

MEETING MINUTES
BONHOMME TOWNSHIP DEMOCRATIC CLUB
MAY 14, 2016

Present: Kathe Dunlop, Jeanette Langton, Karen Miller, Rich McFall, Dennis Roach, Sharon Ryan, Jeanette Wayman , Doug Brockhouse

Opening:

Dennis Roach called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Dennis explained that the meeting minutes are now be posted on the website at <http://btdc-stldems.org>. The minutes were approved without corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Beth reported that our current balance is \$1,010.

Speaker: Gretchen Waddell Barwick, an organizer with the Missouri Chapter of the Sierra Club, spoke about their recent initiatives and concerns. The Sierra Club, founded in 1892 by John Muir, is the largest grassroots organization advocating for Conservation, Clean Air and Energy Issues, with chapters in 50 states. It's history includes blocking the construction of a damn in the Grand Canyon.

The club's activities in MO include advocacy, lobbying, and PAC endorsements for state and local legislators who vote for protecting the environment. More information and activities are available on their website <https://missouri2.sierraclub.org/>.

The focus of the Sierra Club's recent efforts is working for legislation that favors renewable energy such as wind and solar over coal (and pollutants). The Clean Power Plan is a federal mandate designed to cut carbon emissions from power plants. It lets states come up with their own plans for implementation, with oversight by the MO Dept of Natural Resources. The Sierra Club is not satisfied with the way it has been enforced, particularly with insufficient progress by Ameren to shift to more renewable energy. Kirkwood is also part of an objectionable energy arrangement with Prairie State Energy (which has a poor record on coal production).

Some legislation of particular interest:

[Senate Bill 631 - The Solar Bill of Rights](#) - Supported by the Sierra Club

[House Bill 2187 - Attacks on a New State Park](#) - Opposed by the Sierra Club

[Senate Bill 858, House Concurrent Resolution 69 and House Bill 2543 - Attacks on the Clean Power Plan](#) - Opposed by the Sierra Club

[Bills That Make it Harder to Protect Ourselves from Factory Farms](#) - Opposed by the Sierra Club

[Senate Bill 1028 and House Bill 2816 - Bad for Ratepayers, Bad for the Environment](#) - Opposed by the Sierra Club

Old Business

Caucus – The first level of the multi-tiered delegate selection process in Missouri for Bonhomme Township was held April 7th, 2016. The process will eventually lead to the selection of Democratic delegates and alternatives to the Democratic National Convention on July 25-28 in Philadelphia. The following people were elected delegates: Doug Brockhouse, Francis Pennington III, Dennis Roach, Jennifer Powers, Jean Loemker, David Bolt, Grace Burghoff, Amine Noueiry, Martha Melsha, and Michele Muraski. Alternate delegates are Mark Eagleton III, Kayla Vaughan, Grace Sheehan, Diane Sheehan, and Peter Rockwell.

New Business

Upcoming Events

- Gateway Democrats Meeting – Sunday April 17 at 1:00-3:00 PM
at the IBEW Hall, 5850 Elizabeth Ave.
- Meet and Greet for Bill Otto at Kathy Dunlop's Sunday, April 17, 2:00-4:00 pm.
670 Craigwoods Subdivision
- BTDC Picnic in the Park – June 2nd at Watson Trails park in Sunset Hills. We need a chair for this committee. So far, volunteers for the committee include Kathy Dunlop, Jeanette Langton, Karen Miller, Ann Marie Anderson, Sharon Ryan, and Jeanette Wayman. A planning meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 23rd at PJs (downtown Kirkwood).
- Greentree Festival – September 16-18. We will need a committee to plan our participation.

Next Meeting: May 12th, at Kirkwood Public Library. Our speaker will be Becky Morgan, of the Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.