilyssa Fuchs, Flor De Maria Eilets, Tera Malyshev, Alex Bores, Members-at-Large; State Committee Member Lauren Trapanotto, State Committee Member Adam Roberts, District Leader Ben Wetzler, Tricia Shimamura, Ex-Officio Members.

Absent: Esther Yang, Member-at-large; District Leader Kim Moscaritolo, Ex-Officio Member.

### 1. Introduction

- a. President Bridget Cusick called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

### 2. Spring Fundraiser

- a. Matt Lombardi, chair of the events committee, gave an update on the upcoming Spring fundraiser
  - i. The fundraiser will take place on April 11th, 2019, at Bohemian Hall
  - ii. The Board will be hosting a call sessions this Sunday, March 24th, at 4pm to reach out to electeds, judges, and other guests
- b. Ilyssa Fuchs noted that we have several leftover raffle tickets and could potentially raffle off one or two memberships for 2020
  - i. Unfortunately, Treasurer John Bartos pointed out that the election law prohibits political committees from holding raffles
    1. However, we have always worked with longstanding members who have trouble affording the membership fee (or the fundraiser ticket)

### 3. Petitioning

- a. While Part B is on track for a robust final tally of signatures on our June primary petitions, we need more signatures in Part A
  - i. Part A is not as good a fit for petitioning as Part B, given the prevalence of hospitals and dearth of naturally high-trafficked areas
  - ii. The Club needs everyone to contribute towards a final petitioning push, especially candidates for judicial delegate and alternate judicial delegate
    1. Ilyssa will be out tomorrow morning around 7:45am at 72nd and 2nd subway entrance

4. Programming for upcoming meetings
  - a. We will have additional ideas from policy & activism committee working groups
  - b. Have President of the NYCTA Andy Byford's contact info
    - i. Would want to do a combined meeting w/ other clubs if we got him
      1. Probably Unitarian church
    - ii. May or June?
5. Public Advocate race
  - a. At the last general membership meeting, on March 11, the Club voted to table its discussion of whether to endorse a candidate in the Public Advocate primary until our April meeting
    - i. We will know by then whether incumbent Jumaane Williams has any serious opposition
      1. If he does not, the Club does not need to vote on an endorsement, as the endorsement of the Democratic candidate in the general election is automatic
    - ii. Regardless of whether we endorse in the primary, the Board may reach out to PA Williams' staff to try to have him speak to the Club
6. Diversity & outreach committee update
  - a. Tricia Shimamura, chair of the diversity & outreach committee, gave an update on recent youth outreach efforts
    - i. The committee is trying to find at least 3 young people to join the Club
    - ii. One idea would be for them to take over our social media for a week, or to take over a meeting (similarly to our guest speakers on gun violence awareness)
    - iii. Now that New York allows pre-registration to vote starting at age 16, the Club should reach out to high schools and campaign to register young people
  - b. The Club and the committee will have a presence at upcoming Street fairs in June and July, which can present recruitment opportunities
7. Roosevelt Island meeting
  - a. Every year, the Club holds at least one meeting on Roosevelt Island
    - i. Last year's well-attended RI meeting was held in in September at the Roosevelt Island Visual Arts Association ("RIVAA") Gallery
      1. Tricia will inquire whether the gallery can host on September 9
      2. The Club will reach out to State Senator Jose Serrano, who attended last year
8. Dates for future meetings
  - a. Vice President Frank Wilkinson raised the issue of scheduling future meetings farther in advance
    - i. The following dates were set for Board meetings:
      1. Wednesday, May 1, 7:30pm

2. Tuesday, May 21 7:00pm
  3. Tuesday, June 18 7:00pm
- b. If the Club is able to schedule our general membership meetings far enough in advance, it is possible that some of the many Democrats vying for the 2020 Presidential nomination could attend
- i. Corresponding Secretary Jerry Ferguson volunteered to reach out to the various campaigns

9. Adjournment