Minutes from November 28, 2012

Grand Democrats General Meeting

November 28, 2012

President Carol Wiklund called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.  The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ken Monefeldt.  Carol thanked Ken for leading the pledge all year.

Carol reviewed the many accomplishments of the club over the past year.  She thanked the Board members and all members of the Grand Democrats for their efforts and for giving her the opportunity to serve as President.

Guests and new members were welcomed by Carol and stood to be acknowledged by all.

There were no changes to the agenda as distributed.

**Motion:**Ken Monefeldt moved to accept the minutes of the October 24, 3012 meeting as published.  Larry Levinson seconded the motion.  Motion carried.

Ilene Flynn, Treasurer, presented the current months’ financial statement which was distributed to attendees.  Ilene then presented a financial overview of 2012 to date. This included all income and expenses. After the expenses for the Holiday Party are covered, it is expected that there will be sufficient funds left to cover room rental expenses for 2013.

Ilene concluded by stating that she had learned a lot this year.   Ilene thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve and thanked Carol for her assistance and support.

The Treasurer’s report was noted as filed.

Committee Reports:

**Election Committee:** Chair Margie Thompson encouraged everyone to celebrate the Democratic victories in the November election..  She urged members to continue to work to increase the Democratic party’s goals in the future.

**Fundraising:** Carol discussed the Election night party held at her home.  The party raised $1070 and was a great success.  Everyone cheered and applauded as Obama won individual states and were especially joyous when it was announced that Ohio went for the President because that state put the President over the needed electoral votes.

**Membership:** John Landry reported that a web blast had been sent out regarding membership for 2012. Dues are $20 for 2013 and John is accepting dues at the address listed on the blast.

**Social**:  Sharon Forbes reported that the next Blue Breakfast will be the first Thursday in December at CoCo’s  at 8:15 A.M.  This location will be for one time only.  There will be no Blue Monday in December because of the Holiday Party on December 10th.

New Business:

The Holiday Party will be held December 10th at the Cimarron Center.  There will be a raffle for a number of prizes and tickets may be purchased tonight.  The Holiday party is for all current members and donors and their spouses.  Sun City Grand residents may become members and non-residents may become donors.   Dues for the remainder of 2012 are $5  and $20 for $2013.  The party can accommodate 100 persons.  Members and donors can sign up tonight for the party if they have not already done so.

Board Elections:

Vice-President Larry Levinson presented the following slate of officers and at large Board members:

President:  Susan Wally Ledbetter

Vice-President:  Bonnie Green

Treasurer:  Doisey Landry

Secretary:  Betty Lou Field

At Large:  Marty Cohen, Jack Hitchcock and Past President Carol Wiklund.

Because the By-Laws suggest the Past-President remain on the Board for another year, the initial nominee, Jan Beazie, stepped down from her nomination and Carol Wiklund replaced her as an at-large board member.

There were no nominations from the floor.

**Motion:** John Landry moved that the slate of officers be accepted by acclamation.  The motion was seconded by Sharon Forbes.  Motion carried.

Following a short break, Carol Wiklund called the group together.   She thanked Doisey Landry for  the stimulating speakers she provided for all the meetings this past year.  Doisey then introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. Neal A. Lester, Professor of English at Arizona State University.  Dr. Lester presented a very sensitive and thought provoking discussion of “Are We Losing Our Humanity?”

**Motion:**Marty Cohen moved to adjourn the meeting.  The motion was seconded by Jan Beazie. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kiernat, Secretary

Minutes from October 24, 2012

Grand Democrats  General Meeting

October 24, 2012

President Wiklund called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.  The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ken Monefeldt.

The President read inspirational words of Malcolm Forbes and George McGovern.

Guests and new members were welcomed by the President.  The President asked for any additions to the agenda.  Larry Goldberg offered to send his voting recommendation list to anyone who requested it.

**Motion:** Graham Hayes moved that the minutes of the September 19 General Meeting be approved.  Seconded by Larry Levinson.  Motion carried.

The Treasurer’s report was given by Ilene Flynn.   She  noted that the Financial Statement for September 19 – October 9 was provided as a handout.  Ilene reported that the 4th required campaign report will be filed this week. The Treasurer reported that financial support had been given to Deborah Boehlke, candidate for Justice of the Peace and to the Arizona Democratic Party and the Maricopa County Democratic Party.  Ilene listed all the candidates we have contributed to. The Treasurer’s reported was filed as reported.

The President announced that the next Adopt-A-Street will be held on Saturday, November 10th at 8 A.M.  Volunteers should meet at Mountain View & Reems Road and bring gloves.

Committee Reports:

Social:  Sharon Forbes announced the next Blue Breakfast will be Thursday, November 1st at Marley’s on Bell Road.  This is a new location. Members will meet at 8:15 A.M. and orders will be taken at 8:30.  Blue Monday will be held at Coco’s on the second Monday of the month at 5:00 P.M.

Fundraising:  The President reported for Catherine Andrews. The Election Night party will be held November 6th at the Wiklund home – 17101 Gable End Lane at 6:00 P.M.  Parking will be limited so car pooling is recommended.  There will be TV viewing in three locations.  Donation is $20 per person.

Membership:  John Landry reported that e-mail messages will be sent to all members reminding them that 2013 dues are renewable now.   Membership dues are $20 per person.

Election Committee:  Margie Thompson showed pictures from the Democratic National Convention which she attended and she urged members to be actively assisting the election process in any way.

The President noted that there have been many requests for Obama signs but none seems to be available.

New Business:  The President reported that OctoberFest was very successful. Candidates Paul Penzone and Heather MacCrae visited with fair goers. The President thanked all who volunteered.

The Garage Sale will be held Saturday, November 3rd. Democratic merchandise will be available.  Members are urged to dress in blue to show support.

The Holiday Party will be held Monday, December 10th in the Cimarron Club Room.  There will be a cash bar.  Members need to sign up at the merchandise table and note if they can help with the event.

Board Nominations:  Vice President Larry Levinson reported that since there were no volunteers for the nominating committee, the Board took on the task.  Three candidates for Board Member-At-Large were identified:  Jan Beazie, Jack Hitchcock and Marty Cohen.  After many phone calls, no member agreed to serve for any officer positions.   Therefore, nominations were opened to the floor.  The following nominees were finalized:

President:             Susan Ledbetter

Vice-President:    Bonnie Green

Secretary:             Betty Lou Field

Treasurer:             Doisey Landry

The vote will be taken at the November General Meeting.

After a short break, Doisey Landry introduced the speaker for the evening, Mary Jo Pitzl.  Mary Jo shared her insights from covering the Arizona State Legislature for six years.

**Motion:**Nancy Williams moved the meeting be adjourned.  Seconded by Margie Thompson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kiernat, Secretary

Minutes From September 19, 2012

Grand Dems General Meeting

September 19, 2012

President Wiklund called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.m.  The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ken Monefeldt.

President Wiklund read some inspirational words of President Lyndon Johnson and Nancy Neuman, Editor, 1837 – AFT 1860.

Guests and new members were asked to stand and be recognized.

**Motion:** Larry Levinson moved and Pete Booz seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the June 27, 2012 Board Meeting.  Motion carried.

**Motion:**Joe Weintraub moved that the By Laws Amendment Change be approved.  Second by Pete Booz.  Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report:  Ilene Flynn presented the Financials for the June 28 – September 19, 2012 period as printed on the handout sheet.  Ilene reported that six Campaign Financial Reports are required to be filed to the Arizona Secretary of State’s office  during an election year.  The first three reports were submitted on time.  The fourth is due September 27th and will be submitted the end of this week.

Because the Board decided to contribute to “local candidates”, a statement of organization is required to be filed with Maricopa County.  This has been done and a copy of the Campaign Financial Report will be submitted to Maricopa County and the state.

At its September meeting, the Board decided on the distribution of funds for this year’s candidates.  These contributions conform to the parameters set for contributions for federal, statewide and non-statewide legislative and local elections.

In order to avoid filing with the FEC, Federal candidate contributions may not exceed $1000 totally.  Therefore, we are contributing the following:

$100      President Obama

$700     Dr. Richard Carmona for US. Senate

$100      Gene Scharer for US Congress  CD8

$100      Krysten Sinema for US.Congress  CD9

Contributions for statewide offices are limited to $872 per candidate.  Since there are no races for Governor, Attorney General, and Secretary of State and the three Democrats running for the Corporation Commission are clean election candidates, no contributions have been made for this category.

Non-statewide legislative contributions are limited to $424 per candidate.  Since there are no Democratic candidates in our Legislative District 22, we agreed to help other districts.  Michael Tarrats (LD 21 Senate), Sheri Van Horsen (LD 21 House)  and Carol Lokare  (LD 21 House) are clean election candidates.  They cannot accept contributions.  The treasurer is checking on the status of J. Thrasher (LD 20 House).  Board members also voted electronically after the Board meeting to support Terri Woodmansee, a write-in candidate for LD 13 State Senate with a $424 contribution.

Non-statewide local contributions are limited to $430 per candidate.  This contribution has been made to Heather Macre for Central Water Conservation District.  Terry Goddard who is also running for this office has chosen not to accept any campaign funds. The $430 contribution was given to Paul Penzone, candidate for Sheriff of Maricopa County and Manny Cruz, candidate for Mayor of Glendale.

There is no limit for contributions to national, state and local party committees from a political organization committee.  The Board has approved a $1000 contribution to the Maricopa County Democratic Party.

The Board agreed to budget $6500 for political donations.  To date we have contributed $3290. The Board will discuss how to disperse the remaining funds at its next meeting.

The Financial Report was accepted as filed.

President Wiklund announced that the Social Committee requests cookie makers for the October and November meetings.

A presentation was made by Margie Thompson who served as a delegate at the Democratic National Convention in North Carolina.  Margie thanked all those who had helped make her trip possible.  She stated that it was an amazing experience.  She felt the DNC was a highly organized machine and the Arizona Delegation was very well organized also.

Margie also announced that the Grand Dems Election Committee will be meeting at her house on Friday  September 21st at 11:00 a.m.  She also stated that homes are needed for hosting Debate Party Nights on October 3rd, October 16th and October 22nd.

The President reminded members that there are new T- shirts and buttons at the merchandise table along with additional items for purchase.  Larry Goldberg announced the availability of  the League of Women Voter’s Guide.

Sharon Levinson introduced the speaker for the evening, Fred Du Val, who spoke on Proposition 204, which permanently increases the state sales tax by one percent per dollar for the purpose of funding educational programs.  Mr. Du Val gave an impassioned and impressive plea for support of this proposition, stating that this may be the most important proposal in our generation.

After a brief recess, the Business meeting resumed with the following announcements:

Refreshments for the evening were made by Carol Wiklund and Ilene Flynn for a Presidential Cookie Bake-Off.  Carol made Michelle Obama’s Mama Kaye’s White and Dark Chocolate Chip Cookies and Ilene made Ann Romney’s M&M Cookies.  Those that tasted both of the cookies voted and Michelle Obama’s cookies won 14 – 9!

President Wiklund reported that 6 of 7 Board members will NOT be returning next year. A Nominating Committee is needed immediately.  Doisey Landry has agreed to serve on the committee ,but three additional members are needed. The slate of candidates will be presented by the Nominating  Committee at the October 24th general meeting.  The vote will occur at the November meeting.  Please contact Carol Wiklund if you are willing to serve on the Nominating Committee.

The President announced there will be an informational meeting on October 10th at 4:30 P.M. at the Cimarron Center to orient interested persons on the duties and responsibilities of the Board members. Please contact Carol by October 1st if you plan to attend the meeting. If no one responds by October 1, the orientation will be cancelled.

Carol encouraged members to attend the West Valley Democratic Luncheon on September 29th. Winning primary candidates will be speaking at the luncheon which costs $18.  Deadline is September 21st.  For more information refer to the flyer at the back of the room.

Help is needed for OctoberFest which will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m on Saturday, October 13th.  Workers are needed in all areas from 7 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  Sign-up sheets are located at the back of the room.

The SCGrand Garage sale will be held on Saturday, November 3rd.  There will be no donated merchandise for sale.  There will be election materials and political merchandise.  Workers can sign up for two hour shifts on the sheets at the back of the room.   The garage sale opens at 6:00 a.m. and runs until noon.

The Blue Notes, prepared by Carol Wiklund, contains information on the Election Night Fundraiser and the Holiday Party to be held December 10th as well as other important information.

Carol mentioned that she has some “lost and found” items.

**Motion:**Ken Monefeldt moved that the meeting be adjourned.  Second by Sue Weintraub.  Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kiernat                                                                                                                                                               Secretary

Minutes From June 27, 2012

Grand Democrats General Meeting

June 27, 2012

Board Members Present:  Carol Wiklund, Ilene Flynn, Jean Kiernat, Harriet Kahn, John Landry, Joe Weintraub.  Absent:  Larry Levinson.

Committee Members Present:  Sharon Forbes, Doisey Landry, Margie Thompson.

President Wiklund called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.  The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ken Monefeldt.

President Wiklund read some inspirational words of John F. Kennedy from 1960 that defined and described liberals.

The president welcomed everyone to the meeting and recognized the many guests present.

The president asked for, but received no additions to the agenda.

**Motion:**Barbara Nelson moved for approval of the minutes of the May 23, 2012 General Meeting.  Barbara Grossbard seconded the motion which carried.

Ilene Flynn, Treasurer, reported that the financial reports required by the state for July 2nd had been filed.  Ilene directed members to the backside of the agenda for the financial report from May 24, 2012 – June 27, 2012.

The president noted that the Treasurer’s Report had been filed.

Committee Reports:  Sharon Forbes, Social Committee, reminded members that the next Blue Breakfast would be held on July 5th at Archies at 8:15 A.M. and the next Blue Monday would be held at Coco’s on July 9th at 5:00 P.M.

Margie Thompson, chair of the Election Committee, asked members of her committee to stand and be recognized.  Margie reported that many volunteers are needed because of the upcoming elections for many offices. Callers are needed for the phone banks which will target Democrats who didn’t vote in the last election, veterans, Latinos and college students.  She requested the names of any persons who would be willing to host a house party.  The committee will also be working on information to be submitted to newspapers.  The chairperson also stated that any ideas and suggestions are welcome.

There were no other committee reports.

The president stated that the By-Laws Amendment vote will be taken at the September General Meeting. She also reminded members that we are now in Legislative District 22 (previously LD 4). We are in Congressional District 8.  Sun City Grand now has three precincts:  La Solana, Grand, and Granite Falls.

The president noted that, because we have no Blue Notes published this summer, the dates of upcoming events can be found at the bottom of the agenda for this meeting. Members were urged to check the website [www.granddems.org](http://www.granddems.org/) for any changes in the schedule.

After a short break Doisey Landry introduced the speaker, Paul Bender, ASU Professor of Law who has argued more than 20 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Professor Bender spoke on Recent and Upcoming Supreme Court Decisions including the Affordable Healthcare Act and S.B. 1070.

**Motion:**Bonnie Green moved that the meeting be adjourned. Second by Sue Weintraub. Motion carried.

Minutes from May 23, 2012

May 23, 2012 General Meeting

Grand Democrat

The meeting was called to order by President Wiklund at 6:30 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ken Monefeldt.

President Wiklund read a poem, “Remembering”, written by a third grader and commemorating Memorial Day.

The President welcomed guests and new members.

The President called for a motion to approve the April 25, 2012 General Meeting minutes

**Motion**:  Sharon Forbes moved and Harriet Kahn seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the April 25th general meeting.  Motion carried.

The Treasurer’s Report was distributed on the back of the agenda for all to review.The President called for a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report

**Motion:**Rena Litt moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report.  Second by Larry Levinson.  Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Social Committee:  Sharon Forbes, Chair, reported attendance of 27 at both Blue Monday and Blue Breakfast.  The next Blue Breakfast will be June 7th at Archies.  The next Blue Monday will be June 11th at Coco’s.  Movie night will be held June 12th.  The movie will be “The Koch Brothers Exposed.”

Sharon requested volunteers to provide cookies for the next meeting and she noted the need for someone to volunteer their house for the drop-in scheduled for the August meeting.

There were no other committee reports.

President Wiklund noted that she and some others were not getting the announcements for the general meetings.  Joe Williams, Webmaster, contacted Cox and found that if you do not have the address for the Grand Democrats in your address book, Cox will automatically put it into your SPAM folder.  So look in your SPAM folder to see if the general meeting notices are falling into the SPAM folders and click on the e-mail and mark it NOT SPAM or NOT JUNK.  If you continue to have problems, please contact Joe Williams at joe\_williams45@yahoo.com

If you have changed your e-mail address and haven’t notified Joe Williams or the President, you can change your information yourself:  scroll to the bottom of the screen of the e-mail notice you received from the Grand Dems and check on “Change Profile”.

The president stated that no one has volunteered to chair the Election Committee.  A chair is needed for this very important election year.

Volunteers are also needed for a variety of different activities. The Opportunity Catalogue was developed and provided to membership to assist them in selecting a volunteer activity to meet their interests. There are many critical jobs needing to be filled.  A chairperson is needed for OktoberFest which will be held October 13th.  The SCG Garage Sale will be held November 3rd. Besides a chairperson, men are needed for loading and unloading donated items.  The Fundraising Committee will hold an event on Sunday, November 4th.  Because of this event, the fundraising committee will not be available to conduct the garage sale activities.

President Wiklund announced there would  be no Blue Notes published in June, July and August.  Members can  stay informed by visiting the website GrandDems.org.

The president raised the issue of approving the amended By-Laws that had been presented at the last general meeting but then sent back to the Board for changes.  Larry Goldberg stated that since the By-Laws were amended, they would need to be presented to the membership 30 days before another vote could be taken.  The amended By-Laws will be published on the website and brought to the next general meeting for a vote.

Tom Kociemba spoke about the Wisconsin Recall Election taking place on June 5, 2012.  Polls show a very close race for the two gubernatorial candidates.  Help is needed to make phone calls to Wisconsin voters.  Tom has the information on the calling program and seeks volunteers.

After a short break, Doisey Landry introduced the guest speaker, Ann Wallack.  Ms. Wallack is Chair of the Maricopa County Democrats.  Doisey also announced that Paul Penzone, candidate for sheriff who was originally scheduled to speak, was unable to be with us since he needed to attend a fundraiser.

Ms. Wallack discussed the Maricopa County Democrats involvement in the Tempe and Phoenix Mayoral races.  In both cities,and also in Tucson, Democratic Mayors were elected.  The speaker discussed redistricting and the new Congressional District 9 as well as  our own District 22.

The president reminded members that Prof. Paul Bender would be the speaker for the June 25th meeting

The President called for a Motion to Adjourn.

**Motion:**A motion to adjourn was made by Ken Monefeldt and seconded by John Landry. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kiernat

Secretary

Minutes From April 25, 2012

Grand Democrats General Meeting

April 25, 2012

President Wiklund called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.  The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lyle Thomsen.  The President read some inspirational words of Plato.  A welcome was extended to new members and guests who stood to be acknowledged.

**Motion**:  Joe Weintraub moved and Graham Hayes seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the general meeting of March 28, 2012.  Motion carried.

Ilene Flynn, Treasurer, reported that the financial statement could be found on the backside of the  handout.  There were no comments and the  financial report was filed.

**Committee Reports**:

**Social**:  Sharon Forbes,Chair of the Social Committee thanked Diane Williams, Sharon Levinson and Diane Ball  for baking the cookies for the meeting.  Sharon requested volunteer bakers for the next meetings.  Sharon reported that Blue Monday is held the second Monday of the month at 5:00 P.M. at Coco’s.  Blue Breakfast is held at 8:15 A.M. at Archies on the first Thursday of the month.  Both events are well attended.  Movie night for May is filled but Sharon will take names for the wait list.

**Fundraising**:  Judith Bridges reported that the April 29th fundraiser has been cancelled due to lack of participation.  Forty-four individuals had signed up, but a minimum of 50 was required to support the silent auction and other expenses.   Past fundraisers had 60 participants.  The committee is planning an event for November with a dinner, entertainment and a silent auction.  Plans are contingent upon board approval.

**Program:**Doisey Landry reported that a triple treat is planned for the May 23rd general meeting.  Ann Wallack, Chair of the Maricopa County Democratic Party, and Bill Roe, Chair of the Arizona Democratic Party, and Paul Penzone who is running against Joe Arpaio for Sheriff will be speaking.  Professor Paul Bender is scheduled for the June meeting.  He will give us his insights on the actions of the Supreme Court in recent months.

Approval of Amended By-Laws:

Ilene Flynn read the proposed amendments to the By-Laws that were posted on the web site and distributed to members at the past meeting.

**Motion**:   Ilene moved for acceptance and Larry Levinson seconded the motion.

Joe Weintraub suggested an amendment to the wording with dues being pro-rated July 1st through September 30th and again October 1st through December 31st.  Larry Goldbert suggested pro-rating dues for the period July 1st through December 31st.  John Nuerenberg stated that most SC Grand clubs reduce their dues for the last part of the year.

**Motion**:  John Nuerenberg moved to table the motion to amend the By-Laws and return it to the board for further discussion.  Motion seconded by Jeanna Michaels. Motion carried.

New Business:  The president reported that we cannot sell items that promote a candidate, but members can purchase those items on the candidate’s website.  She stated that we only have one mug and one T-shirt left and will need to re-order.  Input was requested regarding shirt colors and design.

**Motion**: Larry Goldberg moved to close discussion and let the T-shirt buyers make the decisions regarding new items.  Motion was seconded by Joe Weintraub.   Motion failed.

President Wiklund said that an order will be placed for shirts and mugs in the next few weeks.

Margie Thompson, a new delegate for L.D. 22, expressed her gratitude for those who supported her election.  She encouraged members to contact her with any questions or concerns.

Joan Spittler, President of the Northwest Valley Democrats, invited members to attend a presentation by Dr. Richard Carmona, candidate for U.S. Senate, on Saturday May 12th in the Sun City West Foundation building.  Coffee and doughnuts will be available at 8:30 A.M. and the presentation will begin at 9:00 A.M.  Dr. Carmona will discuss why he is running for office and his vision for Arizona and the United States.

Larry Levinson reported that the old L.D. 4 is now L.D. 22 and is smaller geographically than the previous district. There are now 3 precincts in Sun City Grand with a total of 25 precinct committee persons. The precincts are Grand, Granite Falls and La Solana.  Grand has 1058 registered Democrats and 9 P.C.s.  Granite Falls has 907 registered Democrats and 8 PCs.  La Solana has 856 registered Democrats and 8 PCs.  New P.C.s are being elected for a two year term from January 2013 through December 2014.  Volunteers are needed to fill the PC positions. PC candidates must submit a petition with signatures from at least 10 registered Democrats in their precinct.

John Nuerenberg announced that the next Adopt-a-Streed clean-up will be held at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, May 5th.  Volunteers will meet at the medical building on Mountain View and Reems. The clean-up will last one hour.

Doisey Landry introduced speaker Michelle Melchiorre who provided a review of the Affordable Healthcare Act with real life examples of how the act has already helped individuals.  The act will be fully operational by 2014.  Individuals wanting additional information on the act can visit HealthCare.gov.

**Motion:** Sue Weintraub moved to adjourn the meeting and Steve Katz seconded the motion which carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kiernat, Secretary

Minutes from March 28, 2012

Grand Dems General Meeting

March 28, 2012

Board Members Present:  Carol Wiklund, Jean Kiernat, Ilene Flynn, Harriet Kahn, John Landry.

Absent:  Larry Levinson, Joe Weintraub.

The meeting was called to order by President Wiklund at 6:30 P.M.  The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jack Dickstein.  Guests and new members were welcomed and a contingent from Corte Bella was recognized.

There were no additions to the Agenda following the President’s request.

**Motion**:  Graham Hayes moved and William Higgins seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 22nd General Meeting.  Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report:  Ilene Flynn reported that there were no reports and that the financial statement was available on the back of the agenda.  Ilene also reminded members that there were handmade Democratic items for sale in the back of the room.

Committee Reports:

Social Chairperson Sharon Forbes thanked the cookie bakers and requested volunteers to supply cookies for the next meeting.  She reported that the next Blue Breakfast would be Thursday, April 5th at Archies at 8:30.  The next Blue Monday will be at Coco’s on April 9th.  Sharon requested that attendees at the general meeting let her know if they approve the new coffee service being provided by CAM.

Fundraising:  The president reported for the fundraising committee, noting that fliers for the upcoming Broadway and More were available on the back table.  This event will be April 29th and will include music, silent auction and refreshments.  A minimum donation of $25 is requested.

President Wiklund reported that a 30 day advance notice is required for voting on By-Laws changes.  The notice has been posted on the website and written notice was given to all members at this meeting.  The vote will occur at the next general meeting.

Carol reported that the Wounded Warriors golf event was held March 10th to raise funds for several organizations serving veterans.  The Grand Dems sponsored a “hole” at the golf event and will do the same next year. The parent organization for these activities is Sun City Grand’s Armed Forces Support Group.

A presentation was given by Margie J. Thompson who is running for delegate to the Democratic National Convention in North Carolina on September 3rd.  She requested the votes of precinct committee persons and proxies attending the District 2 Arizona Democratic Caucus on Saturday, March 31st.

The next presentation was given by Gene Scharer who is the only Democrat in the race against Trent Franks in Congressional District 2 (soon to be CD 8).  Gene is originally from Michigan and currently resides in Verrado.  He taught for 22 years in Glendale High School.

Presentations were also given by two candidaters for the Arizona Corporation Commission:  Marcia Busching and Sandra Kennedy.  The Commission is composed of 5 members and 3 seats are currently open.  Both women need petition signatures and donations for their clean election campaigns.  This may be done on-line.   Sandra Kennedy, who is currently on the Commission, urged members to contact her when they hear about rate increases and let her know their feelings. She can be contacted at [Skennedy@AZCC.gov](mailto:Skennedy@AZCC.gov) or at 602-542-3625. Marcia Busching, a Nebraska native, has been in Arizona for 30 years and holds a law degree and an MBA.

Larry Goldberg reminded members to vote the whole ballot when voting for Commission members.

Following a short break, Doisey Landry introduced the guest speaker, Zenaido Quintana, who spoke on the Separation of Church and State.  He began with a history of the issue starting in Colonial times and ended with an assessment of the current assault on civil liberties across the nation.

**Motion:** Doisey Landry moved for adjournment.  Motion was seconded and motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kiernat, Secretary

Minutes from February 22, 2012

Grand Democrats General Meeting

February 22, 2010

Board members in attendance:  Carol Wiklund, Larry Levinson, Jean Kiernat, Ilene Flynn, John Landry, Joe Weintraub.  Absent:  Harriet Kahn.

President Carol Wiklund called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.     The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ken Monefeldt and President Wiklund read some inspirational words of Justice Louis Brandeis.

The president welcomed new members and guests who stood to be recognized. The president asked if there were any items to be added to the agenda and there were none.

Larry Levinson moved that the minutes of the January 25th meeting be approved.  Second by Selma Stoorman. Motion carried.

Treasurer Ilene Flynn reported that the board had approved $6500 to be budgeted for political contributions for this election year.  She reported that this figure could go up or down depending on the need as we move through the year. Ilene reviewed the financials as listed on the back of the agenda.    Ilene also reported that a new style of name tag is now available and may be ordered. Those who already ordered a name tag should be sure to pick it up since it was already paid for.   The Treasurer’s report was filed.

Committee Reports:  John Landry, Membership Chairman, reported that there were 171 paid members as of today.  There are 2000 democrats living in Sun City Grand.  We are all urged to recruit these residents.  John asked that “each one bring” to the next meeting and reminded all that 2012 dues are $20 per person and are due now.

Sharon Forbes, Social Chairperson, reported that attendance has been very good at social events with 42 attending the last Blue Monday.  She thanked those who baked cookies for the general meeting and requested more bakers for upcoming meetings.  Sharon announced the next Blue Breakfast will be held at Archies at 8:30 on March 1st and the next Blue Monday will be March 12th at Coco’s at 5:00 p.m.    Movie night is filled for this month.

Doisey Landry reported for the Program Committee. Upcoming topics include Separation of Church  and State for March followed by The Benefits of Health Care for April.  Paul Bender, from ASU, will speak in the future on Lawsuits pending before the Supreme Court.  Many candidates will also be speaking and members are urged to check the Blue Notes for upcoming speakers.

The president discussed the handout “Opportunity Catalogue” and encouraged members to see how they can help in this very busy election year. Some committees have only one member and need help.  She also cited the need for someone to inventory the Grand Democrat’s items that are stored in her garage.  Members need to think about the possibility of running for board positions.  Carol will hold an orientation meeting in the fall to acquaint members with board responsibilities.

The president reported that Office Max offers discounts to those who sign up on the internet for a flier discount sheet.  This can be printed out by going to Grandinfo.com and clicking on Office Max on the Index at the top of the page.

President Wiklund reminded the group that the Grand Dems cannot sell merchandise with candidate’s names on them. Candidate T-shirts and materials can be found on the website Café Press or from the candidate’s campaign.

Preident Wiklund reminded members of the fundraiser to be held on Sunday, April 29th from 3-5:30.  She also acknowledged Toni and Bill Wagner who donated the bookmarks to the club which may be given to potential members. Larry Goldberg asked about political sign availability and the president responded that the club will get signs when they become available.

After a short break, Doisey Landry introduced speaker Azra Hussain who gave a most informative presentation on Islam 101:  Myths and Stereotypes. Following the question and answer period, Joe Weintraub moved the meeting be adjourned. 2nd by Larry Levinson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kiernat

Secretary

Minutes from January 25, 2012

**Grand Democrats General Meeting**

**January 25, 1012**

Board Members Present:  Carol Wiklund, Larry Levinson, Ilene Flynn, Jean Kiernat, Harriet Kahn, John Landry, Joe Weintraub.  Committee Members Present:  Catherine Andrews, Sharon Forbes, Doisey Landry, Barbara Nelson,.

President Wiklund called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.  Ken Monefeldt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The president welcomed all attendees and introduced visitors and new members. Board members and committee chairs for the new year were introduced.  The president announced that at the start of each meeting we will start the meetings with Inspirational Words.  Members were invited to provide some special inspirational words.  The president asked if there were any additions to the agenda.  When there are additions, they will be considered at the end of the business meeting.

MOTION:  Larry Levinson moved and Ken Monefeldt seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16th General Meeting.  Motion adopted.

There was no December meeting since a Holiday Party was held.  The president thanked Joe and Sue Weintraub for hosting that event and Sharon Forbes and the Social Committee for planning and conducting the activities.

TREASURER’S REPORT:  Treasurer Ilene Flynn reported that we are a political organization committee under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code.  We are required by the Arizona Secretary of State to have a Statement of Organization filed with their office and to amend that Statement within 5 days of a new President or Treasurer.  This has been done.

Because this is an election year, six reports will need to be submitted.  Larry Goldberg has submitted the first required report, which covers income and expenses from 11/23/10 through 12/31/11. The treasurer reported that, according to Arizona statutes, every contribution must indicate the contributor’s name, address, occupation and employer on the contribution envelope.

The treasurer reviewed the financial statement for January 2012 and reported that the savings and checking account had been moved from Chase Bank to MidFirst Bank.

The treasurer’s report was filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Adopt-A-Street:  In the absence of Sally and John Nuerenberg, the president reported that the next street cleaning would be February 18th at 8:00 a.m.

Newsletter:  President Wiklund announced a meeting for January 30th at 3:00 p.m.  at Birt’s Bistro for interested writers, photographers or anyone who would like to work on the Blue Notes newsletter.

Fundraising:  Judith Bridges reported for Chairperson Catherine Andrews.  The fundraiser, “Broadway and More” will be held April 29th from 3:00 – 5:00 pm at the Maestas’ home, 17208 W. Sky Mist Way.   The program will include music, comedy, a silent auction and food.  Ticket donations are a minimum $25 per person.  Reservations are required.

Social:  Sharon Forbes thanked the cookie bakers and requested volunteers for future meetings. She reported that 40 members attended the last Blue Monday and the last Blue Breakfast.  The next breakfast will be held at Archies at 8:15 on February 2nd and the next Blue Monday will be held February 13th at Coco’s  at 5:00 p.m.  Fifteen members are signed up for the February 28th movie “Shock Doctrine”.

Election:  Barbara Nelson stated this is not a standing committee, but it will be very busy gearing up for this election year.  Many volunteers are needed.  Barbara distributed a handout listing the many needs of the committee and informing members of the results of the State Committee meeting in Tucson on January 21, 2012.

Strategic Planning:  The president reported that 40 members attended the strategic planning session on January 12th.  Results of that session were published in the Blue Notes and were posted on the wall for review during the general meeting.  Members were encouraged to review them and determine “how you fit in; what you want to do or learn, and what you are good at and could offer”.

The Board will discuss the next steps to implement the information from the strategic planning session at its February meeting.

The president also reminded all members that their suggestions and ideas are always welcome.  Seasonal members were urged to help out even if they are not here all year and to stay in touch when they are away.

There being no other business, the president announced that we would break for 3 ½ minutes and then listen to our speaker.

Program Chair, Doisey Landry introduced Carolyn Warner, Democratic National Committeewoman.  Ms. Warner presented her thoughts on the 2012 elections in Arizona in a very thoughtful, humorous and challenging presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kiernat

Secretary