

Four Freedoms Democratic Club
June 2020 Executive Board Meeting
June 9, 2020
7:00-8:00pm
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Jerry Ferguson, President; Frank Wilkinson, Vice President; Alex Bores, Corresponding Secretary; Pierre Ratzki, Recording Secretary; John Bartos, Treasurer; Amy Schwartz, Arlene Kayatt, Flor de Maria Eilets, Jeremy Berman, John Wagner, Marina Phillips, Matthew Lombardi, Ruth Halberg, Members-at-Large; Ben Wetzler, Kim Moscaritolo, Adam Roberts, Lauren Trapanotto, Ex-Officio Members; Charles Riggs, III, Brian Mangan, Members.

Minutes

1. Resolution Regarding the Primary
 - a. The Board discussed a resolution drafted by members Brian Mangan and Charles Riggs encouraging voters to choose the candidate whom most reflects their values in the upcoming June 23rd presidential primary, and suggested presenting the resolution at the next general meeting
 - i. In lieu of voting on the resolution, the Board suggested that delegates could advocate on behalf of their candidates
 - b. Motion to invite one Sanders delegate and one Biden delegate to advocate for voting for their candidates at the next meeting:
 - i. Carries, with one opposed
2. June Meeting Agenda:
 - a. Sen. Krueger and CM Powers swill be speaking
 - b. Board member Marina Phillips has agreed to speak about her experiences with race and racism
3. Response to Board of Elections Removing Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright from the Ballot
 - a. As Assembly Member Seawright will not be appearing on the Democratic ballot line, there is a practical question as to whether the club currently endorses her for election, or whether we need to take other actions to determine our endorsement
 - i. The Board agreed to wait until July to reassess the situation, as we will know more then about AM Seawright's ability to access the ballot on the independent line
4. July Meeting
 - a. The Board discussed whether to have an in-person July meeting with a virtual option, ultimately agreeing to reassess closer to the date and hold an informal Zoom poll at the June meeting

5. Summer BBQ
 - a. While we have usually held the summer barbecue at Reif's Tavern, it is too cramped to practice safe social distancing
 - i. Members offered possible alternative options, including obtaining a permit to grill in a park, while some voiced concern over holding an in-person event at all
6. Consider of Resolution
 - a. John Wagner presented his [Declaration of Incompetence](#), a searing indictment of the President's unfitness for office in a format echoing the Declaration of Independence
 - i. The resolution will be added to the July meeting agenda
7. Consideration of Open Letter
 - a. A group of almost two dozen Democratic clubs have signed onto an [open letter](#) calling for police reform and for candidates to reject police union money
 - i. The letter calls on the signatory clubs to discourage endorsements of candidates who take police money or otherwise do not support the stated goals
 1. If FFDC was a signatory, this provision could interfere with our member-driving endorsement process
 - b. The Board agreed to present the issue to the membership at an upcoming meeting
8. Report on Election 2020 activities
 - a. Kim invited members to a phone bank next week for Rep. Carolyn Maloney
 - b. After the primaries, the club will work with Vote Blue to figure out next steps in the 2020 election fight (including phone banking, text banking, social media), with the likely to be on the presidential race
9. Census
 - a. The club intends to do as much as possible to promote the census and not suffer an undercount
 - i. We will continue to include a prominent reminder to members to complete the census in all email blasts, as well as raise the issue at meetings
10. Denial of Habeas Corpus to Protesters
 - a. An NYC criminal court judge (Judge James Burke) agreed to a request by the police to suspend habeas corpus for protesters arrested or detained for violating the curfew, permitting indefinite suspensions
 - i. The club will raise the issue with judicial candidates, and possibly draft a resolution in opposition to the Judge's flagrant disregard for the rule of law
11. Adjourn