Meeting Minutes: Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024, 7 PM, Oak Park CC

1. **Welcome: Glenda Stainback** called the meeting to order at 7 PM and welcomed everyone, acknowledging new Berkley and other first-time attendees.
2. **Approval of Agenda**: unanimous.
3. **Approval of November & December Meeting Minutes**: unanimous.
4. **Guest Speakers**

**Ed Duggan, Biden Campaign past Political Director and current State Director:** Ed spoke about what we can expect in the next seven weeks, before the 2/27 MI Presidential primary. He is working on increasing staffing. Early voting is new this year for the primary. The goal is to get folks to vote early. There will be lots of events, press coverage, roundtables, and more in the next weeks. If there are questions or concerns or comments, text Ed or call him at 313-820-6721. Q/A yielded information about several issues: strategy for PDs, updates on messaging, phoning and door knocking in February coming up, coordination between the presidential team and the state and local teams, engagement with local clubs and club chairs, offices across the state, and an ongoing process addressing the challenges that we all know exist.

**Kim Murphy-Kovalick, Voters Not Politicians Program Director:** Kim spent some time explaining the issues around State House and Senate redistricting maps. There have been violations of the equal protection clause of the MI Constitution related to race. There will be meetings to discuss all of this, and new maps have to be adopted, followed by a public comment period. The goal is to maintain the integrity of the Commission and to avoid partisan leanings by those drawing up redistricting maps. Kim then responded to questions and comments.

1. **Treasurer’s Report: Nina Abrams:** As of 12/31/23, our balance was $4,439.35, of which $2087 is for our PAC. Money in the admin account can go into our PAC, but not vice versa. We need one big event to increase the money in our PAC. We need money to help with campaigns. For example, the door hangers we purchased, which we very successful, cost about $4,000.
2. **Chair Updates:** Welcome to our new Berkley members! One trustee from Berkley will be added to the E-Board. Felicia Royal, a trustee from Royal Oak Twp just resigned and will be replaced. We will vote to add the new Trustees in our February monthly meeting. Join DSOC for 2024 if you haven’t already: DemsofSOC.org. You need to be a member to vote on DSOC issues. Applications are available to become a delegate to the DNC.
3. **Committee Updates:**

**Community Service**: Glenda mentioned, in place of the chair, Aerolyn, McCullough, that there will be a blood drive on April 8 at the OP Comm. Ctr.

**Communications:** Laurie Lisi, the Communications Chair, mentioned that meetings take place on zoom on the first Wednesday of each month (1-2 PM). New members are welcome. A new retractable banner is being designed and purchased. Help with social media is needed (Instagram, Threads, new FB rules, etc.). If anyone knows someone, contact Laurie. We need to reach out to Berkley, now that this community is a DSOC member, and attending Commission meetings is one option to do so.

**OCDP:** There is a watch party for the State of the State address on Wednesday, January 24, at the Sheet Metal Workers International Association Local 80 at 17100 West 12 Mile Road, 2nd floor, Southfield. Check the website for details. OCDP will sponsor phone banking and provide training either in person or virtually.

1. **Elected Officials’ Reports**

**Mayor Marian McClellan, Oak Park:** OP has gone from stagnant to vibrant. There have been many improvements: 9 Mile and 11 Mile have been rezoned for mixed use, we have new housing developments, there are tri-city business mixers, we have new excellent restaurants, there are new plastic lining for aging sewers, high schoolers will be registered to vote, 60 events are planned for 2024—several each month: check website for information and details: [www.oakparkmi.gov](http://www.oakparkmi.gov) And VOTE in the primary!

**Rep. Regina Weiss:** There is a lot going on in Lansing, including impediments from Republicans trying to block votes, even on measures that they suggest. But the Dems keep trying to work hard to get important measures passed. Warren and Westland have special elections coming up.

1. **Good and Welfare**

**Latoya Willis** and **Adrienne Young** are both running forjudgeshipsfor the MI Court of Appeals for District 2. Both made strong appeals for our votes. Both are highly experienced attorneys who are well qualified for the position they seek. See [www.willisforjustice.com](http://www.willisforjustice.com) and [www.adrienneyoungforjudge.com](http://www.adrienneyoungforjudge.com).

**Nicole Huddleston** and **Moneka Sanford** are running for OC Circuit Court Judge. Both made strong appeals for our votes. Both are highly experienced attorneys who are well qualified for the position they seek.

1. Glenda adjourned the business meeting at 8:30 PM.The reminder of the meeting was dedicated to an onsite postcard writing project aimed at recruiting new members from Berkley: **Take Action: *Do More in ’24!***

Respectfully submitted,

Roslyn Schindler, Secretary