

## DEC Meeting Minutes February 15, 2021 at 7pm via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Debbie Kent, Secretary at 7pm via Zoom. Quorum verified. Dave Dew made the motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Roseann Ryba. Suzanne Fox made a motion to accept the minutes from the January meeting, Bill Smithson seconded.

Kat Kehoe, Susan Stutz, Paula Albright and Jackie Trancynger introduced themselves as guests to the DEC group. Welcome!

The nominations for Chair were opened.

- Mary Higgins was nominated by Liz Grossman and seconded by Dennis Fruitt.
- Kat Kehoe was nominated by Jami Duckson? Mary explained that Kat was ineligible due being an automatic member of DEC.

**Mary was elected to the position of Chair by acclamation.** Mary takes over the meeting as elected Chair.

Motion by Dave Dew to receive Jackie Trancynger back on the DEC, Erin Fogerty seconded.

Nominations opened for Treasurer was announced and Bill Smithson was nominated. Bill accepted the nomination. Bill Smithson gave the Treasurer's report. Election will be at the March 15th meeting.

Mary pitched for monthly donations to the DEC. Can send checks to Martin County Democratic Headquarters, 948 SE Central Parkway, Stuart, FL 34994 or go to [MartinCountyDemocrats.org](http://MartinCountyDemocrats.org) and donate through the website. Options there are Paypal, credit and/or debit cards.

**Dave Dew, State Committeeman** report.

- Next state meeting will be March 13th.
- Dave made a motion to DEC to renew the lease on the office, Liz Grossman seconded. First year is the same rent as before and there will be a 5% increase for the following years. Signing a 2-year lease.
- Dave suggested that people may be willing to protest at Brian Mast's office. To get more information contact Dave Dew at 772-238-7051.
- Mary Higgins, State Committeewoman, stated the March 13th meeting will be the Rules Committee and the Judicial Committee will be set up. Congratulations to Dave Dew for election to the Judicial.

**Kat Kehoe, Club President**-Kat introduced that they have a survey to determine the direction of the Club based on responses. Kat also reviewed Martin County voting statistics with the group.

**Carol Ann Leonard, Environmental Caucus**-Carol Ann announced the caucus is staying on top of legislation and has sent letters to our Representatives. Barbara Buckles expressed interest in the group. Contact Carol Ann Leonard at [bonbinifromcal@aol.com](mailto:bonbinifromcal@aol.com).

**Jami Duckson, Progressive Caucus**-The Progressive Caucus had their elections months ago. Melissa Keys is now on the Board. Staying connected through weekly happy hours!

**Women's Club**-No election yet. The state meeting is coming up and looking for speakers.

**Margaret Cox, Vice Chair**-No report now as she is getting to know the position and responsibilities. Had asked about the steering committee and Mary responded the steering

committee is the choice of the Chair, including new committees. Mary thanked Margaret for serving!

**Mary Higgins, Chair**-Announced that one focus is to teach other small counties what we do. Things we can do in our county and other small red counties. Mary Higgins was elected the Chair of Congressional District 18 and Vice Chair is Tyler Smith. If you have interest in the FDP, call Mary 772-519-3820. We honored **Laurie Prim**, our fierce activist that has moved north, to our dismay! She was gracious as always and excited to tell us all about settling in with the kids' schools and the SNOW! We are SURE going to MISS her!

**Old Business**-IndivisibleMartin is making leadership changes right now and will post updates when announced. Zina asked about protesting, for more information call Dave Dew, 772-238-7051.

**New Business**-Patty Koff thanked Mary and asked about having a Zoom bomb. Mary shared that it did happen before however the link was shared on social media. We now ask that no links be posted on social media.

**Announcements**-Docktails is on the calendar for November 13th, in person, at the Dolphin Bar!

Motion to adjourn made by Liz Grossman and Dave Dew seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.