

DOWNTOWN INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS

MEETING MINUTES

Monday July 28, 2014 6:00 pm
10 Bleecker St. & Vons Bar 3 Bleecker St.

Meeting was called to order by DID president Jeanne Wilcke.

MEETING WITH CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR: ZEPHYR TEACHOUT

Zephyr Teachout outlined her vision for NYS as candidate for Governor, and asked for DID support for the Zephyr Teachout / Timothy Wu team for the Primary on September 9.

As Governor she would focus on:

- Schools
- Infrastructure
- Building on NYS natural resources for a livable future
- Immigrants and diversity to build for the future

She termed the Cuomo version as a “bleak future” dominated by big business (exemplified by the proposed Comcast - Time Warner merger) and Cuomo’s failure to ban fracking.

She stated that Albany Corruption is worse than ever, citing Cuomo’s questionable actions in regard to the Moreland Commission.

During a short Q & A period, she clarified that she is not just running to move Cuomo on his positions, she is running to win. She stated support for campaign finance reform and community empowerment.

After the meeting with Zephyr Teachout, a DID Executive Committee meeting was convened at Vons at 3 Bleecker St.

DID EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Attendance: 8 Executive Committee Members and 3 guests.

1. EXPAND GRANTS OF CLEMENCY IN NY STATE

Presentation by Justin Carroll asking for DID support on the call for Governor Cuomo to expand grants of clemency.

2. SILENT VIGIL ON NEED TO EXPAND GRANTS OF CLEMENCY IN NY STATE

Request for DID support of the Silent Vigil on clemency to take place on September 6 outside the Mt. Kisco home of Governor Cuomo.

RESOLUTION: A resolution passed supporting the call for Governor Cuomo to address the expansion of grants of clemency & support the 9/06 vigil. Justin Carroll will follow up with additional language for the resolution and details on the Silent Vigil on September 6.

3. FOOD & WATER WATCH

Jeanne Wilcke presented the Food & Water Watch organization's request for DID's support and endorsement.

RESOLUTION: The DID Executive Committee recommends to the General Membership that we support and endorse Food & Water Watch in their good efforts to ensure the food, water and fish we consume is safe, accessible and sustainable.

4. ENDORSEMENTS FOR GOVERNOR & LT. GOVERNOR

Discussion of DID endorsement of Zephyr Teachout for Governor and Timothy Wu for Lt. Governor:

Motion (Harold Donohue) for the Executive Committee to recommend that the DID general Membership endorse the Teachout / Wu ticket.

a) A friendly amendment was made to first reopen DID endorsements for NYS Governor and Lt. Governor.

(At the endorsement meeting last May, DID General Membership voted "No endorsement at this time" for the positions of Governor and Lt. Governor

Passed: Unanimous in favor.

b) Recommendation to the General Membership to endorse Teachout / Wu.

Passed: 7 yes / 1 abstain.

5. NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Membership Meeting will take place approximately 3rd week of August. At that time we will consider a formal endorsement for Governor and Lt. Governor and present Executive Committee recommendations and resolutions to be passed.

UPDATE: The next General Member Meeting will be Wednesday August 27th, 2014.

The meeting was closed.