



## Oak Park-Huntington Woods- Royal Oak Township Meeting Agenda

October 20, 2022, 7 pm

- I. Welcome New Members: **Mary Ann Fontana** called the in-person meeting to order and welcomed several new members who introduced themselves.
- II. **Treasurer Andrew Cissell** reported that the Club has \$1000.21 in the savings account and \$675.19 in the checking account. Donations and dues are welcome.
- III. **Deb Freer** from Transit Rider's United (TRU) gave a compelling presentation on the Oakland County Transportation Millage. Freer is passionate about OC transportation becoming better, more accessible, and more expansive. Proposal 1 is intended to do that. Upgrading the system as well as maintaining it are key, and the millage will not actually cost citizens more money. There was lively discussion about the millage, including that insufficient detailed information has been provided to the electorate. Freer said that she has made presentations to numerous Clubs as have other supporters to provide information, but she acknowledged that it has not been enough for many who don't attend them.
- IV. **Terry O'Brien**: Voter registration is so key for this election and for all elections. A 17% voter turnout means that we don't really have a democracy. Neighbors need to help neighbors. We need volunteers to help register voters. It only takes a minute as very little information (name, address, birthdate, etc.) is needed on the new simplified forms (SoS Jocelyn Benson simplified the forms). Voter fraud in MI is impossible because addresses and death rolls are checked constantly. There was a lively discussion about some of the current races-- judgeships, non-partisan races, etc.
- V. **Jeremy Moss**, our State Senator, addressed the current State Senate and State House races, and other pertinent information about the top of the ticket races, particularly the Attorney General's race. He mentioned the change in his own district (he will miss his old district but is happy that Mallory McMorrow will represent us), the role of the Board of Canvassers in certifying elections, and other aspects of his work as a State Senator. Absentee ballots can now be counted two days before Election Day, an important change. Voter turnout is key. It's important to canvas for those in tight races in the state. If the Senate turns blue, it will be the first time in almost 40 years. The change in the total number of years re: term limits will provide a better system of governance. There was a lively discussion with Jeremy about current races, partisan and non-partisan.

## **VI. Committee Reports**

**Laurie Lisi** reported that a few hundred door hangers remain. She is urging folks to help out on November 8 and give them to voters as they go in to vote. Laurie then gave out 5 \$10 gift certificates to the 5 persons who distributed the most door hangers (all distributed 300+ or 400+).

## **VII. Elected Officials Reports**

**Yolanda Smith Charles** hopes to retain her seat and continue her work in District #17 on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. She requests help on November 8 for her campaign to distribute literature, etc.

**Charlie Cavell** provided a video in which he encouraged everyone to vote yes on the Props and for continue to fight for justice.

**OP Mayor Marion McClellan** reported on good news: numerous projects in OP that will continue to beautify the city (parks, landscaping, etc.). She also mentioned that there are 14 new businesses, including restaurants, several along the 11 Mile Road corridor. In addition, there are new parking options being planned.

## **VIII. Good and Welfare**

Mary Ann urged everyone to take signs and distribute them to friends and family. We need more signs on lawns prior to the election. Vote soon. Don't mail your absentee ballot. Bring it to the clerk's office.

Mary Ann adjourned the meeting at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roz Schindler