September 1, 2022

**In attendance**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| David Weiner | Shirley Stone |  |
| John Rossi | Roger Quon |  |
| Jon Wechsler | Mary Work |  |
| Julie Zito | Eleanor Pupko |  |
| Sandy Zito | Dan Sistarenik |  |

**Time and Location**

The meeting started at approximately 6:30 p.m. and was conducted virtually.

**Meeting Packet**

Prior to the meeting members were emailed a copy of the agenda (Attachment I).

**Discussion**

David welcomed meeting attendees.

May minutes were approved.

David led a comprehensive discussion focusing on the upcoming special election to complete Congressman Delgado’s term in the existing 19th congressional district. The election is scheduled for August 23rd pitting Republican Marcus Molinaro against Democrat Pat Ryan. David joined a modest contingent of Ryan supporters – including the candidate himself – knocking on doors in Gardner, NY the previous weekend. David shared insights about this upcoming election which includes a parallel ballot for the Democratic primary.

David explained the August 23rd election will decide which candidate, Molinaro or Ryan, will fill the Delgado vacant House seat for the 19th district through December 31, 2022. The Democratic party is also conducting a primary on August 23rd to determine which candidates will compete in the November election for the redistricted CD 18 and CD 19.

On August 23rd Ryan will be running as the party’s chosen candidate against Molinaro in the existing 19th while also running against fellow Dems seeking to oppose the Republican candidate in the redrawn 18th CD. David’s summation triggered several questions and comments from attendees of the meeting. After an in-depth discussion David asked the group to vote on a club resolution (Attachment II).

The club voted 9 – 0 in support of the resolution, with 1 abstention.

Shirley led the discussion for a club social event which was originally contemplated during the May meeting. Because of the upcoming August 23rd election, and the unprecedented circumstances enveloping this election, Shirley suggested a representative from the Ryan campaign be invited to attend the social event. Attendees strongly agreed with Shirley’s recommendation, voting 10 – 0, in support of the event. Additionally, Shirley volunteered use of her backyard for the event. Mary Work also offered use of her yard which borders directly behind Shirley’s yard. John said he will work with Shirley and David keeping the club apprised of dates, times and all event details as they arise.

David facilitated a “round table discussion” informally polling each attendee of the meeting for topics and/or concerns of interest to be addressed at future meetings. Comments included ongoing needs to; attend Town and Village meetings, promote civic engagement, hold officials accountable and stay close to zoning issues such as Rock Ledge, sidewalk dining, Buckley school and Grassmere.

**Adjournment**

At approximately 7:30 p.m. David thanked everyone for attending and formally closed the meeting.

**Next Meeting**

TBD

Minutes respectively submitted by.

John Rossi

**Attachment I**

**AGENDA**

RDC – June 22, 2022, Meeting 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

via Zoom

Agenda

Review and approve May minutes - David

Congressional District 18 & 19 Races - David

Club social / membership event and potential guest speaker(s) - Shirley/David

Round-table comments from club members "what should club be addressing"

David will facilitate, John will keep minutes

**Attachment II**

**Resolution Supporting Democrat Pat Ryan v Republican Marcus Molinaro in August 23, 2022 Special Election to Complete Congressman Antonio Delgado’s Term in Current CD 19**

Approved 9 – 0 – 1 June 22, 2022

Whereas maintaining a Democratic majority in the House of Representatives is critical to preserving American democracy and Democratic Party values,

We resolve that The Rhinebeck Democrats Club shall:

1. Use its email resources to support Pat Ryan’s election campaign to complete Congressman Antonio Delgado’s term of office in the current 19th Congressional District; and

2. Encourage its members to support the Ryan campaign in the 19th Congressional District;

3. Organize a canvassing campaign sponsored by The Rhinebeck Democrats Club for Pat Ryan election campaign in the 19th Congressional District, and

4. Not make an endorsement in this campaign, and

5. Recognize that support for Pat Ryan’s 19th district campaign may involve incidental distribution of literature or messaging involving Pat Ryan’s campaign to seek the Democratic Party’s nomination to become the Democratic Party Congressional candidate in the newly formed 18th Congressional District.