



Tuesday, October 11, 2022
Happy Hour and Networking 6:00-6:30pm
Meeting 6:30 to 8:00PM

MONTHLY MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees:

Members: Elaine Buza, Mac Hooton, Diane Hooton, Martha Schoolman, Marjorie Wilkoff, Beatriz Portela, Ulrich Merten, Gaston Fernandez, Linda Fernandez, Julie Samkoff, Arun Ravindran, Gladys Saenz, Richard Thurer, Madeleine Shirley, Janet Nostro

Non-members: Angie Ortega Fridman, Yiris Castro, Betsy Mullins, Lisa Sedelnik, Gabe Garay, Hilary Carr, Monique Selman, Addison Selman

Meeting commenced at 6:30

I. Welcome

President Bentonne Snay

- Appreciation for Coral Gables Congregational Church
- Agenda Review

II. Speaker Presentation - Introduction by SH 114 Candidate Adam Benna/Moderated by Martha Schoolman

Coral Gables Commissioner and County Commission District 6 Candidate Jorge Fors 6:35-7:00pm

- Issues: displaced elderly population, community policing, green space – wants all district residents to live 2-5 minutes from a green space
- Campaign is going great
- Opponent is a lobbyist and has been caught on video “violently protesting with the proud boys”
- Being on the county commission should not be a means to make money
- Has been recommended by the Miami Herald
- Questions: What is the territory and what does the county commissioner do?
 - Southeast Hialeah to Snapper Creek Expressway
 - The County has a 10Bn budget with responsibility for the airport, fire, and police
- Chose to pursue a county seat because of his experience with how county regulations impact city policies
- As a general proposition, is against UDB expansion; would entertain in good faith small variances which would allow access to neighborhoods
- Septic tank remediation is important; Revitalizing Biscayne Bay
- Would stress oversight to make sure that expert professional advice from scientists is genuine and not motivated by economic interests
- Funding for septic only covers the government costs, the problem is making homeowners pay
- Home rule – there is a massive attack on home rule at the state level; Kevin Cabrera is the lobbyist for Airbnb, which is a large threat to Coral Gables



III. CG Dems Business

a. Finance Committee & Treasurer's Report

Bentonne Snay for Treasurer Richard

Thurer

- Current Account Balance - \$3,892.77
- Two checks were stolen out of the mailbox outside the post office
 - Recent Expenditures & Outstanding Payments
 - We are up to date on all payments, except for an estimated \$2,800 for final voter slate cards being mailed on October 19th
 - We've supported the Miami-Dade Young Dems and the Cuban American Dems and we have been working with a lot of other clubs
 - After these expenditures we expect to have just under \$1,000 which will cover expenses for the Annual Members Only Holiday Party
 - Donations Welcome
- We have a table in the back with free Val Demmings and Charlie Crist signs and T-Shirts for sale

b. Membership Committee

Julie Samkoff for Chair Elizabeth Newman

- Update on Membership
 - 105 Members who are paid
- Renewals past Due for 2022-2023
- 40 past due renewals
 - Benefits and Importance of Membership
- We will have our second annual members only holiday party on December 13th

IV. CG Dems Business (continued)

a. Volunteer Committee

Co-chairs Jane Moscovitz, Martha Schoolman & Julie Samkoff

- Candidate Canvasses Saturday and Sunday October 15/16 & 22/23 and November 5/6
- Please canvass if you are able
 - My Neighborhood Votes Project
 - High-rise Voter Postcard Project
 - UM Dems Slates at Metrorail Stations
- Organized by U of Miami Dems, at Douglass and University Stations, twice in the next two weeks between 5 and 7
 - CG Dems & Blue Wave Voter Slates Update
- Blue Wave will be mailing slates to 62 precincts identified as priority precincts
- BWC slates include judges and constitutional amendments in addition to other candidates
- The County Democratic Party has 3,000 slates



- 10/29 – AJ D’Amico will have a virtual phone bank, contact Bentonne for more information
7:08-7:18pm

V. Upcoming Meetings (potential speakers) Bentonne Snay

- November 15th – Celebration of Dem Election Victories
- December 13th – Members Only Annual Meeting and Holiday Party

JOIN OR RENEW NOW!

7:18-7:20pm

VI. CG Dems Get Out the Vote Activity Sign-Ups, Phone Banking and Prizes All
7:20-8:00pm

VII. Adjourn Bentonne Snay

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Meeting summary prepared by Secretary Arun Ravindran