



Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Happy Hour and Networking 6:00-6:30pm

Meeting 6:30 to 7:25 & Activity Sign-Ups to 8:00PM

Members present: Karen Moore, Barbara Zwick, Delia Garcia, Julie Samkoff, Esther de Varon, Thomas Hooton, Janet Stearns, Arun Ravindran, Bentonne Snay, Richard Thurer, Rachel Pacheco, Gladys Saenz, Madeline Shirley

Non-members Present: Lynn Wheeler, Carol Nagengast, Paul Mandell, Bonnie Daniels, Matt Jimenez, Madaline Joyce, Rachel Petrovich, Atiosis Blanco, John Fernandez, Noel Cleland, Ian Campa, Frank Janeczch, Paul Hunt

Speakers Present: AJ D'Amico, Nick Merlino, Janelle Perez, Adam Benna, Raquel Pacheco

MONTHLY MEETING SUMMARY

- I. Welcome** President Bentonne Snay
 - Meeting was called to order at 6:31pm
 - Bentonne expressed appreciation for Coral Gables Congregational Church
 - Agenda Review
- II. CG Dems Business**
 - a. Finance Committee & Treasurer's Report** Bentonne Snay for Treasurer Richard Thurer
 - Current Account Balance, Recent Expenditures & Outstanding Payments
 - \$8,081 with \$200 in outstanding checks; we've made \$1750 in contributions to various Dem groups and affiliated orgs in past 4-5 weeks
 - Please visit <https://www.coralgablesdems.org> to buy Coral Gables merch.
 - b. Membership Committee** Julie Samkoff for Chair Elizabeth Newman
 - Update on Membership
 - 144 paid members with 44 members who have not renewed; we have a list of 104 former members who we would like to bring back
 - Renewals past Due for 2022-2023
 - Benefits and Importance of Membership
 - We have a members' only holiday party; merch discounts
- III. Presentation on Campaign Strategies** Intro by VP Jane Moscovitz
 - **HD 114 Adam Benna**
 - Stressed the importance of continuing canvassing
 - This is the number one flappable seat in the state legislature
- IV. CG Dems Business (continued)**
 - a. Volunteer Committee** Co-chairs Jane Moscovitz, Martha Schoolman & Janet Stearns
 - Blue Wave Partners Joining CG Dems for Future Canvasses
 - Sept 24 w/AJ D'Amico and October 9 or 16 & 23 in HD 114 and SD 38 @ 4:00-7:00pm
 - There will be beverages and snacks; first-time canvassers will be paired with experienced canvassers
 - New My Neighborhood Votes Project – Delia Garcia and Bentonne Snay
 - A flexible approach to neighborhood canvassing; the canvasser gets the turf and passes out literature when they have time
 - Delia addressed the group about her experience and how she came up with the idea
 - New Postcards for My Fellow Apartment/Condo Dems
 - We have the voter registration for certain condo buildings; post carding is important because we can't canvas in these places
 - Update on UM Dems – there have been a number of voter registration events on campus

with a focus on trying to get New York students to change their registration to Florida

- V. Upcoming Meetings** (potential speakers) Bentonne Snay
- October 11th – Q&A w/County Commission Candidate Jorge Fors
 - Bentonne stressed that our interest in hosting Jorge Fors is because Kevin Cabrerra is aligned with the proud boys
 - November 15th – Celebration of Dem Election Victories
- VI. Candidate Presentations on Campaign Strategies** Intros by Jane Moscovitz
- **SD 38 Janelle Perez**
 - Mom, cancer survivor, business owner, will be the first LGBTQ parent
 - Huge fundraising lead over opponent
 - Have knocked over 20,000 doors
 - Has a two week lead over opponent on TV ads
 - Will launch a static ad campaign on social media
 - Average contribution is under \$100
 - Janelleperez.com
 - Priorities – health care accessibility; affordable housing; environment; school safety
 - **SD 36 Raquel Pacheco**
 - Challenging Iliana Garcia
 - 8 year old son, owner of translation company
 - Average donation is \$50
 - Raquel.vote to donate or join the campaign
 - Priorities – abortion protection
 - **US 27 Nick Merlino for Annette Taddeo**
 - Stressed the importance of keeping the house to advance large scale priorities and potentially seat the President in 2024
 - Noted that HD 27 is one of the competitive house races in the country
 - **HD 113 AJ D'Amico**
 - Graduated law school in 2020
 - Won his primary by 35 points
 - Opponent is Vikki Lopez – convicted of public corruption
- VII. Candidate and CG Dems Campaign Activity Tables for Sign-Ups** All
- VIII. Adjourn** Bentonne Snay

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm so participants could meet with candidates and CG Dems to sign up for GOTV activities

Meeting Summary prepared by Secretary Arun Ravindran