



MI3CD Democrats Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2025

- I. Call to Order - 10:04am
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Land Acknowledgment
- II. Roll Call of Officers
 - A. Present: Chair Donna Secor Pennington, 1st Vice Chair Gary Stark, 2nd Vice Chair Pamela Redd, Secretary Chris Herweyer, Treasurer Richard Williamson
 - B. Absent/Excused: none
- III. Credential Report & County count
 - A. Chris Herweyer reported that a quorum was present (8/19 district committee members and officers)
 - B. Attendees at the meeting from the various counties:
 - 1. Kent: 8
 - 2. Ottawa: 2
 - 3. Muskegon: 5
- IV. Approval of Agenda - Donna Pennington moved to approve the agenda as distributed, seconded by Gary Stark. Motion passed by unanimous consent.
- V. Approval of Minutes (7.13.2025) - Gary Stark moved to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Richard Williamson. Motion passed by unanimous consent.
- VI. Officers Reports
 - A. Chairperson - Donna Pennington shared that work is ongoing for chartering a bus for the April Early Endorsement Convention next year.
 - B. 1st Vice-Chair - Gary Stark shared that we received outreach from MDP with suggestions on updating our bylaws, which will be detailed below in new business. He has also been working on setting up the Senate Candidate Forum we've scheduled for November 15.
 - C. 2nd Vice-Chair - Pamela Redd shared that she has been getting additional work done on making sure the bus we charter is from a unionized company. Muskegon Dems are hoping to wrap that up soon in conjunction with 3CD Dems.
 - D. Treasurer - Richard Williamson announced that the 3CD ActBlue account is back up and running! You can register (for free) to our upcoming candidate forum on November 15 at this link: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/111525grandrapids>.

He also encouraged people to donate to help support the work we do donating to candidates and chartering a bus to convention.

- E. Secretary - Chris Herweyer reported that he is continuing to field outreach to our district inbox, but it has been relatively quiet over the last couple months.

VII. Reports of Committees

- A. Communications - Gary Stark reported that Linda has been doing a great job with our newsletter publications. Go to www.michigansthird.com to subscribe to the newsletter if you aren't already.
- B. Political Organizing - Sherlynn James reminded that the final gang run mail printing through MDP for candidates in the off-year elections is due on October 22. She also encouraged people to help make calls for Wynette Guy, our write-in candidate for Southfield City Clerk. The endorsement convention is on April 19.

VIII. State Central Report - Susan Fabrick attended the most recent meeting as she is an alternate. The October 4 meeting was more informational than decision-making this time around. The Resolutions Committee has not met since April and that has been a major issue for a while. Chair Hertel has been strongly urging members of the Resolutions Committee who have not been attending meetings to step down so that their meetings could establish a quorum and conduct business. Discussion ensued on proxy voting.

IX. County Democratic Party Reports

- A. Kent - Gary Stark shared that Kent Dems held a major fundraiser last month called Dogs & Suds that was very successful. The party also recently endorsed 3 ballot initiatives: Rank MI Vote, Invest in MI Kids, and Michiganders for Money Out of Politics. The party has also been hosting a speaker series called Do Something Now: Ask Me How that anyone is welcome to attend. All of these upcoming events can be found at www.kentdems.com.
- B. Ottawa - Christine Baker shared that the NW Ottawa Dems have been hard at work to identify a candidate for the 88th House District. An event with Mallory McMorro is being rescheduled for later this fall and they've been coordinating with the League of Women Voters out of Grand Haven on upcoming city elections and the ballot initiatives.
- C. Muskegon - Susan Fabrick shared that Muskegon Dems participated in their annual Labor Day parade. They host candidates in the hour leading up to their monthly meetings and a large number of candidates both statewide and local have taken advantage of that opportunity. They are also working to oppose a local term-limits proposal and will be hosting a citizens' roundtable in Muskegon Heights to help connect with and engage Black voters. They are also hosting a chili cookoff with local electeds on November 8. Muskegon Dems has endorsed Rank MI Vote as well, but not the other 2 yet.

X. Old business - none

XI. New business -

- A. Bylaws Change - Gary Stark introduced the proposed changes to our bylaws, specifically regarding who is welcome to attend our meeting and how to remove a member of the State Central Committee, seconded by Richard Williamson. Discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

XII. Good and Welfare

XIII. Adjournment - Motion by Sherlynn James, seconded by Richard Williamson. Meeting adjourned at 10:55am.