Stonewall Democrats of Dallas

11/18/2019

Meeting called to order at 6:42 pm by President Brandon Vance

Location: Mattito’s Restaurant, 3102 Oak Lawn Ave., Dallas TX 75219

Program: U.S. Census, by Matthew Grant

LGBTQ community - 1st time being counted in census

Citizenship status question - no longer valid

Short/long form? = 10 questions.

Speakers

**John Biggan for CD 24** - scientist

Brandy Voss - for Texas Supreme Ct. Pl. 7 - from McAllen TX

2020 - 4 seats on ballot (majority to flip)

**J. Monica Purdue for 95th District Civil Court** Dalco consistently 1 of top 3 (appointed) [www.judgemonicapurdy.com](http://www.judgemonicapurdy.com/)

**Anthony Lo - for TX State Rep 67** - protect laws - non-discrimination, safe from hate crimes, adoption, etc. Emotions are same even if struggles are different.

**Annie Garza Lopez - for TX State Rep 66** - scientist - healthcare issues - respect & dignity

Lola Wilson speaking for Lorraine Birabil - for State Rep 100 - runoff Jan 8th. Lifelong dem,precinct chair, res. 20 yrs.

**Tom Ervin - for TX State Rep HD 108**- > 30 years - unite moderates & progressives in district to win 2020. Education, affordable accessible healthcare, equal opportunity for jobs, public option for childcare.

Susie McMinn for **Joanna Cattanach for TX State Rep HD 108** - who does the most door knocking? Happy hour M&G Mon 12/09 at Dallas Eagle

**Paul Stafford - for TX State Rep HD 100** - runoff Jan - March 3 Primary - Feb 18 early voting for primary. Lawyer 25 years, representing all types of people; servant by nature and candidate by choice. Not hiding, not sulking - let him carry issues to Austin. Children, equality, fairness. [Staffordfortexas.com](http://staffordfortexas.com/)

**Zachariah Manning for Dallas County Commissioner D1** - PTA president Preston Hollow Elementary school. Protecting children. Help homeless - give foundation to move forward with jobs of the future.

**Carol Donovan - Dallas County Democratic Party Chair** - served for 4 years. Every election increased # democratic elected officials. Helped party raise > $2M; worked directly with coordinated campaign; proud of 2018 results - took congressional and state senate, and DA, and won every court of appeals position on ballot and 12/14 state rep seats here. Success - continue. WE did it together. Re-election party tomorrow 5:30 - 7:30 - Harriet Earhardt’s house.

Josh Cogan, political affairs chair. 1/04-05, 1/11-12 screening

Transparency- top 3-5 races will be prioritized for manpower - blockwalking - flippable districts. Be member in good standing (paid) before Dec. 6 to be able to vote.

Bylaws Committee - presented last year - to be voted today.

Bylaws do not require 30-day notice. President stated it is his belief we should add this bylaw.

Wording displayed on screen projector. Requires 2/3 majority to pull an item out for separate voting

1. update GLBT - to LGBTQ
2. Art II section 2 “religion or lack thereof” Strike Para. 2 that is reverse of 1st section. “Good faith effort to be inclusive in membership and leadership” added to Para 1.
3. Art III Membership - SDD executive board sets membership dues
   1. Notify members when dues are payable - last annual payment.
   2. Dues not paid automatically dropped - within 2 months of due date - subjected to loss of membership status in organization. “Lapsed” vs. removed
      1. Wild Apricot sends out 30-day, same day and 30 days after notices by email to member.
   3. Art IV Officers
      1. Change to VP shall preside at all meetings “in the absence of the President”
      2. Treasurer follow best practices accounting procedures as detailed in appendix
   4. Art V Executive Board
      1. Add “instant messenger” to notify board members about meetings for BOD
      2. Section 5 & 8 - unexcused absences 2 consecutive - automatically removed / forfeit office - recommend strike completely.
   5. Art VI Meetings
      1. Notify members of meeting time, date, location by email, mail or telephone “or posting to approved (by the Executive Board) group communication page such as Facebook” -
      2. Strike “but no more than 14 days” to allow posting of next meeting (remove restriction)
   6. Art VII Standing Committees
      1. Strike “of the organization”
      2. Membership - three members add “ideally”
      3. Strike “organizational” membership.
      4. 6 - A situation of “no endorsement” is permitted.
      5. 8 - Members “interrogate” candidates
      6. Voter Reg committee - “ideally” 3 members
         1. Set up at all high-attendance LGBTQ events, communities, conduction voter registration drives and outreach at regular intervals.
      7. Audit committee - add “ideally” 3 members
         1. Exclusion - Audit Commitee Chair may NOT be the current Treasurer.
      8. New Section - Communications, Media Committee
         1. Add section (see website)
            1. Section 1 - Ideally change colon to semicolon

Pamela Curry moved to address each individually.

Motion to table bylaws voting fails. (9:11)

Art VII ends 6 - Valor McKinney moved to separate - “no endorsement” permitted to be withdrawn. Josh - chair of PAC committee provided option this year.

Move to “separate” - if remove from bylaws - vote 20 / unanimous

Art IV Section 4 - designated by vs. in the absence of the President (pull or keep)

Jay Narey discussed background: both Pres & VP - unavailable. Pres could designate someone else to chair the meeting if both are unavailable.

Vote 8/7 of 22 - motion failed

Art V Section 8 - strike last - Pamela Curry / 2nd by Tim West

Discussion: Jay Narey - unexcused absences - put in so that we don’t have “no shows” - advise President unable to attend. To keep people from no-show.

Remove by 2/3 vote of Executive Board at a properly announced meeting.

Vote: 15 / passes

Pamela - Article VI meetings - remove 14 day limitation. Purpose to allow SDD to notify members and guests of upcoming meetings \*more than\* 14 days before the meeting date.  Motion failed to get a 2nd.

Tim West - proposed pull out Art VII Voter Reg. - LGTBQ events ... Joy Brady - change word from function to event

Tim wants to pull “because not 100% sure of wording.”

If need to pull LGBTQ and put an I on the end... next year.

To pull out: 8/12. Motion fails to be pulled out.

Designated / In absence of. VP

Officers absences

7 6 - situation of no endorsement

Discussion on rest of slate. Valor McKinney reminded the group that “Q” is intended to handle any other alphabet letters.

Jay Narey : speaks in favor of the bylaws changes - only nomenclature -

Tim West wants more time to review

Pamela Curry doesn’t think adding more letters is appropriate “you young folks” need to understand Q letter has pain included.

Isidro Gonzales - when will we move past this? Issues with the Letters. What is really needed is equal rights completely - not fighting over the name of things.

Joey Cusimano - recognize the pain that comes with that word and letter Q. If omit for the sake of anyone’s comfort - we should - but at this moment we have 3 motions pulled and now voting on the Slate - if someone had an issue with whatever verbiage in bylaws - address at a later revision.

Brandon’s intent - 2020 another bylaws committee can be convened. If something not here now that needs to be addressed - changes can be made later.

Valor McKinney: Gay used to be derogatory; there is a history - not dismissing - queer - intersex and other letters are encompassed.

Tim: question - who was on bylaws committee - Lee, Valor, Comms director. New board reviewed changes proposed by bylaws committee.

Lee Daugherty recognized. Erin Moore, Lee Daugherty, Valor McKinney. 85-90% of changes meant to be cleanup language and nothing substantive. Recommend pass these changes, and set new committee if needed.

Vote to accept slate: 18/2. Motion passes.

Anthony Storck moved to table the 3 pulled items until next meeting. 2nd by Tony Farrer. Valor McKinney moved to table the motion until after the board elections.

Tony Farrer spoke to call for reason and call the question.

Vote to table 3 motions until January. 17 / 4

Officer Elections - Brandon Vance gave Lee Daugherty the gavel to conduct elections.

Per Robert’s Rules of Order

Isidro Gonzales - nominated Brandon Vance for President. 2nd by Tim West. No other nominations.

Recorded as accepted by acclimation. Motion carried.

Nominations - Anthony Storck nominated Susie Hess. 2nd by Brandon Vance.

Closed nominations

Pamela moved vote by acclimation - motion carried.

Nomination - Secretary

Valor McKinney nominated Jayla Wilkerson - 2nded by Pamela Curry

Joey nominated Isidro Gonzales - motion later withdrawn.

Pamela moved vote by acclimation - motion carried.

Nomination - Treasurer - Anthony Storck - by Josh Cogan / 2nd Susie Hess

23 votes yes - no

Lee Daugherty passed gavel back to Brandon Vance.

New business - growing the organization.

Chair positions as discussion topic. All chair positions vacated - 2020 all vacated except for Political Affairs Chair. PAC primarily because Josh Cogan wants to come back and team already working to get ready for endorsement hearings beginning first weekend in January. 1/4-5, 1/11-12.

President noticed membership that the other chair positions were vacated - field any recommendations - all interests.

Want people to be involved. We have too powerful a voice to just be doing meetings.

Need: Immigration, social justice issues, black lives matter, a voice for all of Dallas. Kick the doors down where we have intersectionality - whether women’s rights, children’s, social justice. Stand up and say no more - say where we stand.

Build relationships with other organizations - LULAC, HRC, etc. Serving as president is eye-opening - unexpected events. Parents calling / emailing about how they handle their kid who just came out. Attended 2 funerals of minors - suicide and put out by family and another died getting into drugs.

Lay down markers in the sand. Not just going along to get along. We have power, influence. Resource Center has entire organization & group dedicated to youth and child/trans children. Mentorship/express themselves.

People looking for resources.

Some changes coming about political affairs. Campaign Activities folded back into Political Affairs. Board can only do so much - we need members to step up. Organization cannot commit - can assign target/top priority races. Endorsed candidates can post on our website and request volunteers.

We cannot wait! We cannot sit on sidelines. Find a candidate you can support.

If a member supports or endorses a republican publicly - membership can be revoked.

We have an opportunity to turn Texas House of Reps blue. Moment in history. Minds will be blown.

January meeting: 1/21/2020 @6:30 pm at Mattito’s will be endorsement ratification. Must be member in good standing by 12/05/2019 to vote in the endorsement hearings.

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas is arguably the most influential organization for Democrats in the state of Texas.

Many voices - opposition has actually stated they want to see us die.

Teri Hodge - in-depth questionnaire - endorsement screening. We must ask our questions during the screening. Focus on LGBTQ issues.

Chief Deputy Frank Bromley, the LGBTQ Liaison for Constable Orozco, announced that the Constable is having holiday meet & greet and all are invited - 12/19 - 11:30 - 1:30 pm at 410 S. Beckley.

11/30 at Latino Cultural Festival - theater.

Various other people introduced themselves and made announcements. I did not take notes of this.

Meeting Adjourned 8:55pm