

Washington County Democratic Women

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

1. Call to Order –Gracie Ziegler, President
2. Pledge of Allegiance -
3. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of October 23, 2018; all approved.  
This is the final meeting of the year and once again it is voting time: there are run-off elections for multiple elections in Washington and Benton Counties. Please encourage those affected to get out and vote.
4. Officers' Reports:
  - a) MEMBERSHIP: Beth Coger welcomed many first-time attendees! We ended the year at 182 members!! Starting in January we will have on-line sign-up and payment capabilities.
  - b) TREASURE: Glenda Patterson:

<b>Beginning Balance:</b>		<b>\$2922.79</b>
Deposits:		
Membership	+220.00	
T-Shirt Sales	+280.00	
Donations	+20.00	
	<b>Deposits Total:</b>	<b>\$520.00</b>
Debits:		
Mermaids Activity Fee	-150.00	
Campaign Contributions	-900.00	
	<b>Debits Total:</b>	<b>-1050.00</b>
	<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$2392.79</b>
Outstanding Checks		
Campaign Contributions		-500.00
	<b>Tentative Balance:</b>	<b>\$1892.79</b>

Balance will rollover to 2020 campaigns
  - c) PROGRAMMING: Peggy Chenault
  - d) PRESIDENT: Gracie Ziggler: Recap of 2018: The membership of WCDW has grown this year, due to hard work and organization. WCDW campaigned hard and got our message out. We reached and connected with 10,000 people each and every month on social media. Our members knocked on doors, worked at the headquarters and generally got out the word for our candidates. Thanks to Peggy Chenault our programs this year were exceptional. We kicked off the year with the sage advice of Joyce Elliott. In February we connected with our neighbors in the Marshallese community. March was all about health care close to home with the opening of The Children's Hospital NW. In April we hosted the candidate forum for District 86; in May we learned about the state of education in Arkansas. In June we focused on immigration and what our neighbors face on daily basis. In July Max Brantley came and told us everything that was going on in Arkansas and what he thought about it. In August we heard all about what our county government should be doing and what expectations we should have for our elected officials' accountability. In September Dr. Lisa Corrigan correctly predicted the future of women's reproductive rights in America. In October Nicole Clowney led us in a final push toward the November elections.
5. Candidate Recognition: Theresa Turk and Sonia Gutierrez are in run-off elections for Fayetteville City Council. Emily Sledge is running for Chair of the Washington County Democratic Party in 2019.
6. PROGRAM: Tonight we have newly elected officials to tell us what we can do to help and how we can stay involved.
  - a) David Whitaker started by congratulating the women of Washington County. He encouraged us to follow Senator Greg Ledding and to download his [2019 Determined Constituent Guide](#). David gave us several phone numbers to add to our contacts so that we can let our opinions be known: (501) 682-6211 is the AR Legislative in-session switchboard. Use this number to have a pink message slip delivered to the desk of your representative. (479) 236-8313 this is David's private cell phone. When he is in Chamber please text, otherwise you can call and please do. Then he urged us all to call the House members who don't agree with us. To get a bill through the House we need 51 votes and there are only 24 Democrats. David encouraged us to watch the committees - we have the most impact while Bills are in committee. Also, if you write an email, please use your own words. Finally, if you can - be there! People have the most impact Monday through Thursday on the Capitol grounds in Little Rock.

- b) Eva Madison is entering her 5th term, and she is excited by the new Quorum Court. She bought each of the new members a copy of Robert's Rules of Order. People are aware of the issues in the County. There is no interest in transparency or any interest in following the law. When Eva asked questions she was instructed to submit her questions in writing. When she legitimately asked specific budget questions she was told to sit down. The Judge had cancelled the contract with the Government Channel to air the Quorum Court meetings. The press picked up on this because of Eva's question. Today Eva, personally, filed suit against the County Judge for violation of the Freedom of Information Act. In a follow-up to one of her budget questions, she asked why the county was paving a road in Tontitown. The "Trump tactics" have to be stopped in Wash. Co. We need to pay attention, come to meetings, watch online. The issues aren't huge, but the little steps like getting paid parental leave for county employees make the area a better place to live.
  - c) Meagan Godfrey Springdale District 89. For Families, For Fairness and for the Future. For Families emphasizes the importance to illuminate the humanity of every issue and every voter. For Fairness, we have to include and elevate diverse voices. For the Future, we need a mix of new Social Media with old-fashioned knocking on doors. Being a Representative is an incredible opportunity with great family sacrifices. so remember to support District dads. Assume positive intent when Meagan is not here or there or if she makes an alliance with someone that you might question. Please assume that her actions are in line with her values. For the Future remember we will be defending in 2020, so start the engagement, story-telling now.
  - d) Nicole Clowney reminded us that this is not a once every two-year push. It is so great to have this enthusiastic crowd tonight. Democrats are in the super minority. Which means we cannot stop the Republicans from doing anything. They will not care about the 24 elected officials. What they do care about is their constituents. Call them, call them, call them. Stay engaged. Start making noise now; elections are in two years. Stay educated and stay loud. Start now to work with groups that are making a difference like MOMs and others.
  - e) Greg Leding will have a newly updated edition of the Guide. Share, share share. We have to reach more people. Showing up in Little Rock is the best. We need to choke the halls like 2015 RIFA vote. We only have 9 Democratic Senators and not necessarily a unified block, but we gained due to NWAR and we keep growing and gaining. Remember families who are still at home.
  - f) Denise Garner - Michael John Gray is here to talk about the future of the Party in Arkansas. The Party can do a lot so make sure to let them know what we need. Pay attention the auxiliary groups.
  - g) Andrea Jenkins, JP District 10 (Farmington) so excited to be in the Quorum Court. Like Eva said we need to pay attention. For example, two days after an election where the Republicans said they were under-budget, they raised the milage tax.
  - h) Suki Highers one of seven Democratic women elected to the Quorum Court. Suki is a school teacher who is teaching Civics for the first time. December 20th we need to be at the QC meeting. They are going to raise fees if we don't show up and let them know we are watching.
7. Sara Thompson took the mic and raised a round of applause for Gracie who has made the WCDW an even stronger group in 2018.
  8. Gracie reminded us that we need to be respectful, prepared and ready. We need to pay attention. We need to share our message every chance we get. There will be no meetings for WCDems, Women or Seniors. We will have a party. We need to be LOUD, READY and PREPARED
  9. Emmale Davis, new Vice-Chair of Programming announced that the speaker for January 2019 will be Dr. Janine Parry. Dr. Parry is a professor of Political Science at the UofA. Her talk is titled: "The Year of Women: What We Know about Female Voters, Candidates, and Office Holders"
  10. Lisa Whitaker announced that the WCD's Christmas Party will be a potluck held at the Ganer's on December 17 from 6:00 - 9:00pm. RSVP to Linnette Garber at [lindyknits@outlook.com](mailto:lindyknits@outlook.com)

The meeting was adjourned.

Sincerely submitted,  
Annie Langston, Secretary

Additions or corrections to these minutes may be submitted to Annie Langston, WCDW Secretary, at [annie.langston09@gmail.com](mailto:annie.langston09@gmail.com) or [DemWomWashCoAR@gmail.com](mailto:DemWomWashCoAR@gmail.com)