

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

July 21, 2022, 7 p.m., in person at the Huntington Woods Library and on zoom

- I. **Welcome to New Members: Mary Ann Fontana** called the meeting to order at about 7 p.m. and welcomed people both in person at the Huntington Woods library and on Zoom.
- II. **Treasurer's Report: Andrew Cissell** provided an update on Club finances: \$2288.59 in the hard money checking account and \$1482.87 in the hard money savings account.
- III. **Judge Sima Patel**, currently Oakland County Court of Appeals Judge, is running for re-election. The courts are critical. Bolden and Bernstein bring a fresh perspective; both are champions for justice. Patel is in a contested, competitive race. She is honored to be on the court and brings a substantive and significant history of legislative experience. She considers access key to correcting injustices and disparities. Constitutional rights matter a great deal. She's made a difference in many cases in which she has been involved. When good people are in positions of power, people retain their rights.  
[www.keepjudgesimapatel.com](http://www.keepjudgesimapatel.com)
- IV. **Amanda Shelton** is running for Oakland County 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Judge. She is ready for this challenge. She has been litigating for 18 years. She is proud to be who she is: an openly gay woman to run for this position. Access, recognition, rights are key aspects to uphold. Signs are coming after the primary. VOTE in the primary!  
[www.shelton2022.com](http://www.shelton2022.com)
- V. **Richard Bernstein** is MI Supreme Court Justice. He was not able to be with us at this meeting but was mentioned with accolades by his colleague, **Kyra Harris Bolden**.
- VI. **Kyra Harris Bolden** is running for the Michigan Supreme Court. She joined us virtually. She began her presentation with a video that focused on the MDP endorsement of her candidacy. She has brought a fresh perspective to Lansing and strives to bring justice to MI—to protect equal rights and justice overall. She has experience as a legislator and law clerk. Criminal justice reform is one of her major goals. The MI SC will decide critical issues: voting rights, LGBTQIA rights, the environment, reproductive rights, etc. These are all quality of life issues. "Bernstein and Bolden at the back of the ballot" in November! [www.boldenforjustice.com](http://www.boldenforjustice.com)
- VII. **James ("Jake") Halpin** is MDP Deputy Voter Protection Director. He provided an important presentation about voter protection, which is key to free and fair elections. Such efforts have been going on for a decade or more. First it was a small group. With the Obama elections, it really took off—and even more so in 2016. Thousands of volunteers are needed. Training is available for poll challengers, poll watchers, and other positions on Election Day, as well as post-election work. Poll workers/election inspectors are also trained, but these are paid positions.  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/james-halpin>
- VIII. **Committee Reports: Glenda Stainback and Laurie Lisi** emphasized getting involved in canvassing, door knocking, phone banking, texting, and more to get voters out. There are 52 candidates for PD. It is important to focus on those who didn't vote in 2018 (10,000 Dems!). In 4 precincts, over 50% didn't vote (1700 households). GOTV! Glenda and Laurie will assist as

needed. Dems need to fight hard because we know that Republicans are fighting dirty. Go to OPHWROT Dem Club website for information on all candidates.

## **IX. Elected Officials Reports**

**\*Regina Weiss:** Don't play nice. Fight the Republicans. She is seeking re-election. It is a contested primary. \$17.5 billion has been awarded to education, and she has fought hard for that. GOTV!

**\*Michelle Appel:** She is asking for our vote and support. She supports fair practices and brings to her position a great deal of experience and expertise.

**\*Jaimie Horowitz:** She has been instrumental in encouraging a mental health and wellness program in the state. She is a progressive. She supports the continued use of Zoom for access.

**\*Natalie Price:** She is an experienced Berkley City Council member and former teacher and is running for State Rep in District #5. She asks for our support.  
[www.votenatalieprice.com](http://www.votenatalieprice.com)

**\*Yolanda Smith Charles:** She is running to retain her seat in District #17 on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. [charlesy@oakgov.com](mailto:charlesy@oakgov.com)

VII. **Good and Welfare:** Come to our Club picnic on August 10 when we will honor Brenda Lawrence for her years of service. We expect about 100 people, and there will be a full dinner. Mary Ann adjourned the meeting with thanks to all who attended at approximately 8:30 p.m.