

Northwest Democrats News



Oct., 2009
Volume 13 Issue 10

Northwest Democrats, P.O. Box 681911, San Antonio, TX 78268; TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

Oct. 17th Program: U.S. Senate candidate Bill White

Don't forget to attend our Oct. 17th meeting when we will hear from Houston Mayor Bill White, who is running for the U.S. Senate should Kay Bailey Hutchison resign.

Please join us for this important meeting at 8:30 am at Luby's, Floyd Curl and Huebner.

2008-2010

OFFICERS

Chair

Jacob Middleton

867-6338

Vice-Chair

Esmeralda Rodriguez

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Kathy Day

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Roger Herr

Program Director

Barbara Moschner

Membership

Barbara Rierson

Special Projects

Adam Castillo

Communications

Ruth Stewart

Past Chair

Joyce Dorrycott

680-5701

Special Projects: Eckhert Road Clean up

The next clean up will take place after the October meeting. We look forward to seeing the regulars plus some new faces. It is good exercise and contributes to the beauty of our community!

We are recycling the cans and bottles collected to help save the Earth.

Any questions, contact Adam Castillo,
adamcastillo55@yahoo.com

Previous Month Operating Expenses

Operating Contributions: \$320

Total Expenditures: \$187

Net Operating Income: \$133

Authorized & Paid for by the Northwest Democrats

To submit an article or other info, email Jacob Middleton at:
TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

Proposed Bylaws Changes

At September's meeting we passed out the proposed changes to the bylaws. We will discuss and vote on changes at our October meeting.

Change to Article VI: Governance

Currently reads: The business of the organization shall be conducted by an Executive Board, which shall consist of the elected officers of the organization and the immediate past chair. The Executive Board will have authority to act on behalf of the general membership and will have administrative authority over the organization's activities. The Executive Board will regularly report activities and decisions to the general membership. The Executive Board shall prepare an annual budget each January for approval of the general membership at the February meeting.

Executive Board meetings will be held monthly at least 10 days prior to regular meetings. Meetings of the Executive Board require a quorum of at least three officers present.

The organization shall also have an Executive Committee comprised of the elected officers of the organization and the chairs of the standing committees. Chairs of standing committees shall have administrative authority over the activities of their committees.

Change/Amendment: The Executive Committee shall hold executive meetings prior to general meeting.

Executive Board meetings will be held monthly ~~at least 10 days~~ prior to regular meetings. Meetings of the Executive Board require a quorum of at least three officers present.

Reason for the change: This eliminates the problem of future Executive Committees by not arbitrarily binding them to a set date and allows them to find a meeting time and date that all members of the committee can work with.

Change to Article II: Regular Membership

Currently reads: Membership is open to any person who wishes to support the purposes of the organization. The fiscal year of the organization is the calendar year. Membership dues are \$15.00 per year per family. Dues for renewing members are payable by the January meeting each year. New members who join the organization after July 1 will pay an amount equal to one-half of the annual dues assessment. (During 2007, dues for renewing members will be payable on the anniversary of the original membership. The dues assessment for renewing members whose anniversary date falls during the months of January through June will be \$15. Renewing members whose anniversary date falls during the months of July through December will pay \$7.50.)

Proposed Bylaws Changes Continued

Change/Amendment: Remove the last sentence of the paragraph as well as the sentences in the parentheses.

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Reason for the change: The half dues for new members after July 1 was only intended to be in place for 1 year as shown by the qualifying statement in parentheses. This was because of the new change to have all dues made payable in January.

Change to Article IV: Election and Dismissal of Officers

Currently Reads: Officers shall be elected at the November meeting in even-numbered years by a simple majority of dues current members present. The nominating committee, appointed by the chair in October, will present the slate of nominations to the membership. The slate will be published in the organization's November newsletter prior to the meeting and will be distributed in written form to members present at the meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of chair, the vice chair will assume the office of chair until the end of the term. A vacancy in the office of vice chair, secretary, or treasurer shall be filled by a majority vote of the dues current members present at the meeting immediately following notification of the vacancy.

An officer may be removed for the following reasons:

- (1) failure to attend four consecutive regular meetings or three consecutive Executive Board meetings without a valid reason;
- (2) failure to maintain membership dues;
- (3) for ~~good cause shown~~.

Changes/Amendment: Change wording in officer removal to "can remove them for cause."

Reason for change: The current wording is vague and leaves open the interpretation of what "good cause" is.

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2009 November Constitutional Election

There will be an election this November. There will be 11 Constitutional Amendments on the ballot. These eleven amendments were approved for consideration by the 81st Legislature and require a majority vote to be amended to the constitution.

For more information you can visit the Texas Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.tx.us