

<p><b>Present (please check)</b>  x – in person  z - zoom</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>X</td><td>Bill A.</td><td>X</td><td>Marlene B.</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>Erin B.</td><td>X</td><td>Harry M.</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>Chris C.</td><td>X</td><td>Anita H.</td></tr> <tr><td>Z</td><td>Rick H.</td><td>X</td><td>Ruth Ann F.</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>Janet N.</td><td>X</td><td>Sue A.</td></tr> <tr><td>Z</td><td>Amy T.</td><td>X</td><td>Jim P.</td></tr> <tr><td>Z</td><td>Linda D.</td><td>X</td><td>Sue P.</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>Pat P.</td><td>X</td><td>Meg S.</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>MaryBeth C.</td><td>X</td><td>Jim H.</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>Fay W.</td><td>X</td><td>Dana C</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>Linda M.</td><td>X</td><td>Cindy L.</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>Greg W.</td><td>X</td><td>Courtney G.</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>Jessica K.</td><td>X</td><td>Mary</td></tr> </table> <p>Guest(s):</p>	X	Bill A.	X	Marlene B.	X	Erin B.	X	Harry M.	X	Chris C.	X	Anita H.	Z	Rick H.	X	Ruth Ann F.	X	Janet N.	X	Sue A.	Z	Amy T.	X	Jim P.	Z	Linda D.	X	Sue P.	X	Pat P.	X	Meg S.	X	MaryBeth C.	X	Jim H.	X	Fay W.	X	Dana C	X	Linda M.	X	Cindy L.	X	Greg W.	X	Courtney G.	X	Jessica K.	X	Mary	<p><b><u>Wexford County Democratic Party Meeting</u></b></p> <p><b>Wednesday, October 8th, 2025</b>  <b>5:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Forward Together</b></p>	<p>Page # 1 of 4</p>
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<p><b>Call to Order</b></p>	<p>Establish Quorum  To vote at meetings, register as a Michigan Democratic Party Member here:  <a href="https://act.michigandems.com/a/member-free">https://act.michigandems.com/a/member-free</a></p> <p>Pledge of Allegiance</p>	<p><b>Chair</b> established that a quorum was present, called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. and led the party in the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>																																																				
<p><b>Introductions</b></p>																																																						
<p><b>Native Land Acknowledgement</b></p>	<p>Chair oriented group to this practice; read acknowledgement.</p>																																																					
<p><b>Review and Approval of Minutes*</b></p>	<p>September meeting minutes reviewed.</p>	<p>Upon motion duly made and seconded, the party unanimously accepted the September minutes as written.</p>																																																				
<p><b>Reports from Officers</b></p>	<p><u>Chair, Bill Allen:</u>  Time yielded to City Council candidate, Ruth Ann French.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ruth provided update on needed changes to her yard signs</li> </ul> <p><u>Vice Chair, Paula Meyers:</u>  No report this meeting.</p> <p><u>Secretary, Erin Barbus:</u>  No report this meeting.</p> <p><u>Treasurer, Vacant (provided by Chair):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeking volunteer for the Treasurer position.</li> <li>• Administrative Fund (organizational costs): \$6457.83</li> <li>• State Fund (candidate support): \$2,549.59</li> <li>• September Expenses Summary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mail Chimp subscription</li> <li>○ Blue Wave Gala tickets purchase</li> <li>○ WCDP shirts purchase</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Information sharing.</p>																																																				
<p><b>Standing Committee Reports</b></p>	<p><u>County Committee</u>  (Chair Mark Yonkman): No report this meeting.</p> <p><u>Candidate Recruitment Committee</u>  (Chair Chris Crain <a href="mailto:chrisformi101@gmail.com">chrisformi101@gmail.com</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared concept for October Kitchen Table Conversation event</li> <li>• <a href="#">Event Information</a></li> </ul> <p>Communications</p>	<p>Information sharing.</p>																																																				

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	<p>(Chair Janet Neyer <a href="mailto:j.neyer19@gmail.com">j.neyer19@gmail.com</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facebook Page (public): <a href="#">Wexford Dems</a></li> <li>• Facebook Group (private): <a href="#">Wexford Dems</a></li> <li>• Instagram (public): <a href="#">Wexford Dems</a></li> <li>• Website: <a href="https://www.wexforddems.org">https://www.wexforddems.org</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Featured events page and get involved links this meeting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Have a passion for/skills around social media and graphic design? Contact <b>Janet!</b></li> </ul> <p><u>Social and Community Development</u>  (Chair Meg Santangelo <a href="mailto:megansantangelo5@gmail.com">megansantangelo5@gmail.com</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>October Event (Thursday, October 23rd):</b>  Cider, Centerpieces and Conversation! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ The Santangelo Home (207 Petrie Rd Cadillac)</li> <li>◦ In conjunction with More Joy Farm and Flowers</li> <li>◦ \$35 fee to participate</li> <li>◦ 6:00-8:00 p.m.</li> <li>◦ <a href="#">RSVP here</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>November Event (November 3rd):</b> Pub and Politics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ The Pines (5992 East M-55 Cadillac, MI)</li> <li>◦ 5:00-7:00 p.m.</li> <li>◦ Purchase your own drinks and food</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>December Event (Friday, December 12th):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Holiday Party</li> <li>◦ Cadillac Grill (7839 46 1/2 Rd, Cadillac, MI)</li> <li>◦ Plated dinner</li> <li>◦ \$35.00 per person (includes food and gratuity)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Every Friday:</b> Coffee Hour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <a href="#">After 26 Depot</a></li> <li>◦ 10am</li> <li>◦ All are welcome for fellowship and discussion</li> <li>◦ Stay after for a pop up at the Farm Market</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Wexford Dems will support the <a href="#">Love Locker in Manton</a> community organization for October and November. Love Locker is a “free community resource providing clothing and hygiene products to our neighbors in need.”</li> <li>• The WCDP will return to Oasis for December, collecting to sponsor a family’s holiday wish list.</li> <li>• WCDP T-Shirts (\$15) and stainless-steel tumblers (\$20) are available for purchase. Make sure to get your shirt to wear to upcoming community events.</li> </ul>																																																					

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ideas for events or community outreach? Interested in being a part of planning social and community development events? Contact <b>Meg!</b></li> </ul> <p>Political Action and Advocacy Committee:  Contact <b>Bill</b> (<a href="mailto:1955wjallen@gmail.com">1955wjallen@gmail.com</a>), interim committee chair, if you are interested in participating with this committee.</p>																																																					
<b>Old Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wine Down Wednesday event was a great success!</li> <li>Blue Wave Gala <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three members of the WCDP attending.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Democratic Socialists of America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill attended recent meeting; group included young people.</li> <li>Jessica updated that they have filed as an organizing committee (organizing nonprofit)</li> <li>The DSA is not a political party.</li> <li>Providing 101 sessions at the public library; dates TBD.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Board of Canvass update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board of Commissioners appointed Marilyn Carlson to the Board of Canvass</li> </ul> </li> <li>Gilcrest visit update</li> </ul>	Information sharing.																																																				
<b>New Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed WCDP Podcast <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concept: Participants share their own stories and lived experiences — “this is how it is for me.”</li> <li>Contact <b>Bill</b> (<a href="mailto:1955wjallen@gmail.com">1955wjallen@gmail.com</a>) if you are interested in participating with this initiative.</li> </ul> </li> <li>No Kings Demonstration (Cadillac Cares) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025</li> <li>10am at the Shay Locomotive</li> </ul> </li> <li>Kitchen Table Conversation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup></li> <li>5:30-7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Cadillac Wexford Public Library</li> <li>Room capacity: 50 ppl</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Information sharing.																																																				
<b>For the Good of the Cause</b>	<p>Susie reviewed petitions that she has available for signature at tonight’s meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constitutional Amendment “<a href="#">Invest in MIKids</a>” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taxes couples earning more than \$1M; singles earning more than \$500K</li> <li>Taxes go directly to the school fund to be exclusively used on local school district classrooms,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Information sharing.																																																				

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Guest(s):					
Agenda Item				Discussion/Decisions	Action/Responsible Party
				<p>career and technical education, reducing class sizes and recruiting and retaining teachers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Funds would be subject to an annual audit.</li> <li>○ Ballot Initiative "<a href="#">MMOP Up Michigan</a>" Michiganders for Money out of Politics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>From their website:</i> "MMOP is a grassroots campaign working to get big money out of our elections. Led by the <a href="#">Taking Back Our Power</a> coalition, we're building toward a statewide ballot initiative to ban political contributions from regulated monopoly corporations and major state contractors. <b>Because our democracy should never be for sale.</b>"</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Meg is working with Mallory McMorrow's Campaign and has petitions for her to be on the primary ballot. Contact Meg if you are interested in signing!</p> <p>Chris named current volatility in our political world and the toll it is taking on relationships, society, and our well-being. Encouraged everyone to take a breath, consider compromise and kindness. Go forth and do good work!</p> <p>Linda updated that Fairbanks, Alaska voted in a woman (Democrat) as mayor!</p>	
<b>Adjourn</b>				6:30 p.m.	
<b>Next Meeting</b>				<b>Wednesday, November 12th, 2025 @ 5:30 pm</b> <b>MEA Office</b>	Notes Provided by: Erin Barbus

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