**LAKE HIGHLANDS/WHITE ROCK DEMOCRATS**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**JANUARY 24, 2022**

PRESENT: Dale McEowen, President; Brian Hasenbauer, Vice-President; Tim Sexton, Treasurer; Judy Garrett, Membership Secretary; Debbie Overby, Secretary; Rhonda Green, Phone Committee Chair; and Joan Covici, Sunshine Committee Chair.

Dale convened the meeting at 5:40 pm.

ENDORSEMENT PROCESS

Dale McEowen deemed the January candidate endorsement meeting successful, with kudos to Brian Hasenbauer for his masterful Zoom monitoring. Dale then initiated a discussion regarding the endorsement process. According to the by-laws, members must have paid their dues by December 25 to be eligible to vote in the endorsement meeting. Judy Garrett reported that several people had paid dues after the cutoff date; in fact, several paid dues during the meeting! Judy and Caren Cool audited each vote and threw out ineligible voters and that doing so did not affect the endorsement results. After the meeting, a member provided Judy with new negative information regarding one of the endorsed candidates. Other board members mentioned that they had also become aware of negative information. The endorsed candidates have already been notified and are posted on the LHWR website. The board discussed several options:

* Endorse the candidate with the second highest number of votes.
* Remove the position from the endorsement postcard.
* Let the endorsement stand, but publish dissent by the board.
* Honor the integrity of the membership vote and let the endorsement stand.

The board voted to use the last option.

ENDORSEMENT POSTCARDS

Brian Hasenbauer designed an endorsement postcard and distributed samples. He will make a few minimal corrections. He got a cost estimate of $2,900 for 6,000 postcards, including printing and mailing. Brian reviewed the cost of the last postcards (5,243) mailed:

 $ 329 printing

 360 postage

 1,740 mailing

 $ 2,429 Total

The estimate is in line with the previous expenditure. Brian recorded the board members’ precincts. He is familiar with the VAN (Voter Access Network) program, but will contact Zach Bullard or Jeff Dalton who have VAN experience to discuss the selection of voters, with 2-deep or 3-deep (Democrats in our precincts who have voted in the last 2 or 3 elections). Brian will be responsible for the process and estimates the postcards will be mailed by February 7, 2022, in advance of early voting February 14, 2022.

ANNUAL SCHEDULE

Dale McEowen distributed a schedule of important dates for the year. He will distribute this at the February meeting.

February 5 - Big East Forum, 9 am – 5 pm, White Rock United Methodist Church, The Mix

 We host this along with Garland Democrats, Garland Democratic Women, East Dallas County Democrats, Rowlett Democrats, and the FEDD’s. Tim will contact Shelley Sheridan and/or Shannon Long of the FEDD’s to find out

* If they need our help in notifying candidates about the event.
* Whether they are selling ads for their program
* The set up time for Friday night February 4.

 We are responsible for decorations. We will have a table and Judy will bring merchandise. Brian will be a moderator.

February 19 - LHWR Democrats monthly meeting. Tim has reserved White Rock United Methodist Church. We hope to meet in person pending the latest covid numbers. Dale will check with Kendall Scudder regarding a speaker on reproductive rights

February 22 - (the day after Presidents’ Day) LHWR Democrats Happy Hour

 Judy had asked whether the board felt comfortable with having a happy hour in February. Dale pointed out that it would provide a good opportunity for candidates to come and hobnob. Judy proposed Bar None or Olivella’s. The board selected Olivella’s because they can provide heaters and curtains, in uncertain weather.

March 26 - LHWR Democrats monthly meeting, moved back a week in order to not conflict with district event. Brian suggested approaching outgoing DISD superintendent Michael Hinojosa to speak on education.

April 16 - LHWR Democrats monthly meeting. Brian proposes a speaker from the City of Dallas Sustainability Committee.

May 21 - LHWR Democrats Picnic at Flag Pole Hill.

June 18 - LHWR Democrats monthly meeting.

July 23 - LHWR Democrats monthly meeting, moved back a week in order to not conflict with district event.

August 20 - LHWR Democrats monthly meeting.

September 17- LHWR Democrats monthly meeting.

October 16 - LHWR Democrats Chili Supper Fundraiser at Winfrey Point.

November 19- LHWR Democrats monthly meeting (hopefully celebrate Democratic victories!)

December 17- LHWR Democrats monthly meeting (hopefully still celebrating!)

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

At the January meeting, Tim Sexton reported that a copy of the proposed changes were posted on the website. He distributed copies to the board and reviewed them. The membership will vote at the February meeting. A vote of 2/3 of the members voting approves the bylaws. Brian will update the description of older bylaws on the website. At the meeting, Dale will make a plea for parties interested in filling the new board positions of Communications Vice-President, Activities Vice-President, and chairman for the Love of the Lake project to contact him.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Tim Sexton reported the following:

 Income 648.81

 Expenses - 453.48

 Balance $6,480.08

Tim will resend the proposed budget for 2022. Brian asked that he include estimates for a club banner, an E-Z up (tent), and the endorsement postcards. Tim stated that we were due for an audit of the financial records and would assemble a group of 3 club members for this purpose. (Susie Wills, former treasurer, used to coordinate the audits.)

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Rhonda Green distributed copies of the minutes of the December, 2021 Executive Committee meeting. The board approved the minutes. Debbie Overby distributed copies of the draft of the January meeting minutes. Board members will review and advise Debbie of any changes before she sends to Brian for posting on the website and brings copies to the February meeting.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY’S REPORT

Judy Garrett reported that the club now has 241 members. She said that she is about to do a review and purge of the roster. Brian reminded everyone that unpaid memberships lapse March 31 of the current year.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE REPORT

Joan reported that Remake Tarnisha Edwards, Presiding Judge Dallas County Criminal Court No. 7 lost her grandmother. The family sent a thank you for the sympathy card.

ADJOURNMENT

Rhonda presented Dale with a bamboo plant as a symbol of our support throughout his treatment. The plant has 7 stalks for health. The meeting was adjourned at 7 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Debbie Overby, Secretary