

WINFIELD TOWNSHIP DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION
MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING
March 20, 2024
Called to Order at 7:08 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Lynn Casey-Maher, Cyd Paulsen, Pat Bradley, Erik Spande, Cindy Krejci, Jennifer Scarpace, Suzanne Gagner, Haroon Atcha, Rick Gieser, Sheila Rutledge, Kathy Saaman, Judi Lukas, Mark Spieglan, Greg Schwarze, Leah Goodman, Urzula Urzua, Shawn Hacker, Jennifer Zordani, Barry Dredze, Jerome Hong, Jennifer Barron, Max Wolf, Jake ? and Susan Kasprowicz. On Zoom: Terrell Barnes and John Anderson.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The report was presented by **Secretary Kasprowicz** in written format to the assembly and on website. A motion to adopt was made by Erik Spande and seconded by Leah Goodman. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Krejci reported expense were mostly for our canvassing event - plastic bags for literature, and the breakfast WTDO hosted.

Feb Opening Balance	\$8,506.61
Donations	\$187.42
Expenses	\$335.81
Feb Closing Balance	\$8,358.22

A motion to adopt was made by Sheila Rutledge and seconded by Suzanne Gagner. The motion carried.

SPEAKERS: **Jennifer Barron**, Candidate for Circuit Court, thanked us for the help. She won all the Winfield precincts in her Judicial District.

Rick Gieser, Candidate for Forest Preserve District 6, thanked WTDO for its support in his winning primary race. He reported that he will be having a Fundraiser on June 9 at Zanies Comedy Club.

Greg Schwarze, Candidate for County Board District 6. He gave his County Board update before speaking to his Campaign. He is Chair of the Human Relations Committee and reported that the Board approved \$2.1 million for Food pantries, including \$1.6 million for food itself. A total of \$4 million has been donated the last year and a half. He thanked WTDO for its support in his winning primary race and advised of two upcoming fundraisers: Great Western Trail Cleanup on April 27 and a Firefighters' Fundraiser on June 6, location to be determined.

Judi Lukas, Candidate for Coroner. She won her primary race, and thanked all of us for our help in the election. She will have a fundraiser, to be announced later. She asked that we bring back signs.

DPDC Fundraiser Ursula Usura reported that DPDC Chair Ken Meija-Beal's father had passed away, she said he thanked WTDO for help in electing candidates and attending fundraisers. She promoted the upcoming Chili Cookoff at DPDC Headquarters in Carol Stream.

Haroon Atcha discussed his and **Jennifer Zordani's** Campaign for DPDC Chair and Vice-Chair. He clarified what he had previously meant by improving communication and organization. He emphasized the need for fundraising and planning for the future. Noting that the county demographics are rapidly changing, he stressed that DPDC must be prepared to meet the challenges.

Cyd Paulsen introduced Jennifer Scarpace, her neighbor who will take over a precinct to walk. Lynn introduced Pat Bradley, who is looking to get involved in WTDO.

Max and Jake from the WSILDSA Transit Campaign spoke, promoting public transit. They urged us to vote at April 9 meeting of Winfield Township for expansion of the existing system, not building from the ground up. The proposal will

affect three townships. Judi Lukas, speaking as Winfield Township Trustee, said they must have a solid plan before November. There ensued a discussion about all the possible pitfalls.

John Anderson, Candidate for Appellate Court, thanked WTDO for its support in his winning primary. He warned us about Republican Kenton Skarin who will be running against him in the General Election.

Sheila Rutledge, County Board District 6, reported that the Board honored the private couple who gave for the solar array on the Administration Building. The array was enlarged by 50%. The Board is now trying to get money for an array on the new Animal Services Facility. She reported on the Trash Hauling referendum: Wayne and York adopted, but the rest rejected. She will be doing a fundraiser through Prosek's Greenhouse, details will be posted on Facebook. She is sponsoring a Prairie Path Cleanup in her area on April 27.

Leah Goodman reported that her father, long-time member Maury Goodman, would no longer be attending meetings, since he has taken on a role in the non-partisan League of Women Voters.

Chair Casey-Maher talked about the upcoming DPDC meeting which will fall on the same day as WTDO's, April 17. The Leadership will need to decide when to change our April meeting to or cancel. She noted that the WTDO election will be held in May. She announced upcoming events, some dates being fluid depending on Speaker commitments. Planned are Empowering Women's Brunch; Winfield-wide Garage Sale, Dive-in Movie Night, Comedy Night and the Holiday Party.

Greg Schwarze thanked **Barry Dredze** for picking up signs.

New member **Pat Bradley** asked about homeless children help in Winfield and about a senior citizen center.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Chair Casey-Maher; it was seconded by Shawn Hacker. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.