

LIVONIA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2008

Call to Order

The meeting was opened at approximately 7:20 p.m. by Vice President Frank Kalinski. Generally 7:00 - 7:30 is allocated for social time with the meeting agenda beginning at 7:30. In deference to Mr. Dillon's schedule the meeting was started 10 minutes early.

Andy Dillon, Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives

Mr. Dillon spoke on key issues in Michigan and took questions from the floor. Topics included:

- The State of Michigan budget and budget process
- Difficulties in accomplishing legislative goals for Michigan in a negative partisan environment
- Electrical power and the importance of encouraging renewable energy sources
- Current important legislation including health care reform and preserving the Great Lakes
- The recall effort against him

He thanked the club for inviting him to speak. He asked that we invite him frequently as he valued the opportunity to hear our concerns and answer questions.

Ed Kriewall, Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, Michigan 11th Congressional District

Ed announced his candidacy and reviewed his qualifications. He highlighted his views on important issues in our district. For further information about Ed check his web site at KRIEWALL4CONGRESS.COM.

Judge Deborah A. Thomas, Third Judicial Circuit Court

Judge Thomas stated that the Michigan Supreme Court is improperly denying court access to citizens. It is the responsibility of the courts to provide for the peaceful resolution of disputes. Recent rulings narrowly defining statutory language (such as "anybody") to exclude citizens from having the right to seek judicial review of their complaints undermines the constitutional mandate of Separation of Power among the three branches of government. She informed us that panels are being formed to draw attention to the damage caused by the current Michigan Supreme Court. Members of the LDC may wish to consider hosting such a panel in a non-partisan manner.

She also revealed that she is planning to run for a seat on the Michigan Supreme Court.

Wanda Evans

She introduced herself as a judicial candidate for the Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court.

Bob Bennett, former Livonia Mayor

Encouraged those present to consider Patrice Mang for the Livonia Board of Education. Mr. Bennett reflected on the problems in our schools and his confidence that Patrice is well-qualified to address them. The election will be in May.

End of Meeting

Frank adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Linda Curry, Secretary