

**Gratiot County Democratic Party
Executive Committee meeting
March 13, 2023 Minutes**

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Christie Freestone at 10:00 am.

Role call:

Chair Christie Freestone, present

Vice Chair Al Bartholomew, present

Secretary Lisa Gregory, absent

Treasurer Brent Devries, present

Parliamentarian/Governance Chair Nancy O'Brien, present & acting secretary

Secretary's report–

- Minutes from February Executive Committee meeting published on website
- Further minutes will be available by email, in person at general membership meetings, or on website

Treasurer's report–

- Approved payment of April rent/utilities (\$775.00 rent , \$94 utilities to Bobandal; \$142.96 to Spectrum)
- Brief discussion of ideas for fund raisers
- Brent continues to check out financial details/rules for expenses, fundraising, etc. with state Democratic party

Old business–

- Want to make sure when we have Coffee with the Dems in different sites, we sit up front in order to invite others to join us, not in rear of facility. March's coffee was well attended at JJ Ruby's in Ithaca.
- PR and Community Outreach meeting to be held with Chairs Michael Lynch, Nancy Gott, & Renee Faustmann to delineate duties for each committee before the general membership meeting on March 20 at 5:30pm.
- A new facility use form will be adapted by Christie and Al from other nonprofit groups in order for us to lend out our office.
- The Vicki Chessin Memorial plaque will be ordered for our office.
- Ed will be contacted to provide information on our next Reid Knox Forum about the PBB poisoning on March 27 at Ballyhoo Books. The GCDP is invited to join with the Isabella Democratic Party to host an event at Island Park on Saturday, April 22 (Earth Day 2023) concerning environmental resources.
- This week a notice will be sent out to begin attending trivia nights at the Block House in downtown Alma on Wednesday nights, beginning March 15 at 7:00pm as a Democratic presence

New business–

- Reconfigured 2nd Congressional District met at Wheatland Township Hall on March 11. Christie attended and found out about some financial support that may be available for our office. She will report at the general membership meeting.
- Another tip from that group is to refrain from disliking or commenting on a social media post from Republican candidates. Cut and paste the post to your own wall to comment on it, decreasing the traffic to their sites.
- Other groups we want to align with are Project 83 (formerly One Campaign) and Power Lab to gain funding for our group (Democratic Special Interest groups)
- A meeting is scheduled with Lisa Gregory to review new Canva designed website and design In Memoriam page for departed GCDP members
- We held a brief discussion of using Google Meets instead of Zoom. More research is needed to see if that is easier to set up/attend by our group

Adjourned at 11:45 by Christie Freestone

Respectfully submitted by Nancy O'Brien