



Dolphin Democrats
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, May 08, 2019
6:30 PM-8:30 PM
The Pride Center at Equality Park

MINUTES

1. **Call of Meeting to Order:** President, Alfredo Olvera
 - a. 7:01
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
 - a. Michael Albetta
 - b. Moment of silence for victims of gun violence
3. **Attendance/Quorum:** Secretary Aaron Darr (Absent) Anthony Ginsberg will take in place of Aaron.
 - a. Quorum met.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** April General Membership Meeting.
 - a. Approved
5. **Public Officials, Candidates, Past Presidents, Other Leaders, Guests**

Marty Kiar, Lamar Fisher, Camille Wallace, Diane Simpson Gonzalez, Khurum Wahid, Joe Kimok, Gordon Weekes, Cynthia Busch, Alissa Schafer
Jalani Harvey, Ron Mills, Michael Albetta, James Basmajian, Linda Gallun
Guest: Paul Sparandera, Sr. (Vietnam veteran)
Several new members
Lamar Fisher and Dale Holness: pizza sponsors
6. **Guest Speakers**
 - a. **Marty Kiar, Broward County Property Appraiser;** running for re-election. Reviewed the basic workings and statistics of the Property Appraiser's office.
 - b. **Lamar Fisher, Broward County Commissioner.** Thanked the Dolphins for their endorsement last year. Reviewed his work as Commissioner; Broward County economic data and developments; transportation (benefits of the transportation initiative that passed last November); communications system. His personal focus: efficiency (eg., purchasing; building permits); homeless; affordable housing; paratransit expansion. Question about the airport: some dissatisfaction. Question about train horns and silent zones (when effective). Question about potential light rail and FEC RR. Question about affordable housing/restrictive zoning policies.
7. **Candidates for Coral Springs Commission seat.** Alfredo explained the process, the requirement for 2/3 vote to get endorsement; thus, two rounds if necessary.
 - a. Diane Gonzalez Simpson. Got November 2018 endorsement from DD. Issues: (1) spending; taxes; (2) public safety; (3) accessibility to government; ease of doing business. Would be only commissioner with financial background if elected.
 - b. Khurum Wahid. A criminal defense lawyer whose professional motivation has been to defend "the others" which over his career has included the LGBTQ+ community. He is a member of the Dolphins and Florida State Democratic LGBTQA Caucus.



- c. Camille Wallace. First time candidate. Basic, long-time motivation: serve the community. Issues: affordable housing; seniors; disabled; homeless; fiscal responsibility. Questions re “religious rights” laws/Response: a complex issue, controversial (as with the climate change issue). Nik invited her to come back to learn more about the way religion is used to discriminate against the LGBTQ+ community.
 - d. First round voting result: a 2/3 winner: K. Wahid. Offered his thanks. Win or lose: he will always be our ally. Alfredo noted that as the winner of our endorsement he gets automatic endorsement of the State LGBTA Caucus.
- 8. Nik Harris, Vice President’s report.** (1) LGBTQ+ personality highlight: Billy Porter. (2) “There is no such thing as a good stereotype.” Concept: even a good stereotype puts pressure on people to behave in particular ways—makes it more difficult to accept differences and persons for who they are. (3) Replay of micro-aggression video from last month.
- 9. Report of Officers**
- a. **Secretary’s Report:** Sec. Aaron Darr
No Report
 - b. **Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer Adam Sabin (given by Alfredo in Adam’s absence).
Bank Balance: 10,524.95
The Finance Committee met, and delivered its draft budget to the board (copy attached). The board will be voting on its approval at the next board meeting.
The trivia night was a lot of fun, and I’m happy to report we made a profit of \$144.60 from hosting it. Many thanks to Alfredo and all involved who help organize and coordinate it.
We need sponsors! If anyone is interested in sponsoring one of our mixers or general meetings, please let me know.
If you haven’t already done so, please join the statewide FL LGBTA Caucus (\$30 for single membership), so that Broward County can be adequately represented at the State level.
 - c. **President’s Report:** President Alfredo Olvera.
 - i. Equality Act: US House of Representatives, passed. Now time to put pressure on Senators.
- 10. Reports of Committees:**
- a. **Membership Committee:** Paul Sparandera Jr
 - i. 211 members
 - ii. Rumors: next mixer
 - iii. Stonewall pride—booth and Parade.
 - b. **Volunteer Committee:** Anthony Ginsberg
 - i. Highlighted three of the current/upcoming volunteer opportunities:
 - 1. Stonewall Pride (working in the booth and marching in the Parade)
 - 2. Recurring voter registration at Poverello every Thursday
 - 3. Voter registration training May 31st given by Dolphins Zachary Durand and Edward Leuchs.
 - c. **Outreach Committee:** Anthony Ginsberg
 - i. “2019 Florida Legislative Session Wrap Up.” June 13, 7-9 pm. ArtServe.
Sponsored by Women’s March Florida, Broward Young Black Progressives, and Ruth’s List Broward.
 - d. **Fundraising & Events Committee:** Lindsay Pollard
 - i. No report.
- 11. Announcements for The Good of The Party**
- a. **Melissa Ward Peterson: will be running for Secretary of DEC; election May 29.**



- b. **Hillary Dougherty: Sunday May 12, noon, Homestead: Women's March, ACLU, Broward Immigrant Justice Coalition.**
 - c. **Michael Albetta: State LGBTQA Caucus summer conference; Florida Blue summer conference.**
 - d. **This Saturday annual letter carrier food drive.**
- 12. Meeting Adjourned: 8:25 pm.**