



SCP Democrats for Action Minutes

WEDNESDAY, January 12th, 2022

4:00 PM

ZOOM Tele-Conference

Mission Statement: Building a Better Democratic Presence in Spalding County

“Whatever you are, be a good one.” — Abraham Lincoln

Call to Order -

- Chair Bob Beyer called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

- Karen Beyer noted an amendment the June GotSneakers netted \$62.75. Motion made and seconded to approve the distributed minutes and the motion was carried.

Treasurers Report - Mike Greenawalt

- There are 216 names on the Membership Roster. 23 have paid the \$10 suggested annual dues for 2022. Please consider contributing your dues for 2022.
- Additional donations are also welcome.
- Since April 2021 we have had \$1700 in donations made to SCP DfA.
- The last time a Treasurer’s Report was prepared was for the November meeting. This report will cover all the time since then.
 - As of last report, November 2, 2021 the bank balance was \$1443.43
 - We have received \$685.00,
 - \$555.00 by card, \$130.00 by cash
 - We have disbursed \$2.52.
 - \$2.52 in fees.
 - Final balance as of today, is: \$2125.91

Comments by Bob Beyer

- The Board of Commissions approved the Cherokee Rose Shooting Range’s rezoning request as submitted with three events approved/year. They are currently clearing timber for the parking lot across from the range. The first national event will be at the end of March and commence for three days.
- Dr. Val Almonord is running against Drew Ferguson for the US Representative of District 3.

- We have two Democratic races we; Stacie Abrams for Governor and Raphael Warnock for Senator who need our support by volunteering to work on their campaigns or by donation. If you are interested in working contacted Elbert Solomon or Austin Grant.
- Money donated to Sun City DFA will go to Democrats' campaigns.

Old Business

Reports of Leadership Team Committees

- Summary of action items by committee chairs.
 - Report by Community Organizing Representative Austin Grant
 - The Georgia redistricting went into effect as of December 30, 2021. It was immediately challenged in the court and is pending.
 - The upcoming November election will be Spalding County Commissioner, State House Representative, National Senator and House Representative, and Governor.
 - Districts two and five (includes SCP) have Commissioner races. Clay Davis was appointed to Spalding County and will be running for the first time.
 - Grant is currently working on the 2022 SDC Annual Plan and discussed the first draft and will distributed the plan once it is completed.
 - Report by Enid Barry and Denis - Communication Committee.
 - We currently have 217 members.
 - Report by Karen Beyer - Social Committee.
 - Karen is currently looking for Jane Clair's forwarding address, after the death of her husband Don. Please contact Karen (karen@kbeyer.com).
- Report on Community Outreach by DFA Vice-Chair, Elbert Solomon.
 - **Results and Highlights from September 2020 through December 2021**
 - Four election campaigns were executed: Presidential, Senate runoff, district attorney, and 5th city commissioner. We won the presidential and two senate seats and came within 21 votes of winning the 5th city commissioner's seat.
 - 928 new voters were registered.
 - Four part-time staffers were paid to work weeks before each of the four elections.
 - Raised \$125 thousand dollars to support the voting project, half from grants and half from individual donations and fundraisers.
 - Three organizations pooled their efforts and made the results possible: Spalding County Democratic Committee, Democrats for Actions at Sun City and the Urban Outreach Association.
 - We significantly increased voter turnout at in the presidential and senate elections.
 - **The excitement is building for the 2022 Election**
 - We have two well qualified candidates in the race, Stacy Abram for governor and Raphael Warnock for the senate.
 - We are in the process of leasing an office that will be staffed all year.
 - This year we can't just win we have to win big.
 - We are fighting to save our democracy, think about what democracy is worth to you?
 - We plan to build local leadership capacity in the county.

New Business Election Board Report by Jim O'Brien

- **Public Comments**
 - Doctor Shondra Jones provides a list of items that concerned the residents of Spalding County:

- Griffin Early News incorrectly reported on early voting
- One candidate was apparently approved after the deadline
- Some individuals voted inside the Elections Office
- Candidates were missing on some ballots
- Concern about the impact of bills SB202 and HB769
- Some individuals used personal phone for surveillance
- Reported these issues to the Secretary of State
- Doctor Shondra Jones has agreed to submit a written list of concerns to Kim Slaughter, the Elections Supervisor.
- Representative Karen Mathiak addressed the assembly:
 - Mentioned that one individual had 12 ballots delivered to his house. NOTE – the Representative did not mention whether this incident occurred during 2020 or 2021 election
 - The Secretary of State has been informed of this incident
 - Expressed concern over the purchase of ballot paper obtained by the former Elections Office
 - Requested that video tapes be reviewed to determine if ballot stuffing occurred
- **Report on Facility Storage – Roy McLain**
 - Mentioned that record storage space is extremely limited
 - Need a record storage plan
 - Recommended the destruction of records that have exceeded the specified retention period to create more storage space
- **Discussion on Email Spam attack on the Elections Board – Jim O'Brien**
 - Said over 1200 emails were sent to the County Commissioners and the Elections Board with copies to Rep. Mathiak, Rep. Knight, and Sen. Harbin
 - The “petition” (sic) called for a forensic audit of the 2020 and 2021 elections and demanded an emergency meeting with the county commissioners
 - O'Brien indicated that over 90% of the submissions came from out of state
 - Ben Johnson updated the totals with 2000 emails; 60 emails submitted by Spalding County residents and 1940 from out of state residents
 - Johnson offered the opinion that the submitters used UTUBE to create their forms NOTE: this assertion deserves follow up
 - O'Brien contended that the spam emails were a cyber attack intended to overwhelm the Elections Office, to harass, and to intimidate
- **Election Supervisor Report for January 11, 2022**
 - Apologized for the late posting of Election Board Agendas and Meeting Minutes; will be addressed going forward
 - Mentioned that the Elections Board is being inundated with Open Record Requests in an unprecedented manner

Announcements

- Spalding County Democratic Committee meeting, Thursday, January 20th, 2022 at 8 PM

Next Meeting

- Next Meeting will be the March 9th.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.