

**Democrats of Amherst
Executive Board Meeting
August 14, 2017**

Penny Eggleston's House

Attendees: Anna Goulet Zimmerman, Penny Eggleston, Faye O'Neill, Dan Veilleux, Clay Sammis, Pat Eggleston (and Megan Murray via phone)

7:15: Anna called the meeting to order and welcomed Clay Sammis. Once Megan called in we had a quorum and voted to add Clay to the Board and to approve the July minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

No treasurer's report this month. Rhiannon has informed the Board she will be moving to Hawaii for a few months and unable to perform her duties. Dan offered to take over the treasurer duties during her absence. Pat Eggleston offered to sit in on meetings and vote with a proxy from Rhiannon. Anna will draw up the proxy.

Labor Day BBQ:

The NHDP has secured a commitment from Jason Kander to be our key speaker. Steve Marchand, Shannon Chandley and Jeanne Dietsch will speak as well. Annie Kuster is not yet sure of her schedule.

Faye will continue to work with The Amherst Country Club on the menu and the number of attendees. Dan will work with Martin on wording for advertising. Someone (Anna?) will create a list of places where we should advertise to be sure we cover them all.

Tickets for adults are \$40 per person or 2 for \$75. Tickets for children are \$15 for those ages 6-12, with no charge for those under 6. We should all be contacting friends and neighbors and selling tickets. People may pay via our Web Site, give a check to any member of the Board, or pay at the door. Anna will create a Google Docs sheet for keeping track of ticket sales.

Informal Gathering at Anna & Martin's House:

We chose September 23rd as the date for this gathering. Likely time is 4-7pm. Attendees will be asked to bring a dish to share and grilled meat will be provided (hot dogs? hamburgers? chicken?). The pool will be open. Event will be held outdoors so will be cancelled in case of bad weather. A brief

caucus will be held that day as soon as there are enough registered Democrats available to approve changes to the By-Laws.

Postcards will be mailed to all Amherst registered Democrats inviting them to the gathering, asking for donations to help get Democrats elected and asking for participation in a survey. An online survey will be created. Anna will work with Vote Builder to create mailing labels. Megan will create and order the postcards. Labeling will be done at our next meeting.

Yard Sale:

We will hold a yard sale in October, probably the 14th, at Anna & Martin's house. Save items for that.

Other Topics:

We had a long discussion about our goals as a Board. We would like to sponsor events that attract more Democrats and Independents, and we discussed possibilities such as an auction. It is also true that some people will rarely or never attend events, but may still vote for Democrats and we need to reach them too. We want to be welcoming to all Democrats and Independents; provide education on candidates and issues; convince more Dems to run for office and help them get elected. That involves publicity and fundraising. We need to find a balance among those activities throughout 2018. We would like local candidates should come up with a platform that we can advertise as applying to all. Part of that will involve talking with voters to determine the issues most important to them.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00. **Next meeting Monday September 11, 7pm.**

Those who can arrive early should plan to attach labels and stamps to postcards before the meeting.

Minutes submitted by
Faye O'Neill, Secretary