

January 14, 2020 CG Dems Club Meeting Minutes
Meeting Venue: Books & Books, 265 Aragon Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Board Members Present: Bentonne Snay, Jane Moscovitz, Richard Thurer, Marjorie Wilkoff, Allan Marks, Elizabeth Newman, John Wander, Pat Thaller, Thomas “Mac” Hooten (Albert Clark, unable to attend)

Members Present: Roman Nunez, Larry Moody, Sallie Hughes, Diane Hooten, Martha Schoolman, Penny Thurer, Julie Samkoff, Janet Nostro, Lisa Egizi, Larry Moody, Roman Lyskowski, Victoria Cohen, Bernie Cohen, John Tillson

Guests Present: Zac Cosner, Marilyn Caputo, Arlene Frank, Seth Thaller, Wayne Domash, Elliott Lucas, Jeanette Slesnick, Christina Albright, Lorraine Saffran, Karen Dreyer, Linda Kingerley, Linda Pacus

- I. **Club Business-** Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Bentonne Snay, President.
 - a. **The Minutes** from the last CG Dems Meeting, November 12, 2019, were approved unanimously.
 - b. **Treasurer’s Report:** Richard reported that we have \$2,234.00 in our account. Offered the bank statement for anyone interested.

II. CG Dems Priorities and Actions Needed

- 2020 Goals.
 - Currently have 58 members- goal is to reach 120 as there are 7,000 registered Dem voters in Coral Gables.
 - Need a significant increase in the engagement of our members and friends in voter registration and vote by mail. Our No. 1 priority is the Blue Wave Coalition approach to strategic VBM and the January 25 canvass
 - Hope to sign up 50 people to canvass precinct 531
 - Bentonne explained the advantage of vote by mail
- January 25, 2020 Canvass, Precinct 531
 - Area of cold and warm Dems, precinct has greatest number of registered Dems who aren’t registered to vote-by-mail
 - working class neighborhood
 - will canvass in teams of 2
 - Home base will be a Space Called Tribe
 - Will be provided a script and door hangers for those houses where no one is home
 - Bentonne trying to get Exec. Director of Overtown Youth Center to invite parents to assist w/canvass. Other organizations mentioned included Girl Power and the Democratic Black Caucus.

III. Miami-Dade Dems VR/VBM

- Miami-Dade Dems & Coral Gables VR/VBM Committee: Chair Allan Marks spoke about important of voter registration and vote by mail and the committee he is chairing with help from Pat Thaller and John Wander. Spoke about upcoming 2-hour training sessions and the importance of commitment and recruitment. Julie Samkoff offered to join this committee

IV. CG Dems Introduction of Committee Chairs & Request for Committee Members

- Membership Committee: Chair Elizabeth Newman spoke about membership and retention. Invite friends to next meeting. Discussion re how we can find the 7,000 Dems in Coral Gables and increase membership
- Communications Committee: Chair Margy Wilkoff spoke about the communications committee. Marilyn Caputo and Sallie Hughes offered to work on this committee.
- Suggestions for speakers should be provided to Jane Moskowitz.
- Fund Raising Committee: Ideas for fundraising should be directed to Chair Richard Thurer; professional fundraiser Julie Samkoff joined this committee.
- Jeanette Slesnick offered to promote CG Dems in her Journal

V. Presentation by Chair Zac Cosner, Miami-Dade Democratic Environmental Caucus

Bentonne Snay introduced Guest Speaker Zac Cosner, Miami-Dade Democratic Environmental Caucus Chair who spoke about threats to our environment, climate change, the need to set precedent, the importance of avoiding development in the County's periphery and growing up, not out. Also stressed the importance of contacting our commissioners and spoke about related Amendments.

Bentonne stated she would send Zac's materials to all present after the meeting as it is important that all call the County Commission before the January 23rd decision to expand the boundaries that would threaten our eco-system.

VI. Other Business

VII. Adjourn @ 8pm sharp for Cynthia Anderson's Book Presentation The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m. by Bentonne Snay.

VIII. Minutes recorded and written by Secretary Marjorie Wilkoff as approved by President Bentonne Snay