



## Meeting Minutes: Thurs., April 18, 2024, 6:00-7:30 PM, Huntington Woods Library

- I. **Welcome: Glenda Stainback** welcomed everyone, including those on Zoom, and especially the new Berkley members and first-timers.
- II. **Approval of Agenda:** moved by Kris McLonis, seconded by Zakiya Hollifield, and approved unanimously.
- III. **Approval of March Meeting Minutes:** moved by Catherine Wade, seconded by Laurie Lisi, and approved unanimously.
- IV. **Guest Speakers**

**Jim Nash, Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner:** He is focused on environmental sustainability, green building and regional cooperation, Jim organized and hosted Annual Green Building Workshops, introducing local government officials and citizens to sustainability experts, engineering and technologies. He is a founding member of the Regional Partnership for Sustainability. Jim has been in this role for 12 years and is running for re-election. There are 400 employees in this enterprise. The system has been de-privatized to support public health and safety, maintain aerations systems, preserve natural resources, ensure value and investment of resources, and improve green infrastructure services. There is a commitment to producing energy vs. using energy. A grant has been secured and additional ones (e.g., from FEMA) will be sought to prepare for continuing climate change.

Check out the website for more information:

<https://www.oakgov.com/government/water-resources-commissioner>

### **Bob Allison, Deputy Director of the Michigan League of Conservation**

**Voters:** LCV is an organization that works to protect the air, land and water in communities all across Michigan by activating voters to elect and hold accountable public officials who fight for an environment that sustains the health and well-being of us all. LCV connects people to political solutions. Oakland County is at the heart of 2024 elections—local, state, national. The cycle of accountability is as follows: endorse, elect, mobilize, educate and organize, and hold accountable. The Clean Energy and Jobs Act was passed—critical for future positive action: clean energy standard, strong policies, coalition-building.

Check out the website for more information: <https://michiganlcv.org>

- V. **Treasurer's Report (Glenda Stainback for Nina Abrams):** No notable changes since last month.
- VI. **Chair Updates:** DSOC has 16 new members since March; the State House now has Dem control again; May 11: 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Convention—DSOC members Sharon Baseman, Barry Lepler, Glenda Stainback, and Renee Thornton are running to become Delegates to the DNC. DSOC members were encouraged to attend the convention and support our candidates.
- VII. **Committee Updates**

**Laurie Lisi:** Communications: new banner, which can be used for tabling at events and on other occasions.

**Catherine Wade/Nikhol Atkins:** Voter Mobilization: yard signs are coming; WAVE is being used to secure more volunteers; texts will be sent to all strong Dems to vote; June 2 kickoff for PDs at Jaycee Park, Berkley.

#### VIII. **Elected Officials' Reports**

**Rep. Natalie Price:** It feels great to be back in the majority; certification of two new members very soon; Motown Sound Map accepted by the Federal Court. Oak Park will go from 3 to 2 Reps. Redistricting has impacted her and Rep. Weiss's areas of jurisdiction—some changes within communities; the latter could be a challenge to voters because the changes are a bit confusing. State Bonding Authority Bill passed today.

**Rep. Regina Weiss:** We are working on the budget, including the school budget (more info in May); it feels great to be back to full strength; we have to target seats that are up for re-election to get Dems elected.

**OC Commissioner Yolanda Charles:** Greenfield Road clean-up, April 22-23, 8:30-9:30 AM; call or text with questions: 248-385-2927

#### IX. **Good and Welfare**

**Rep. Natalie Price:** Prescription drug project event, April 19

**Sharon Baseman:** Protest planned for Robert Kennedy Jr. Event in Royal Oak, April 21

**Mitch Brown:** June 23, 1 PM, Berkley Pride

**Dave Cottrill:** representing and supporting someone running against Haley Stevens for the 11th Congressional District.

**Lauri Lisi:** Royal Oak Township recognition of Ulysses S. Grant historical marker, April 27, 11 am; VoteRiders Bake Back Better Michigan fundraising effort

to promote and support Dem political efforts--with 4 cupcakes delivered to donors.

**X. Take Action: *Do More in '24* - Postcards to unregistered likely Dems**

**XI. Adjourn: 7:30 PM**