

**CORAL GABLES DEMOCRATIC CLUB**  
**MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING SUMMARY**

**Tuesday, June 9, 2020**

**6:30-8:00 p.m.**

**Board Members Present:** Pat Thaller, Jane Moscovitz, Richard Thurer, Elizabeth Newman, Janet Nostro, Marjorie Wilkoff

**Member Attendees:** Julie Samkoff, Maria Elena Lopez, Monique Selman, Janet Stearns, Beatriz Portela, Marilyn Caputo, Gordon Fales, Sharon Langer, Susan Schultz-Rubin, Karen Dreyer, Sheryl Gold, Ally Easley, Kerry Gruson, Rick Ibarria, Cindy Lerner (speaker/by phone), Maria "Mari" Gonzalez, Penny Thurer, Jill Berman and husband

**Non-Member Attendees:** Gary Gromet, Madeleine Shirley, Victor Balestra and wife, Toni Rodriguez, Brian Olson, Gaston Fernandez and guest, JP Bado (speaker)

**NOTE: Action items and links are italicized below**

**I. CG Dems Business**

- a. **Call to Order & Urgent Actions Needed** Vice President Jane Moscovitz  
The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Vice President Jane Moscovitz. Jane addressed the current state of our country and mentioned the CG Dems statement regarding George Floyd posted on our website. She also advised the participants about a petition circulating on change.org in support of forming an independent police review board to add oversight for the county. The City of Miami already has such a Board. The matter is scheduled to come before the county commission next week.
- b. **Next Month's Meeting**  
The July 14 meeting will feature Novelist James Grippando who will read from and discuss his new book "The Big Lie" which is a murder mystery but revolves around a woman who wants to be a "faithless elector."  
*Please order your copy of The Big Lie from [www.Booksandbooks.com](http://www.Booksandbooks.com)*
- c. **Treasurer's Report & Merchandise for Sale** Treas Richard Thurer
- Current Account Balance \$5,570.
  - *Members were asked to buy items for sale on website: Biden yard signs, Biden bumper stickers and CG Dems mugs and t-shirts. Free delivery provided; place your orders at [https://www.coralgablesdems.org/purchase\\_some\\_swag](https://www.coralgablesdems.org/purchase_some_swag)*
  - Mari Gonzalez announced that she has free yard signs for Melba Pearson who is running for state attorney. *Mari can be reached to request a free yard sign at [mariaquard88-bwc@yahoo.com](mailto:mariaquard88-bwc@yahoo.com)*

#### d. SOE VBM Mailing & CG Dems Activities

Pat Thaller

1. Board Member Pat Thaller thanked all the volunteers for their efforts in our post card writing. To date, 6,854 postcards have been delivered to 77 volunteers. 4,125 postcards have been mailed. This covers 9 precincts (531, 636, 640, 801, 802, 803, 904, 282 and 240) and we hope to do one more (Pct 250 w/BWCMD). More postcards are being delivered to volunteers on June 20<sup>th</sup>. *If interested in helping, contact Pat Thaller at [Patthaller66@gmail.com](mailto:Patthaller66@gmail.com)*
  - From the first 6 precincts we covered, 956 vote-by-mail applications were requested
  - Rick Ibarra advised that for the entire county party to date, 61,000 NPA voters, 89,000 registered Republican voters and 121,000 Democrat voters have requested VBM Ballots, which is a 44% increase.
  - *Jane mentioned that the CG Dems will be making phone banking calls on June 17 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and June 27 from 12 noon-3:00 p.m. and the information to sign up is on our website: [https://www.coralgablesdems.org/phone\\_banking](https://www.coralgablesdems.org/phone_banking)*
2. Board Member Janet Nostro advised the group of *opportunities to do phone banking calls on behalf of Joe Biden. Sign up at [www.joebiden.com](http://www.joebiden.com)*. In addition, there will be a car caravan on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> from Doral Center Park.
3. Jane provided an update on Amendment 4: On May 24, 2020, a federal court ruled that many Floridians with felony convictions are eligible to register to vote and vote even if they still owe money from their felony conviction(s). It is a constitutional violation to deny the right to vote when the person cannot afford to pay fines and/or restitution. As a result of this court decision, most ex-offenders in Florida will be eligible to vote even if they still owe money from their conviction.

## II. Presentations

### a. JB Bado- Candidate for House District 114

- Good news! In the past 45 days 24,000 Democrats requested VBM ballots compared to 6,000 Republicans.
- He discussed how now is the time for real change. Has raised \$51,900 to-date. Believes in the importance of coming together as a community, county and state to make a change.

- Since the pandemic, his strategy has shifted to more digital. Sadly, most calls were not related to unemployment or healthcare but to hunger. He has attended numerous food distribution events.
- To date, he is the only Democrat on the ticket for the August 18 primary. Needs a lot of votes in August to set the momentum.
- *Needs help with making fund raising calls. His wife helps with the training prior to making the calls. To volunteer or to obtain a yard sign email [jp@votebado.com](mailto:jp@votebado.com). For more information visit [www.votebado.com](http://www.votebado.com).*

**b. Candidate for County Commissioner, District 7 Cindy Lerner**

- **Has 3 other opponents in this election.**
- Campaign focuses on issues such as traffic, infrastructure, sea level rise and healthcare.
- Race is much more challenging since two new opponents were added. Campaign manager Tammi Rodriguez. Also looking for virtual meet and greet hosts/sponsors. Needs help to get elected in the primary on August 18. *To donate, obtain a yard sign and/or help deliver literature see <https://mbiz.io.FTQNSZ>*

**III. Adjourn 7:45 p.m.**

Summary recorded and written by Secretary Marjorie Wilkoff as approved by Vice President Jane Moskowitz with additional links to activities/services/merchandise by President Bentonne Snay.