## MINUTES SUN CITY WEST REPUBLICAN CLUB December 7, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: President Bob Randle called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at The Church on the Green, Sun City West, Arizona. Marjorie Favia gave the Invocation. President Randle led the Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America followed by Janie Randle leading all singing God Bless America.

WELCOME VISITORS: Robert Anderson, Kathyrn Bell, Carol Berks, Terry Burns, Patty Coyne, Doris & Vincent DeSantis, Maryann Frisn, Maggie & Ross Howay, George Khalof, Ken Larkin, Kathy & Dan Loun, Lou Mancuso, Dave Miller, Gail Tavis and Tom Timm. There were 90 members, 15 guests and 5 speakers present: a total count of 145 present.

The members and guests enjoyed doing the Trump dance during the YMCA song.

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes posted on the website. Minutes Approved.

President Randle reported that Mitch McConnell has been appointed Rules Committee Chair.

Randle call Jan Martinson to the front to present a Congressional Record Certificate from Debbie Lesko for years of dedicated service. President Randle also received this Certificate. Scott Blake reported The Arizona Constable Association is selling "Full Steer and Freezer" raffle tickets for a side of beef and a freezer to support scholarships for serving members for \$20.00 each. He will have them available after the meeting.

President Randle reported we have a volunteer to audit the Club's financial records. Randle reported that we need to appoint a Nomination Committee. He encouraged those interested on being on the Committee to contact him. Their names will be shared with the membership so they know who to contact if they are interested in running for office for 2026. The current Board will complete a two-year term the end of December, 2025.



Linda Barnes introduced George Khalof of Data Orbital and The Resolute Group. He is a political consultant but also digs into voter analysis. He reported the Democrats have not learned

their lesson; they are doubling down on their bad policies. He said Trump had 60% approval rating on the economy, 88% approval on immigration and 19% on healthcare.

Trump needed to get the voters that he lost in 2020, better support from rural America and do well with the Hispanic voters. Democrats demeaned anyone not voting for Kamala Harring; you can't sell lies. Things were shaky after the Puerto Rican joke at a Trump rally but the Puerto Ricans supported Trump. Khalof showed a U.S. map showing the gains by Republicans by state in red and the Democrats in blue – the map was very red.

Khalof noted that the Senate results were 47 Democrats and 53 Republicans and the Congress results were 215 Democrats and 220 Republicans. He said the Arizona Representative race was won by Abe Hamadeh by 5.5 %. The Senate seat that Kari Lake ran for showed she got 8% less votes than Donald Trump (some Republicans and Hispanics did not vote for her). He said in the Arizona Senate the Republicans now have a 2-seat majority and a 2-seat majority in the House. Khalof spoke on where we go from here:

- 1. Need to elect a Republican governor
- 2. Can we raise enough money for the candidates
- 3. Candidates need to get out with the voters
- 4. Candidates need to answer tough questions
- 5. Candidates need to go to small communities as well as the metropolitan area
- 6. Truth doesn't change
- 7. Show it is cool to be a conservative Republican

Question: What would the results have been if Mark Lamb was the candidate. Khalof said he had less star power but he thinks he could have carried the moderate voters.

How did we do with Native Americans? He still hasn't seen the election details. He thinks they were lot like the Hispanics.

Why didn't we spend more on abortion ads? He said Democrats spend big dollars on abortion. Christians traditionally don't spend on politics.

Linda Barnes noted the abortion issue got on the ballots as the signature collectors lied about what the petition was about.

Who could be candidates for the Republican governor race? He said potential candidates are Karen Taylor Robson, Kimberly Yee, Jason Beck (Peoria Mayor), Tom Mann and Charlie Kirk. Elections cost a lot of money – depends who could attract funds.

Do you have a list of what Katie Hobbs spent and does? Khalof said exceptionally strong Republicans held the line on Hobbs. She didn't get the Progressive agenda implemented.

Linda Barnes noted the Sun City West Governing Board election is in March. January 2 is the deadline to file.

Terry Burks is a candidate for the Governing Board. He has lived in the valley for 31 years, He was involved in the banking retail division. He has managed employees and investments.

Lou Mancuso is a candidate for the Governing Board. He is a Pennsylvania native. He moved to Sun City West in 2007. He was a principal in a family-owned business and worked for the New Jersey Corrections Division as an analyst. He has been involved in golf, lapidary club, Boomers, Metals and worked with long-range planning for five years but was recalled from the Governing Board. He is asking for a second chance.



John Schalk, Membership Chairman for the Sun City West Republican Club is also running for the Governing Board. He was unable to attend today due to a family emergency.

Dennis Hanzel, a member of the Republican Club recently decided to run for the Governing Board. He was originally from Ohio. He graduated from law school and practiced. He worked for the IRS Criminal Investigations Division. He moved to Sun City West in 2009, He has attended the Torch Academy.

The Governing Board has nine members who work with the Administration. They are three year terms rotating every three years. They need to collect 200 signatures to be on the ballot.

Linda Barnes introduced David Livingston representing LD28. He is the Appropriations Chair. He is concerned with the 2026 elections as Democrats will spend lots of money. We need to fight for Republican Governor and Attorney General candidates.



On the Arizona House issues, he noted that 4 out of 6 leadership roles are headed by West Valley Republicans. Frank Carroll is the Whip in the Senate – important to get things done. It is important to continue to register new Republicans.

Questions:

Your position on term limits? Only if all states do it.. He said the size of the Federal government needs to be cut in half. They need the experience of returning legislators as freshmen members need time to learn the ropes.

Can the brakes be put on for the Light Rail? The Proposition for transportation funds passed, There is no new money for Light Rail expansion but it takes \$2 billion to repair the current system. We need independent thinking voters to understand the bills being voted on.

Why didn't Kari Lake have more exposure ads? Democrats have a much bigger war chest than the Republicans, He said putting up signs is important – one sign equals 10 votes. Voting early allows the advantage of not spending dollars to remind voters to vote that have already voted.

Linda Barnes introduced information to help fellow Republicans in Western North Carolina where Hurricane Helene hit in September. Floods and mudslides occurred. It was discovered this area was one of the Super sites that stored toxic waste. Winter is approaching in this mountainous area and most residents do not have housing; some sleeping in tents. FEMA is working to encourage residents to accept lowball offers to sell their property to the state because the state wants the valuable mineral rights. Barnes suggested our Club donate \$500.00 to the Garren Creek Foundation to help this area. It was approved by a show of hands. A donation box at the door received private donations to the fund from the Members.

President Randle reminded members to honor those who served and died on D Day.

President Randle requested auction bids for our old Trump sign and Sarah Palin signs. The Sun City Grand Republican Club paid \$100 for the signs. The Gun Raffle drawing was held with Dan Doonan winning the pistol, Glen Haynes winning the AR15 and Phil Steinmetz winning the CCW Certificate. The 50/50 drawing was held with two winners receiving \$59.00.

There being no further business, President Randle adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Loper, Recording Secretary