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**DOLPHIN DEMOCRATS
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2022
7:00pm - 8:00pm**

1. **Welcome/Call to Order:** President Alfredo Olvera called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm
2. **Pledge:** Member Michael Albetta led the group in the pledge of allegiance
3. **Attendance/Quorum:** Secretary - Tina Jaramillo
 - a. Determination of Quorum: Secretary Tina Jaramillo stated that quorum has been met (27/25)
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **Last Membership Meeting Minutes:** [January 12, 2022](#)
 - b. Membership meeting minutes were approved.
5. **Elected Officials, Candidates, Leaders**
6. **Reports:**
 - a. **President:** Alfredo Olvera
 - i. President Alfredo Olvera presented a video of Hallandale Commissioner Sabrina Javellana and Plantation Councilwoman Denise Horland who offered updates on the legislative session
 1. HB 1557/ SB 1834 “Dont Say Gay”—the space was filled so they couldn’t attend but stated that great testimony was presented. They noted the chair did not let everyone speak and the bill, so far, has passed along party lines so far.
 2. HB 5/SB 146 15 Week Abortion Ban: They noted that they would be speaking out against the bill, which is an attack on women.
 3. They noted that these bills were about playing to a base.
 4. They defined what a pre-emption bill means.
 5. They spoke about two (2) good bills
 - a. SB630: bill for incarcerated pregnant women—she can spend 12 weeks of supervised release with her child
 - b. SB518 Tree protection bill to help the environment
 - c. HB239 Smoking in Public Places—allowing municipalities to carve out smoking areas
 6. Call to Action: On Thursday, February 10th at 9am, the abortion ban is being heard—they urged members to look up committee members online and contact them ASAP; they also suggested finding state representatives to oppose the “Don’t Say Gay” bill; they also suggested that folks could get involved at the local level and ask their local electeds to advocate against these dangerous bills and go to Tallahassee.
 - ii. T-Shirts are now for Sale \$20 each: [CLICK HERE TO BUY](#)
 - iii. Florida AIDS Walk - Join or Donate
 1. President Alfredo Olvera asked members to join the group at the Florida AIDS Walk.
 - iv. February Membership Mixer: President Alfredo Olvera noted that membership mixers will begin again this month.

v. 40th Anniversary Gala: President Alfredo Olvera reminded members of the upcoming gala and hopes to see everyone there.

b. Vice President: Schaffer Zaret

i. Report: "Don't Say Gay" Bill

ii. Vice President Schaffer Zaret presented on the "Don't Say Gay" bill (SB1834/HB1557) iii. She detailed the ramifications of the bill and challenged the group to think about how to deal with what's next.

c. Treasurer: Hillary Dougherty : Treasurer Hillary Dougherty presented the treasurer's report. i.

Bank Balance: \$23,493.15

ii. For the full report, click [HERE](#)

d. Committees:

i. Legislative: Anthony Ginsberg and Matt Eaton - see report below

ii. Campaign: Lorenzo Robertson - no report

iii. Membership: Nicky Vasquez

iv. Communications: Emma Collum & Nic Zantop - see report

v. Club and Caucus: Jose Cedeno - no report

vi. Community Outreach: - no report

vii. Events and Fundraising: - no report

viii. Municipality and County Outreach: - no report

7. New Business:

a. Directors election: Comms Team

i. Election: Candidates Jose Cedeno and Mark McKenzie spoke about why they are running.

ii. President Alfredo Olvera explained the duties of a board member to the group. iii. Two additional folks announced their candidacy for a board seat: Adrianna Tender and Marc Martonana

iv. All nominees won with an acclamation vote.

b. Black History Month

i. Chairs Emma Collum and Nic Zantop presented a slideshow on Black History month ii. They said that to be involved you can offer (in the words of former Dolphins Vice President Nik Harris), your time, talent, testimony, and treasure

iii. Link to [presentation](#).

c. Work of the Dolphin Democrats

i. President Alfredo Olvera spoke about the endorsements and candidate engagements the organization has done in the past two years.

ii. President Alfredo Olvera spoke about how despite Covid-19, the organization was able to continue to hold meetings without missing quorum.

iii. President Alfredo Olvera thanked outgoing Board Member Anthony Ginsberg for his service to the organization.

8. Guest Speaker: Fred Fejes: "The Early Days of The Dolphin Democrats"

a. Former member of the Dolphin Democrats, Fred Fejes, presented the history of the Dolphin Democrats and traced the legacy of the organization and traced its path to politics.

b. He also discussed the challenges facing the gay community in Broward County from the 70s to today.

9. Old Business:

10. For the Good of the Party: Harrison GrandWilliams aide to Nan Rich spoke about an ordinance being written for Broward that would make symbols of hate illegal.

11. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm

Committee Reports

1. Legislative: Anthony Ginsberg and Matt Eaton - see report

Anthony Ginsberg and Matt Eaton gave the report.

CHAIR: ANTHONY GINSBERG – ANTHONY3300@COMCAST.NET

CO-CHAIR: MATT EATON – MATTEATON90@GMAIL.COM

COMMITTEE UPDATES

NEW CO-CHAIR: MATT EATON

RECENT COMMITTEE DECISIONS ABOUT OUTREACH TO MEMBERSHIP:

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

EACH THURSDAY

ON ALL DD SOCIAL MEDIA

AS EMAIL TO MEMBERSHIP

PROGRESS ON BILLS; WHICH LEGISLATORS TO THANK

WHEN POSSIBLE: ZOOM MEETINGS WITH A LEGISLATOR

STATE LBGTQ+ CAUCUS “LOBBY DAYS”

FEBRUARY 7 – 11 (MONDAY – FRIDAY)

BILL FOCUS:

HB 7/SB 148 – “STOP W.O.K.E. ACT”

HB 5/SB 146 – 15 WEEK ABORTION BAN

HB 1557/ SB 1834 – “Don’t SAY GAY”/PARENTAL RIGHTS

HB 747/SB 1820 – “PROTECTIONS OF MEDICAL CONSCIENCE”

(TENTATIVE) HB 1467/SB 1300

STATE LBGTQ+ CAUCUS WINTER CONFERENCE

“TURN IT UP – TURN IT OUT”

ANNUAL EVENT

2022: FEBRUARY 11 – 13 (FRIDAY – SUNDAY)

VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON

ST. PETERSBURG

WEBSITE INFORMATION AND SIGN-UP: [HTTPS://WWW.LGBTQDEMS.ORG/](https://www.lgbtqdemocrats.org/)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

WELCOME RECEPTION, 6:30 PM. – 8:30 PM.

HOSTED BY THE STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF PINELLAS COUNTY

--GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE FLORIDA COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES, NIKKI FRIED

--GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE SEN. ANNETTE TADDEO

--ST. PETERSBURG MAYOR KEN WELCH

STATE LGTBQ+ WINTER CONFERENCE

EVOLVING PROGRAM:

BREAKFAST PROGRAM INCLUDES CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE STATE REP. MICHELE RAYNER

PANELS:

“ERASING LBGTQ+ VOICES IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES”

“IS FLORIDA LEADING THE WAY IN ANTI-LBGTQ+ LEGISLATION?”

“EXPANDING THE RAINBOW: ATTRACTING DIVERSE LBGTQ+ DEMOCRATIC ACTIVISTS”

“LBGTQ+ - BUT THE T IS SILENT”

.....MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED

EVENING COCKTAIL RECEPTION, 7 PM. – 9 PM. (SEPARATELY TICKETED)

--US SENATE CANDIDATE REP. VAL DEMINGS

--GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE REP. CHARLIE CRIST

--EQUALITY FLORIDA’S NADINE SMITH RECEIVING THE LIFETIME LEADERSHIP AWARD

RECENT LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

ADDITIONS TO OUR COVERAGE

SB 524 – “ELECTION ADMINISTRATION”

THE GOVERNOR’S EFFORT TO CREATE AN OFFICE OF ELECTION CRIMES AND SECURITY WITHIN THE DEPT. OF STATE (SECRETARY OF STATE IS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR)
TO BE HEARD/VOTED ON IN JUST ONE SENATE COMMITTEE: APPROPRIATIONS

AN EXPANSION OF SEVERAL OF THE VOTE-SUPPRESSING ASPECTS OF LAST YEAR’S SB 90
(CHALLENGES TO SB 90 NOW IN FEDERAL TRIAL)

HB 221 – OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

FEB. 1: REP. EVAN JENNE (HD 99) APPROVED AS CO-SPONSOR
THANK REP. JENNE: EVAN.JENNE@MYFLORIDAHOUSE.GOV

TO CREATE AN OFFICE OF DEI WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR.
ASSIGNED TO 3 COMMITTEES; HAS YET TO BE HEARD.

UPDATES FROM THE PAST WEEK

FL LEGISLATURE IN THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT. INCREASED VISIBILITY FROM OUR COMMUNITY
AND ALLIED ORGANIZATIONS IN THE PRESS AND SOCIAL MEDIA, ESPECIALLY THIS WEEK

TOP TIER OF REPUBLICAN BILLS IN THE FIRST MONTH
PROMOTES THE CONSERVATIVE/RADICAL LIBERTARIAN/RACIST/ANTI-LGBTQ STATE

- (1) EXPANDS “IMPLICIT PREEMPTION” ALLOWING CORPORATIONS TO THWART MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY LAW MAKING. **HB 403/SB 280 AND HB 569/SB 620**
- (2) WEAKENS SCHOOL DISTRICT ABILITY TO DETERMINE EDUCATIONAL CONTENT UNDER THE GUISE OF “PARENTAL RIGHTS” AS A WAY TO DENY EDUCATIONAL EXPOSURE TO THE FULL RANGE OF US HISTORY, RACE RELATIONS, AND ISSUES OF SEXUAL IDENTITY AND GENDER. **HB 1557/SB 1834; HB 7/SB 148; HB 57/SB 242; HJF 35/SJR 244**
- (3) RESTRICTIONS ON REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM & JUSTICE: ABORTION – **HB 5/SB 146**;
TRANSGENDER AFFIRMATION PROCEDURES – **HB 211**.

2. **Campaign:** Lorenzo Robertson - no report
3. **Membership:** Nicky Vasquez - see report
 - o President Alfredo Olvera gave the report
 - o 314 members in 2021 and so far 165 members for 2022
4. **Communications:** Emma Collum & Nic Zantop - see report
 - o Chairs Emma Collum and Nic Zantop presented a slideshow on Black History month o They said that to be involved you can offer (in the words of former Dolphins Vice President Nik Harris), your time, talent, testimony, and treasure
 - o Link to [presentation](#).
5. **Municipality and County Outreach:** - no report
6. **Club and Caucus:** Jose Cedeno - no report