**Antrim County Democratic Party**

**October 25, 2018 Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes-Amended**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Veronica Welter at 6:10 p.m. Jill Spencer volunteered to record the minutes for this meeting. Twenty-one people were in attendance.

**Chairperson’s report-Veronica Welter:**

1. Persons new to the organization were introduced:
* Roberta Myland-new area resident who recently moved to Antrim County from Colorado.
* Charlie Pryde-recently moved to Elk Rapids after retiring from Ford Motor Co.
1. Opportunities for working at the Democratic Party office in Elk Rapids were explained.
2. Training for precinct delegates scheduled for November 1, 2018 to assist with the effort to ‘Get Out the Vote’. Myrna Holland is the person to contact about this. Sara Rigby will do the training which will be conducted at the Forest Home Township Hall at 3:00 p.m. and at the ACDP office in Elk Rapids at 5:30 or 6:00 p.m.
3. Joel Saultz will conduct the phone bank at his place on Tuesday and Thursday, October 30 and November 1.
4. The County Convention will be held on Thursday November 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., following the regularly scheduled monthly meeting at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the County Convention is to determine the leadership team for the ACDP.
5. Members were asked to do canvassing for Melissa Fruge on Monday, October 29. Elaine Miller, Lou Ann McKimmy, Donna Klinefelter and Veronica Welter volunteered.

The vice-chair and secretary were not in attendance at the meeting and no reports were provided.

Treasurer’s Report-Craig Passon:

1. Craig explained the purposes of each of the two funds and pointed out the highlights of his written report. Currently, the Administrative fund balance is $1,055.89; the Campaign Fund balance is $2,182.05.
2. Major contributions were made to the campaigns of 7 candidates
3. There are some funds yet to be deposited.
4. The ACDP will make some kind of payment to John Tschudy for the use of his office during the campaign season.
5. Marcia Graham explained the need for some additional funds in order to pay for color ads in the local paper which will include the names of Democratic candidates that will appear on the November 6, 2018 ballot. People in attendance at this meeting donated enough so that this could be accomplished.
6. 2000 postcards were mailed on behalf of Melissa Fruge. Most of the postage was donated.
7. Klinefelters and Passons donated the money to pay for the ads that appeared in the Elk Rapids News.
8. It was requested that the names of Democratic Candidates be placed on the website. Veronica will get this information to Wes Cowell.
9. Lou Ann McKimmy and Donna Klinefelter called 250 local Democrats encouraging their support for Bagenstos and Cavanaugh for supreme court.

Jim McKimmy made a motion to approve and accept the treasurer’s report. Seconded by Lou Ann McKimmy.

It was suggested that we find out how to access use of the electric sign at the site of the Elk Rapids Chamber of Commerce. Marcia Graham volunteered to do this so that we might use it during the 2020 Election cycle.

Bob Leddy, an attorney in Saginaw, spoke to the group on behalf of the Debbie Stabenow for Senate campaign.

Elaine Miller gave the education report. She summarized a USA Today article which reported that parents are not encouraging their children to consider teaching as a profession. Further, she reported that the water in the Detroit Public Schools is not safe to drink. Elaine suggested that we contact Tristan Cole to voice our lack of support for H.B. 5707 which will raise the percentage of a teacher’s evaluation based on the results of standardized assessments from the current 25% to a level of 40% beginning in 2019.

Gary Eagle shared the voter’s guide that he found at the local library. These are available at both the Bellaire and Elk Rapids libraries and are sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

The Monday evening protest on US-31 in Elk Rapids had 12-15 people on October 22, 2018. Persons walking on November 5, 2018 should have the word VOTE on their signs.

After the election, the ACDP will discuss changing the meeting days/time.

At 7:25 the meeting was adjourned-motion by Lou Ann McKimmy, second by Jim McKimmy.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Spencer