



## Mid-Cities Democrats Meeting Minutes Thursday, August 28, 2014

### **Call to Order and Welcome to Members, Guests, Candidates, Precinct Chairs, and Elected Officials**

The August Meeting of the Mid-Cities Democrats was held at Los Jimadores Restaurant, Bedford TX on August 28, 2014. President Clancy Cummings presided and called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. President Clancy Cummings welcomed members, precinct chairs, SDEC members, and guest speakers: Cole Ballweg, Nancy Bean, Susan Motley, and Gregory Perry.

### **Presentation of the July Financial Report**

Treasurer Sean Hayward presented the July 2014 Financial Reports. A motion was made to accept the financial reports. The motion moved by Michael McPhail, seconded by Brad Walker, and carried by the membership. Below is an overview of the July Financial Report.

#### **July 2014**

6/30/2014	Ending Balance	\$ 6,421.23
	Income	\$ 355.00
	Expenses	\$ 171.06
7/31/2014	Ending Balance	\$ 6,605.17

*\*includes Jim Wright Scholarship Fund of \$1500*

### **Presentation of the July 2014 Minutes**

Meeting minutes from the July 2014 meeting were made available to members for review with printed copies and online on the Mid-Cities Democrats website. A motion was made to accept and waive the reading of the minutes. The motion was moved by Michael McPhail, seconded by Richard Gaca, and carried by the membership.

### **Update from Sean Hayward and Labour Party Meeting**

Treasurer Sean Hayward updated the membership on a Labour Party meeting he attended last month in London. He spoke briefly of the letter he presented from Mid-Cities Democrats expressing solidarity in our endeavors and for equality in Britain.

### **Guest Speakers**

Mid-Cities Democrats hosted four speakers, Cole Ballweg, Candidate for State Representative District 94; Susan Motley, Candidate for State Representative District 105, Gregory Perry; Candidate for State Senate District 9; and Nancy Bean, Candidate for State Board of Education District 11. Donations were made to the speakers' campaigns in the amount \$50 each.

### **Cole Ballweg, Candidate for State Representative District 94**

Candidate Ballweg spoke of having great success in telling people the story of why he is running, and that when "we present our core principals and compare them against the Tea Party's, we win. There are more of us than there are of the extreme angry voices in Texas." He encouraged more door knocking and phone banking to get the message out.

### **Susan Motley, Candidate for State Representative District 105**



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This was Candidate Motley's second time in front of MCD as a guest speaker and she said she was "grateful to be back". Motley is a local public interest lawyer and currently works for disability rights in Texas. In her campaign, she is working hard to turn her district blue. Her district is just to the east of MCD and only a few minutes away, and is extremely competitive. It is a key district that is very close to being flipped over to the Democratic column. She has joined with Battleground Texas to work the district, but still needs a lot of help to win one of the most competitive races in our area this election.

### **Gregory Perry, Candidate for State Senate District 9**

Candidate Perry spoke of his history and family life and how it relates to his campaign. He spoke about how the government is there to serve and protect us, not to be an advocate for corporate interest. In closing, Michael McPhail, SDEC member, announced a block walk in Richland Hills set for the upcoming Saturday.

### **Nancy Bean, Candidate for State Board of Education District 11**

Candidate Nancy Bean was introduced by MCD member, Tommy Smelser. Bean recalled her first campaign speech was with MCD back in November 2013 and MCD is currently listed as her top contributor. She has also recently been endorsed by Texas Democratic Women. Bean spoke about how her family benefited from public education and how that got them where they are today. Public education needs to be supported so that everyone can have the same opportunities that they had, and so that the brightest and the best will still want to become teachers within the Texas public education system. She is fighting to keep public education...public.

### **Nominations for the Position of Mid-Cities Democrats Vice-President**

President Clancy Cumming called for nominations for the position of Mid-Cities Democrats Vice-President. No further nominations were made. Gary Livingston was nominated for the position of Vice-President at the last general membership meeting and is the sole nominee. A motion was made to close the nominations. The motion was moved by John Schleeter, seconded by Richard Gaca, and carried by the membership.

### **Acclamation of Gary Livingston as Vice-President of Mid-Cities Democrats**

President Cummings verified that a quorum was in place and moved that a motion that as sole nominee Gary Livingston be acclaimed as Mid-Cities Democrats Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Chris Hilbert and carried by the membership.

### **Candidate Donations**

President Cummings requested the membership approve a \$500 donation to a campaign event of Libby Willis, Democratic Candidate for Texas Senate District 10. A motion was made to approve the donation by Michael McPhail and seconded by Kathleen Thompson. The motion was carried by the membership.

### **Fundraising Updates**

To ensure success, fundraising Chair Chris Hilbert announced the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "so easy you can do it in your pajamas" Pajama-rama Fundraiser will continue for another month and run through the September 2014 General Membership meeting with a door-prize drawing held that evening to celebrate the close of the fundraiser. Links with information about the fundraiser and how to donate will be posted on the [www.midcitiesdemocrats.com](http://www.midcitiesdemocrats.com) website.



### **City Group Updates**

#### **Colleyville Grapevine Southlake Democrats City Group**

Colleyville Grapevine Southlake Democrats continue to work with Battleground Texas and Kathleen Thompson, CGS Representative, encouraged all to help support the work that Battleground Texas is doing.

The Colleyville Grapevine Southlake Democrats City Group holds their monthly meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays at Zushi Sushi (1420 E Southlake Boulevard, Southlake TX 76092) at 7pm (6:30pm for dinner/socializing). Contacts: Richard Gaca and Kathleen Thompson

#### **H-E-B Democrats City Group**

H-E-B Democrats has not met recently but John Schleeter, H-E-B Democrats City Group Representative, has been busy working with other groups to fight the Tea Party. He feels that the Tea Party is in control and traditional establishment Republican can no longer win. He is also working with the Ready for Hillary group. A meeting will be held at Los Jimadores on September 12, 2014.

The H-E-B Democrats City Group holds their monthly meetings on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at Pizza Garden (217 Harwood Road, Bedford TX 76021) at 7pm (6:30pm for dinner/socializing). Contact: John Schleeter

### **Open Comments**

Kathleen Thompson, spoke briefly to the membership about the child refugees at the border and that Texas Young Democrats is still collecting donations for the children and also requested that cash donations be made to help rent the truck to deliver the donations to the border.

Tommy Smelser asked the membership to volunteer to be election judges.

Michael McPhail spoke about the ballot by mail effort and that funding was need.

### **Call to Adjourn**

The next scheduled meeting of the Mid-Cities Democrats is scheduled for September 24, 2014. A motion was made by Kathleen Thompson to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm and was seconded by Richard Gaca. The motion was carried by the membership.

*Meeting minutes prepared by Secretary Shelley Morales with notes by Treasurer Sean Hayward, August 2014*