

**Democrats of Amherst
Executive Board Meeting
June 12, 2017
XXXXXX House**

Attendees: Anna Goulet Zimmerman, Megan Murray, Faye O'Neill, Dan Veilleux, Julie Smiley, Addie Hutchison, Penny Eggleston, Peggy Harris, Martin Goulet, Pat Eggleston, Lucy Spencer, Julie Radhakrishnan, Roger Lessard, Matt Hale

7:10: Anna called the meeting to order and welcomed the representatives from the Hillsborough County Democratic Committee. Introductions were exchanged. May minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: No treasurer's report. Rhiannon was absent.

July 4th:

Preparations for the root beer sale are coming along fine. Faye, Joe, Penny & Pat have bottled the first 10 cases. Second 10 cases will be bottled on June 21st. Faye and Steve Morgan need another helper or two. Labels have been printed and several board members took home bottles to be brought to the green on the 4th labeled and chilled. Faye & Joe have the booth pieces and, with help from Penny, Pat, Clay Sammis and Graham Smith, will get the booth set up on the green, starting at 8am on the 4th. We'll also have a card table with small flags to give away, a sign up sheet for anyone interested in being on our email list and some literature. Megan will work on the literature. We might have a form asking people what kind of activities, or which issues they would commit time to.

Lucy updated us on the float plans. There will be a large statue of liberty on one part of the trailer. The rest of the trailer will feature well-known scenes from American history, some shown on large foam board pieces and some portrayed by volunteers. About 8 adult volunteers will be needed, plus some children. All will relate to the overall theme of "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness." There will be lots of colorful items and signs filling in the remaining space, including a very large American flag. Anna and Martin are storing some items and Megan offered carport storage space. Lucy's friend Katie Leishman is one of the creative forces for the float, and Peggy will check with her artist daughter re her interest and availability.

Future Amherst Democrats Topics / Speakers:

We decided to put our environmental/climate change event off till fall.

We may hold a yard sale in the fall. Start to save items for that.

Addie suggested an event with a constitutional lawyer as a speaker, who would explain the processes going on now in Washington and possible future processes re President Trump, the FBI, etc.

Julie suggested an event with representatives from several local progressive groups discussing what each of their groups does.

Labor Day: Faye has checked with the Amherst Country Club and they are planning to host our BBQ again. Faye will share with the board the web site address for the caterer. Possible speakers would be: Steve Marchand, Annie Kuster, other candidates for 2018 offices, someone from NHDP, some early 2020 presidential candidates &/or some current Dem Party “stars.” Anna will contact someone at NHDP for suggestions and assistance. Julie will reach out to her contact for Elizabeth Warren.

Other Topics: We all agree that we need to focus our efforts. Roger has a mantra for the Hills. Co. Committee - “Does It Help Elect Democrats (DIHED).” At a future meeting we might need to come up with our own mantra. We need to get more Democrats involved, along with undeclared voters who lean Democratic. Matt suggested using the voter checklist and making phone calls, especially if there are people we know. Personal connections and “being asked” mean a lot. We also need to find ways to raise more money for candidates.

The Hillsborough County towns have 63 seats in the state legislature. Only 9 are currently held by Democrats.

We discussed whether to “pass the hat” at our meetings, as the Hills. Co. Committee does, but decided no for now. We will continue to do so at public events, possibly including July 4th at our booth.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm. Next meeting Monday July 10, 7pm.

Minutes submitted by
Faye O’Neill, Secretary