

Orleans County Democratic Committee January 3, 2018 Minutes

Next meeting to be held on **Wednesday, February 7th, 2018** at Hoag Library 7PM

Highlights from the Orleans County Democratic Committee meeting of January 3rd, 2018

Discussion on the five announced candidates running against Congressman Chris Collins followed. The candidates will be carefully scrutinized in coming months by the committee before deciding on any endorsements or contributions to campaigns.

There was a report on the upcoming Orleans Democratic Committee's Forum "Young Democrats", on January 24th, 7 PM at Hoag Library in Albion. The main speaker will be Patrick Jordan, President of NYS Young Democrats. A panel of young Democrats will offer responses to the speaker. We are looking to hear from younger voters and their reflections on the future direction of the Democratic Party. Ads will be placed in the Orleans Hub and Pennysaver. Please invite any young voters that you know. Members are also encouraged to bring refreshments to the event.

Discussion followed on future direction of Democratic endorsements: ballot access by Petition or by Caucus? Positive and negative aspects of each approach were noted. The Caucus approach is currently in use. It was agreed to continue this important conversation at coming meetings. For your information, petitions may be circulated June 5 - July 12; Caucuses could be held June 5 - September 18.

At the October 2017 meeting we scheduled a spring dinner to be held on: Saturday, April 14, 2018. However, there is now a conflict in having the Spring Dinner on April 14, 2018 because the Democratic Rural Conference has an event on that date that a number of people plan to attend. So, April 21 or 28 were selected as potential new dates for Spring Dinner - with a preference for April 21, as a few people are unavailable on the 28th.

Chair Crane notified the committee about the Democratic Rural Conference meeting in Albany, On April 13, 14th 2018.

Our Summer Picnic will be held at Bullard Park on Sunday, July 8th. This year's Orleans County 4-H Fair will be July 23-28