

## Minutes of TDC Members Meeting January 26, 2023

- Call to Order by Chair – Hirak Chanda at 7:02 p.m.
- Approval of December 2022 Minutes
- Motion to approve: Hirak Chanda Second: Steve Sadlier
- Introduction of guests: Aisha Farooqi, Uzma Ruiz, Cassidy Conbety
- Remarks by outgoing Board members and thanked them for their service to the TDC: Larry Winkie, Steve Sadlier, Kathy Martin, Jesse Chvojka, and Padma Kuppa
- In attendance: Kelly Jones, Hirak Chanda, Steve Sadlier, Rick Wochoski, Regina Cable, Renis Nushaj, Xinhui Zhang, Erich Goetz, Tonya Goetz, Ann Erikson Gault, Laurie Evans, Chuck Shepherd, Matthew Dargay
- Guests in Attendance: Aisha Farooqi, Uzma Ruiz, Cassidy Conbety
- Roll call of TDC Officers: Hirak Chanda, Kelly Jones, Steve Sadlier, (Absent: Kate Goodin, Larry Winkie, Sadek Rahman, Nicole Balintfy, Jesse Chvojka, Kathy Martin, absent
- Election of Temporary Chair: Ann Erikson Gault elected by acclamation
- 1<sup>st</sup> Order of Business: Elect Temporary Election Secretary
- Election of Temporary Election Secretary: Laurie Evans elected by acclamation
- Credentialing of members present and one by FaceTime, Sandy Burgess
- Guests attending meeting were ineligible to vote
- Election of new TDC Board conducted by Temporary Chair, Ann Erikson Gault
- Followed the election procedures outlined at Michigan.Gov
- Opened Floor for nominations
- Approved TDC Executive Board Slate by Acclamation:  
Hirak Chanda, Chair  
Kelly Jones, Vice Chair  
Renis Nusaj, Treasurer  
Regina Cable, Recording Secretary  
Rick Wochoski, Corresponding Secretary  
Sadek Rahman, Trustee  
Erich Goetz, Trustee  
Kathy Martin, Trustee  
XinHui Zhang, Trustee
- Introductions by New Board Members:
- Rick Wochoski, Corresponding Secretary  
Writer by profession  
Wants to work on outreach  
Troy Dems are the heart of the Oakland County Democratic Party  
Plans a monthly newsletter emailed to members
- Renis Nusaj, Treasurer  
Thanked Tonya Goetz, Aisha, and Padma Kuppa  
We ask a lot of our volunteers.

- Erich Goetz, Trustee  
Lawyer by training  
Motivated to get involved with his wife, Tonya Goetz  
Getting involved is critical to our success as Democrats  
We must win the next election cycle.
- XinHui Zhang, Trustee  
GM Engineer  
Colleague of Hirak Chanda  
Troy is the first and only city they chose to live and raise their son  
Vice Chair of Chinese organization  
Actively involved in a leadership role with a school in China before coming to the US
- Kelly Jones, Vice Chair  
Staffer for Sharon MacDonnell  
Spoke about Senate legislation passed – Pension tax repeal  
In Lansing they are working on repealing 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Law and 1930 Abortion Law  
Gun Safety is a priority  
Introduced Matt Dargay, Sharon MacDonnell's other staffer
- Kathy Martin, Trustee
- Regina Cable, Recording Secretary  
10<sup>th</sup> Precinct Delegate since 2012 working independently until becoming involved with the Troy Precinct Delegates and Troy Dems.  
Experience as Recording Secretary for the bargaining team of the Fraser Education Association 2003-2015 and President of the FEA, 2012-2015.
- Hirak Chanda, Chair  
Came to the US at 21. First to Minnesota then to Michigan  
Son is at U of M  
Current membership is at 100, which is good but could be so much better  
Troy Dems cards were distributed through PDs  
We are under the umbrella of the OCDP and the MDP  
We need to be prepared to be as involved as possible in the next election cycle  
Outreach is essential  
PDs are the most important
- Laurie Evans, Troy PD Co-Chair and DPDOC Chair  
Learn more and participate  
The more PDs we have, the easier the work  
Our goals are to inform, engage, and make sure the voters have the information they need  
PDs can join the MDP anytime up to and including the day of the convention on February 11<sup>th</sup> and will be able to vote as a delegate. The MDP SpringConvention is at

Huntington Place in Detroit. Democrats can join MDP or renew your membership for as low as \$10 per year. Those that are not precinct delegates must join the MDP at least 30 days prior to a convention.

Mid-February there will be an online information session for PDs

There will be brief Q&A about PDs and again in March on Zoom

Topics to cover will be canvassing, phone banking, and how to get involved as a PD

Talk to those that are not Democrats, friends, and young adults

- Matt Dargay, staffer for Sharon MacDonell working on community outreach
- Aisha Farooqi, extended thanks and appreciation to everyone for their support during the election for District 57 State House of Representatives

Aisha feels that outreach to high school students and even home-schooled students.

Start at high school and move up to college

#### 8:04 Floor Opened to Comment

- 87,000 residents in Troy
- Novi, Farmington Hills, and Troy vote margins were not that high
- We need to continue to be vigilant. Our work is not done.
- Steve Sadlier asked if we can find the election breakdown of other communities?
- Laurie Evans said that they are in the process of analyzing the data from the election to determine how Troy voted compared to other cities in the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District with regards to the Proposals and races for Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Padma Kuppa, and Haley Stevens.
- There's lots of behind the scenes work being done.
- Upcoming races for Troy City Council, Local, State, and School Boards are intertwined. County seats and Councils are non-partisan.
- HIRAK CHANDA closed the meeting with final thoughts and questions: Should we meet every month or alternate with something fun on alternate months? A follow-up discussion and comments will take place at subsequent meetings.

#### Good and Welfare

Next Meeting will be Thursday February 23, 2023

8:16 pm Call for adjournment by HIRAK CHANDA. Seconded by Steve Sadlier