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**DOLPHIN DEMOCRATS
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**March 9, 2022
7:00pm - 8:00pm**

- 1. Welcome/Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm
- 2. Pledge:** Wilton Manors Scott Newton led the group in the pledge of allegiance
- 3. Attendance/Quorum:** Secretary - Tina Jaramillo
 - a. Determination of Quorum
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **Last Membership Meeting Minutes:** [February 9, 2022](#)
 - b. Membership meeting minutes approved
- 5. Elected Officials, Candidates, Leaders**
 - a. Elected officials greeted the crowd
 - i. Paul Rolli. Nancy Metayer, Sabrina Javellena. Clay Miller–candidate, Elijah Manly–candidate
- 6. Reports:**
 - a. **President:** Alfredo Olvera
 - i. President Alfredo Olvera spoke about the changes since Covid-19 hit, and noted that our membership has grown.
 - ii. President Alfredo Olvera announced that member Kate Kahn’s father is hosting an art exhibition at the Pride Center on April 22nd to fundraise for the Pride Center, the Dolphin Democrats, and Women in Distress.
 - iii. Ted Deutch is leaving his seat.
 - iv. Legislation passed “15 week abortion Bill” and “Don’t Say Gay Bill”
 1. President Alfredo Olvera showed a video from the Senate floor in Tallahassee addressing the Don’t Say Gay Bill.
 2. President Alfredo Olvera expressed that while there are many bad bills there are still legislators trying to do good work and some will speak at our next meeting in April.
 3. President Alfredo Olvera said that we need to have conversations with our families and neighbors about these issues and we are going to start with District 100 (Florida House Representative Chip LaMarca’s seat).
 - a. He explained that members can help by
 - i. Sending mailers
 - ii. Donating money
 - iii. Phone banking
 - iv. Knocking doors
 - b. He also explained that we need to form a pac so that we can participate in key races in Broward.
 4. Without You We Lose:
 - a. Al Ferguson, spokesman the local Gay News Tonight channel, spoke about the Without You We Lose campaign.

- b. He explained that they are forming a strategic partnership with the LGBTQ Caucus
 - i. He showed campaign video for Without You We Lose
 - ii. He invited members to record a message for this campaign
 - c. He explained that the network (Gay News Tonight) is growing
 - v. AIDS Walk - Saturday, March 19
 - 1. [Join the Team](#)
 - 2. [Donate to our Team](#)
 - 3. President Alfredo Olvera encouraged members to donate or join the team for the walk.
 - vi. Gala Party Tickets and Sponsorship for Sale Now
 - 1. President Alfredo Olvera shared information (including pricing) about the upcoming Gala
 - 2. [Early Bird Admission](#)
 - 3. [Sponsorships](#)
 - vii. T-Shirts are now for Sale \$20 each: [CLICK HERE TO BUY](#)
 - b. **Vice President:** Vice President Schaffer Zaret presented the speakers for the Women in Politics forum and asked a series of questions regarding the state of politics and women in politics. i. Forum: Women in Politics
 - 1. Coral Springs Commissioner: Nancy Metayer
 - 2. Hallandale Commissioner: Sabrina Javellana
 - 3. HRC Director: Nik Harris
 - 4. Ruth's List President: Emma Collum
 - 5. All panelists spoke about the importance of equity in politics. They shared their hope for the future of women in politics and hope for their communities as well.
 - 6. President Alfredo Olvera spoke about how the panelists are allies to the community and thanked them for their work.
 - c. **Treasurer:** Hillary Dougherty
 - i. Treasurer Hillary Dougherty gave the Treasurer's Report
 - ii. **Bank Balance:** \$24,529.07
 - iii. 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 - no 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. President Alfredo Olvera introduced Elijah Manly who spoke about the firing of the Fort Lauderdale police chief, Larry Sciroto, who was the first gay police chief of Fort Lauderdale. He explained that the police chief was fired for trying to promote diversity in the police department.
- b. He read a resolution questioning the firing of City of Fort Lauderdale Police Chief Larry Sciroto and calling for the reinstatement of his position.
 - i. Christina Curry motioned to accept the resolution; Robyn Raymond seconded the motion; motioned passed with all in favor.
 - ii. Christina Curry gave some background to the climate of the police department.
 - iii. Parliamentarian Bill Brown spoke about the resolution and said that it

1. shakes up the good ol boys system
2. provides an equal playing field
3. gives hope to minorities in the police department

8. Old Business:

9. For the Good of the Party:

- a. President Alfredo Olvera announced that he next meeting will be on April 13th and thanked the group for their work
- b. Tom Lander of Safe Schools thanked and applauded groups who came together for Safe School Florida events.

10. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Committee Reports

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

- Click for link to [Legislative Update](#) Slideshow
- Co-Chair Matthew Eaton presented the report/slideshow
- He covered the Anti-Gay bill, the anti-woke bill, and the 15 week abortion ban, and election crime laws
- Co-Chair Matthew Eaton reminded everyone to sign up with ballottrax
- Co-Chair Anthony Ginsberg spoke about changes to election forms which will make it possible for third party organizations to register voters.

2. **Campaign:** Lorenzo Robertson - no report

3. **Membership:** Nicky Vasquez - no report

- Chair Nicky Vasquez was out of town so President Alfredo Olvera gave the report.
- 210 members; 37 renewed; and 8 new members
- He thanked our Harvey Milk membership and our gold and silver memberships.

4. **Communications:** Emma Collum & Nic Zantop -see report

5. **Municipality and County Outreach:** - no report

6. **Club and Caucus:** Jose Cedeno - no report