**The Lakewood Democratic Club**

**Minutes of Regular Meeting held** **Jan 28, 2021
Online space at zoom.us**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by President Erik Meinhardt.

Officers present were President Erik Meinhardt, First Vice-President Maureen Dostal, Second VP Mark Schneider Secretary, Treasurer Catie McMahon, Secretary Nicole Parke. The President chaired the meeting. The Secretary took notes.

RECOGNITION OF NOTABLES –

Councilperson Tristan Rader, Councilperson Sarah Kepple, State Rep Mike Skindell, School Board Member Mike Callahan, Judge Lisa Forbes, Councilperson Tess Neff, Judge Richard Bell, Councilperson Jason Shachner, School Board Member Emma Petrie Barcelona, Councilperson Tom Bullock, City Leader Karolyn Isenhart, State Senator Nickie Antonio, U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur, Judge Mary Eileen Kilbane.

Tristan Rader announced he is running for reelection for Council-At-Large

Candidates Sara Fagnilli and Tess Neff introduced themselves and shared that they are running for Lakewood Municipal Court Judge.

New Lakewood resident Kyle Ballou introduced himself.

President Erik Meinhardt introduced Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur.

**U.S. REPRESENTATIVE MARCY KAPTUR**

Insurrection -

* Most attendees had never worked the polls, were unfamiliar with vote counting process
* Need to know Ohio residents who were there
* Two Capitol police officers’ lost their lives
* Look at FBI Most Wanted to help investigation
* She was one of the last to evacuate!

New Administration -

* Covid is first priority
* FEMA is going to help distribute vaccines
* Working on recovery bill
* Invest in sustainability, will bring jobs to our region

Questions -

Erik: Pelosi said “enemy is within the House”. What’s going on in Congress?

Kaptur: commitment is to constitution and rule of law

Glenn Campbell: What legislation can we pass this session on voting rights expansion?

Kaptur: need to reform our Ohio state government, work toward less gerrymandered state, which would push for better voting laws in Ohio, election law reform

Maureen Dostal: What happened with security the day of the insurrection?

Kaptur: Those responsible did not prepare for the crowds that arrived. I assumed a perimeter had been set up around the property, but it had not. Speaker is forming committees to determine what happened. Speeches given at Trump rally incited the crowd.

Sen. Antonio: We still don’t have systems in place for vaccine distribution. How are we going to get vaccine to people as quickly as possible?

Kaptur: President selected FEMA as operational agency. FEMA is regionalized around the country. Need to manufacture vaccine quickly to get enough supply. Every month we will see more traction at the regional level. Our region is headquartered in Chicago.

Kyle Ballou: How do we deal with misinformation?

Kaptur: President Trump led people to believe things that aren’t true. The power of social media is troubling. Need to master this rather than be victims of it. Ohio needs to teach history, and people need to be familiar with their family history.

Sen. Antonio: We do require history in the state of Ohio, including American government.

Erik: Two questions - $15 min wage, algal blooms

Kaptur: increased funding for Great Lakes protection, believe we need to be regionally sensitive on minimum wage. Need to be sensitive to small business startups.

Erik: Any thoughts on how we can turn Ohio blue again?

Kaptur: Need to analyze every precinct in our state, and figure out how many votes we need to beat the opposition, and register that number and deliver them to the polls. Exacting job, lead this out of Lakewood! Mathematics!

**DR. PAULINE TEREBUH - covid19 & vaccination update**

* started in public health at CDC; now works under Cuyahoga County Health Commissioner Terry Allan
* primarily epidemiologist
* 2 local health jurisdictions
* many metrics used to measure impact on the community
* hospitals reporting how many tests they’re doing a week, what percentage are positive
* variants from UK, South Africa, Brazil
* leverage public health data to inform decision makers
* now we can play offense with vaccine!
* vaccines not FDA approved, but emergency authorized
* moderna & pfizer available in ohio; pfizer needs to be ultra frozen
* major hospitals got vaccine in phase 1; pharmacy chains got vaccine to deliver to nursing homes
* moving to phase 1b → seniors, get kids back in school by march 1
* phase 1b will have many more providers
* ensuring equitable vaccination - reaching people who are disenfranchised is of high priority
	+ offer vaccine after hours
	+ medical transportation
	+ faith-based organizations
	+ media outlets
	+ work with home health
* challenge is not only distribution but also hesitancy
* Ohio DOH figuring out next priority populations

questions:

* hiring contact tracers?

Dr T: state providing surge capacity

* what happened with johnson & johnson?

wasn’t protective enough against virus

* should we be signing up for vaccine?

decentralized. a number of providers, each using their own registration process.

sign up with a handful of providers

* combat disconnect between provider to ensure no vaccine is wasted?

providers were approved by the state, had to prove they had the right storage

* looking for vaccination sites?

right now drive-thru or building. mostly drive thru. another setting like this is

“e-check”. if you have an idea suggest it!

* why not testing k-12 schools?

back in august most providers were not offering testing of children. cannot consent

to their own testing.

**REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President: Erik presented gifts to parting officers, Cindy Strebig & Matt Kuhns. Informed club that new board has already met & begun training. Bylaws call for audit of books; Emma Petrie Barcelona and another (without check signing privileges) is needed!

First Vice President: Maureen requested ideas for programming at meetings. Planning to honor Black History Month in February and Women’s History Month in March.

Political Activism: Jay Ketchaver encouraged members to call Senator Portman to vote to convict Trump in Impeachment Trial. Be aware of fair map drawing happening in Ohio and U.S. House. Donate to “Run for Something” encouraging people to run for local and state office.

Book Club: Carol Lindley invited everyone to join Tues Feb 16th at 7pm to continue discussion of Barack Obama’s “A Promised Land”. Will also be discussing documentary “All In: The Fight for Democracy”.

Second Vice President: Mark shared his excitement about the new board of the club and thanked Cindy and Matt for their service.

Treasurer: Cindy shared that club membership is at 150 members and bank account balance is $8,923.43. Thanked everyone for allowing her to serve.

Secretary: Matt reminded everyone to renew their membership to the club and wished Nicole the best as Secretary.

**STATE SENATOR NICKIE ANTONIO inducted the new Board Members.**

**Erik Meinhardt, President**

**Maureen Dostal, First Vice President**

**Mark Schneider, Second Vice President**

**Catie McMahon, Treasurer**

**Nicole Parke, Secretary**

**recited the Oath:**

***I, (state your name),***

***do hereby solemnly affirm that I shall,***

***to the best of my abilities,***

***support the Constitution of the United States,***

***the Constitution of the State of Ohio,***

***and the Bylaws of the Lakewood Democratic Club,***

***and that I shall faithfully discharge the duties of Officer***

***of the Lakewood Democratic Club’s Executive Committee***

***to which I have been elected***

UPDATES

State legislative update - Senator Antonio

* Committees back in session
* reintroducing bill to end death penalty; even republicans supporting
* reintroducing Fairness Act in both chambers, sponsored by Republican & Democrat
* taking on role as Minority Whip
* reach out to Senator Antonio’s office if need help
* let’s get democrats elected!

County Council - Councilman Dale Miller not in attendance

City Council update - Councilpersons Sarah Kepple, Tess Neff, & Tom Bullock

* passed city budget!
* passed resolution calling on federal representatives to vote to convict Trump
* working on tree initiatives
* Detroit-Sloane project “streetscaping”; bike lanes put in on Riverside Dr. & Hilliard Blvd
* renovation of Curtis block
* need help pushing for sustainable measures, purchasing sustainable vehicles in Lakewood

School Board update - Emma Petrie Barcelona & Mike Callahan

* 3 models of education: in-person (hybrid), fully remote, e-learning option (classes at your own pace)
* engaged firm to help find new superintendent
* Emma served as president throughout the turmoil of 2020; Betsy Shaugnessy is taking over as president

County Party update - Karolyn Isenhart

* Liz Walters new ODP chair
* hoping to get her into Lakewood Dems meeting!
* planning RBG event
* recognize loss of Gerry Morse

Erik reminded the club to renew their membership and asked the club to share their favorite memory of the last month (politically).

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING - Thursday, February 25, 2021

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm

Event notes prepared by Nicole Parke on January 28, 2021.

Signed and approved by the Executive Committee of the Lakewood Democratic Club:

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 Erik Meinhardt, President Date

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Maureen Dostal, First Vice President Date

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Mark Schneider, Second Vice President Date

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Catherine McMahon, Treasurer Date

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Nicole Parke, Secretary Date