



SCP Democrats for Action Meeting Minutes

WEDNESDAY, March 8, 2023 Amenities Center - 4:00 PM

Mission Statement: Building a Better Democratic Presence in Spalding County

Call to Order - Chair Scottie Neil

Pledge of Allegiance

Guest Speaker – Dexter Wimbish, Ed.D., J.D., M.P.A. was introduced to the group by Jim O'Brien. Dr. Wimbish gave an excellent presentation on voter suppression not only here in Georgia, but also examining regional and national trends. We were very fortunate to have Dr. Wimbish spend this time with us.

Brief Business Meeting:

Comments from the Chair - Scottie Neil reviewed the results of the Executive Committee Meeting on 2/21/2023. (Handouts: Updated Annual Plans and Committee Structure)

Minutes – The minutes of the February 8, 2023, meeting were approved as distributed with the emailed meeting notice.

Treasurers Report - Mike Greenawalt reported that although there are more than 230 names on the Membership Roster only 18 have paid the \$10 suggested annual dues for 2023. Please consider contributing your dues for 2023 as well as additional donations. At the 2/8/23 meeting, the bank balance was \$1186.58. Since then, we have received \$30.00 in cash and checks, and have disbursed \$1.25 to cover credit card processing fees. The final bank balance on 3/8/23 is: \$1,215.33.

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

1. Communications – Phyllis Lloyd reported that there were currently 244 people on the mailing list, that Enid Barry has agreed to be the committee co-chair, and requested that folks check their contact information on one of the sign-in sheets and make corrections if necessary.
2. Political Liaison to Spalding County Democratic Committee - Elbert Solomon reported that the SCDC:
 - Registered 3 new voters.
 - Continued to partner with Grace, an organization working on tornado relief.
 - Started soliciting membership renewals and new memberships. Currently, we have 39 renewals and 6 new members this year.
 - Begun soliciting candidates for mayor of Griffin and two city commissioner seats, 2 and 4.
 - Is currently working on a March issue of “*This Is Up to You*”.
 - Is monitoring new election laws being considered by the Georgia legislators.
 - Is developing voter registration plans that include lots of partnerships.
 - Is working on getting speakers for SCDC and DFA.The SCDC March General Membership meeting is Thursday March 16th at 6:00 pm at 119 Solomon Street in the courthouse annex.
3. Political Action – Daryl Williams had nothing to report at this time.
4. Social – New co-chairs Jennifer Woods and Ricky Harley were introduced to the group, and welcomed folks to provide them with any ideas they may have for social activities. They also asked folks to tell each other where they grew up as an ice breaker during the social time.
5. Other - Bob Beyer reported on 3 items of interest:
 - The Minerva project on Teamon Road at Smoak Road will have 295 homes with lot sizes similar to Sun City Peachtree. The Appeals Board approved the development at their March 8th

meeting and it will go before County Commissioners on Thursday, March 23rd for final approval. The homes, some call them "Cluster" homes, are primarily going to be 2-story homes and will use the same sewer system as SCP. If the Board of Commissioners approves the plan, groundbreaking will probably be later this year.

- HB 474 (co-sponsored by Lauren Daniels & Karen Mathiak) regarding school tax exemptions for folks over 65 is making its way through the legislative process. Note that there are mixed opinions on this, but we need to be aware of its progress.
- The proposed project across from the Waterfall at SCP entrance is called Spalding Village. As currently proposed, the project will have 67 single homes, 216 cottage (rental) units, and 175 senior apartments. It also includes plans for 114,000 Sq. Ft. of retail space in various individual buildings. Currently the project is in limbo and Minerva expects to present an updated application to the Planning Commission mid-Summer. Construction may begin late this year, but most likely early next year.

New Business:

1. Scottie announced the May meeting would be a picnic at the lower patio of the amenities center. It will be tentatively held on 5/21/23 from 3-6pm (rain dates TBD). We will grill hamburgers and will have a food sign-up sheet at our April meeting.
2. We are excited to share that the guest speaker at our April meeting will be Ms. Gail Buckner, President of the Democratic Women's Federation of the US.
3. We are looking for additional folks to assist the Web Master. If you are interested, please contact Scottie Neil.

Announcements:

1. Next **Elections Board Meeting** – Tuesday, 3/14/23 at 6 pm (regular time). The Board will be doing a review of their bylaws. Contact Jim O'Brien at job147@hotmail.com if you have any questions.
2. Next **SCDC Meeting** – Thursday, 3/16/23 at 6 pm. Contact Elbert Solomon at elbertsolomon50@gmail.com if you have any questions.
3. Next **DFA Meeting** – Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 4 pm. Contact Scottie Neil at sneil1024@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Adjournment

Social Time:

Jennifer Woods and Ricky Harley coordinated a number of volunteers who provided a wonderful table of delicious food for our social hour, and we learned a lot about each other as we used the suggested ice-breaker of telling about where we grew up. A good time was had by all who attended.