

American River Democrats

Board Meeting Minutes – Feb. 2, 2021

Attendees: Ed Tavares, Kris Tavares, Dori Keast, Debbie Martinez, Frank Martinez, Robyn Lewis, Betty Di Regolo, Michael Dack, Jim Harty

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m. by President Ed Tavares
- II. Review January AR Dems Club Social
 - A. Fun had by all 8 attendees, good conversation, a game that tanked
- III. Topics/Speakers for future meetings
 - A. After discussion, the consensus was that perhaps we would invite a speaker(s) to the February General Meeting.
- IV. AR Dems Board of Directors elections in February
 - A. Because elections will be held via ZOOM meeting, voice votes will be taken; names will be digitally recorded and/or members will record their names on the Chat Page.
 - B. Only verified Club members are allowed to vote in elections. The meeting will be recorded for verification.
 - C. Candidates for positions include:
President: Debbie Martinez
Vice President: Dori Keast
Treasurer: Frank Martinez
Recording Secretary: Betty Di Regolo
Board Members At Large: Robyn Lewis, Michael Dack, Jim Harty, Susan Tabadisto, Michael Burckhard, Barbara Leary
(Michael Burckhard has offered to represent AR Dems at the DPSC meetings.)
Members who are interested in running for a Board position are encouraged to contact Ed Tavares prior to the General Meeting Feb. 17th.
- V. Club Events and Fundraising
 - A. Betty Di Regolo suggested that the Club only meet every other month during 2021 since it is a non-election year and people are pooped from the 2020 elections and civil strife. Discussion amongst Board members yielded good ideas for the Club to pursue (a future strategic plan, voter suppression battles, gun control policies, civil rights, electoral college debates, possible recall of Gavin Newsom,

the fight to retain the House and Senate in Washington, just to name a few).

After much discussion about keeping members involved in both Democracy and the Club, the suggestion was dropped.

- VI. Frank Martinez proposed that the Board reinstate Bob Shebesta's Club membership.
 - A. In January, the Board voted to suspend Mr. Shebesta's membership based on speech used during a General Meeting that was deemed offensive and hurtful.
 - B. Frank presented the Board with reasons he felt the suspension should be lifted.
 - C. The topic was discussed, each Board member commented. The consensus was to abide by the original ruling.
- VII. Good of the Order
 - A. Ed talked about the responsibilities of the president for AR Dems.
 - 1. Creating an agenda for and facilitating the monthly Board meetings
 - 2. Creating and agenda for and facilitating the monthly General meetings.
 - 3. Attending Democratic Party of Sacramento County (DPSC) monthly meeting.
 - 4. Attending the President's Call (phone conversation) monthly.
 - B. Robyn Lewis asked the group what some of the major issues would be for our Club, the DPSC, and the DNC during the midterm elections in 2022.
 - 1. AR Dems – focus on local elections, supporting the DPSC and DNC on issues, elections
 - 2. DPSC – focus on electing Democrats to city and state posts.
 - 3. DNC – focus on electing Democrats to the federal level.
 - 4. Issues may include unseating Kevin McCarthy (R-CA 23rd District), unseating Marjorie Taylor Greene (R – GA 14th District)
 - 5. Unseating Republicans who voted to dispute the election results.
 - C. It was reported that Tracie Stafford won the race for the DPSC chair.
 - D. Frank reported that the annual Fair Political Practices Statement was filed in person by him in Sacramento.
 - E. Dori will email Ed and Debbie to set up ZOOM meeting to discuss the president and vice president responsibilities.
 - F. Betty discussed her attendance at the annual Women's March. This year's event was held virtually and aired on Public Access TV. There was also a car caravan around the Capital.

- VIII. The next General meeting was scheduled for Feb.17. Citing a coincidence with Ash Wednesday, Ed Tavares moved to postpone the meeting until Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. Betty Di Regolo seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.
- IX. Betty moved to adjourn the meeting, Jim Harty seconded the motion. Motion carried; meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dori Keast

Acting Recording Secretary

2/10/2021