

Colorado River Tea Party Meeting January 4, 2023

Gilbert called the meeting to order at 6 PM.

Deacon Rick Douglas with St. John Newman Catholic Church gave the invocation.

Big Wayne led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and led us in prayer for Cecil

Gilbert read the Mission Statement.

Nikki read the minutes from the last two meetings. Michael made a motion to accept, Gary seconded. Motion passed.

Ruth read the Treasurers report for the month of December. Carla made a motion to accept, Sharon seconded. Motion passed.

Gilbert introduced the new **Executive Board Members for 2024:** Gilbert Hernandez - Chairman, Dr. Chandrasikhar Doniparthi - Vice Chair, Nikki Pollard - Secretary, Ruth Milne Treasurer, Big Wayne Russell - Sergeant at Arms, Carla Hernandez – Ways and Means. Neil Rowe contributes to distributing our biweekly update of “Forbidden News” and Cora Lee Schingnitz is in charge of the biweekly newsletter.

Gilbert praised Jim Huber for taking over as Chairman for the Colorado River Tea party when Gilbert was not able to continue in this position due to health issues. Jim stepped up and took on this responsibility despite losing his job at the hospital due to Covid and being the breadwinner in his family. Thank you Jim for your commitment and resiliency.

Ways and Means: Carla said we are in need of volunteers to set up for the Date Festival this week end downtown on Main Street. We still need volunteers for the Farmer’s Market at the Yuma Palms on January 20th. Gilbert asked for a motion to participate in the Barbecue and Brew Festival February 23 & 24 for a fee of \$100.00 each day. Michael made a motion and Sharon seconded. Motion passed.

Jeff Stoner Candidate for Yuma District 1 School Board is one of our featured speakers tonight. Jeff is running to provide a safe learning environment for our children that improve student achievements in reading, writing, math and technology. He said we need to bring back more education toward trade schools and allow Education Scholarships where the money goes with the student. Equally important is providing a safe environment on school property including bathrooms, locker rooms, showers and field trips. Senate Bill 1040 passed in the senate but Katie Hobbs vetoed it. The bill required access to a single occupancy restroom or changing facility to anyone who requests it. Transgender takes precedence over cisgender in our schools and we need to set a policy not a practice. Every Principal can make a decision about the bathroom policy but schools won’t make decisions for fear of federal funding being withdrawn. Jeff said “I’m not a politician” and just passionate in a fight for our kids. Please sign his petition to get him on the ballot.

Deacon Rick Douglas, St. John Newman Catholic Church is our second featured speaker this evening. Mr. Douglas has been involved with the military all his life. He is a Vietnam Vet and has been a Deacon for 16 years. His message is succinct. It’s time we stood up to the other side and say NO MORE. The Democrats get everything they want and we give them everything. We have things we need to defend. Quit giving in to the social elite. Corruption has overtaken the world. There are only 2 genders, we need to defend that fact. Abortion is the

sanctity of life and is not negotiable. God says no to abortion. The government gives the church 500 million a year for immigration. Say No to illegal immigration, Say no to the government. Don't be afraid to carry, even in church. Pick your fight! And his last comment that remains with me is "Your moral conscience is God taking to your heart". We need more speakers like Deacon Douglas. Thank you Gilbert for this inspirational speaker.

Dr. Doniparthi spoke about New Years Resolutions involving health and being strong physically. He recommended reading the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People which entails the skill, knowledge and desire to do it. He discussed good diet suggestions and physical activity to increase strength and flexibility.

Tanya Wright, Co-chair Yuma GOP said we need to get everyone on board this year and make your voices heard. The people elected those in office and they are accountable to the people. She gave a shout out to Ruth Milne who is the "Queen of Voter Registration" and reported that Republicans gained 325 new voter registrations from Oct-Dec and Democrats decreased registrations by 295 in the same period.

Neil was out sick tonight so we failed to get our dose of "Forbidden News" Gilbert asked for a motion to adjourn. Tom made a motion, it was seconded and the motion passed. We adjourned at 7:15 PM to face another cold and dark 60 degrees night.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nikki Pollard - Secretary