

**Minutes**  
**Carlisle Democratic Town Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 18, 2021, 7:00 PM via Zoom**

*Attendance: Kenneth Deitch, Dave Erickson, Robert Kearney, Bonnie Miskolczy, Francis Tacardon*

1. Dollina Borella

Many members shared their memories of Dollina Borella who died on Nov. 15. Ken said that many did not know her but there was a time when she and Jim Murphy helped keep the committee on track, frequently preparing materials and hosting meetings in her living room. Bonnie agreed and remembered her as a warm and devoted person. She at one point ran for town clerk with Ken Deitch as her campaign manager.

2. Thoughts on current politics

Bob noted that the Republicans are already painting the elections on cultural issues rather than policy issues, he notes that Democrats do a terrible job of speaking with one voice. Bonnie replied that the Democrats have always been inclusive which guarantees some amount of disagreement. Bob said that's a good point, but it is making it more difficult for Democrat's to sell their position. Ken noted that while the Republicans all voted against Build Back Better, they are nevertheless happy to take credit for the benefits to their districts. Francis said the vote differences in Virginia and New Jersey were nearly equal. Ken said that New York should not have been as close as it was. He also said that with gerrymandering Republicans are almost guaranteed of 15 out of 17 congressional seats in Ohio. We really need an honest way of reapportioning but in spite of the fact that some states have done a good job of fair apportionment it is hard to see how to make this the norm rather than the exception. Bob said that for people at our level the best we can do is to keep up the fight. He thinks it will be tough, but things could change, getting Build Back Better through would be a big help.

Ken is concerned about backlash next year for censuring Paul Gosar and removing him from his committees. Bob revisited the point Rebecca Morris raised last time about the Republicans pushing for a constitutional convention once they control 34 states; he thought it would be good to have a brief summary of the issues and dangers of that plan. Ken also mentioned that the CDTC had looked into the appropriation process and found that the Congressional Budget Office has a paper (about 20 pages) on the appropriation process.

3. Adjourned at 20:30, next meeting will be Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 7:00PM.