

**Minutes**  
**Chequamegon Democrats Membership Meeting**  
**Chequamegon Dems Office, Ashland, Wisconsin**  
**December 13, 2025**

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Kathleen Adee called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
2. **Introductions.** We went around the room (and the Zoom screen) and introduced ourselves.
3. **Approval of November 8, 2025 Minutes.** Our meeting notice provided a link to our website page where members can review our minutes. **Motion (Sandy Raspotnik), second (Mick Malcheski) to approve the minutes for November 8, 2025. Carried unanimously.**
4. **Secretary's comments.** David Siegler requested volunteers to staff the office on Saturday mornings, and also asked people to fill out the Volunteer Interests Form, if they hadn't already. David reported that we had met our membership goal for the year (increase membership by 20%), increasing our membership numbers by 22%. Our current total membership is 232, minus 30 expired, for a net of 202, compared to 185 total in November of 2024, minus 20 expired, for a net of 165. A discussion then ensued, prompted by the question, "What do we tell people who ask, 'Why should I join the Wis Dems?'" Answers given: mental health; if you don't like where the party is, get inside to change it; it helps our organization locally. We acknowledged that we still need an effort to engage younger people.
5. **Treasurer's report.** Kathleen reviewed the Treasurer's reports, each of which was presented on-screen. **Motion (Caroline Twombly), second (Jill Rennie) to accept the Treasurer's report for November, 2025. Carried unanimously. Motion (Sandy Raspotnik), second (Jill Rennie) to accept the Treasurer's report for August, 2025. Motion (Mary Hamel), second (Ken Simon) to accept the Treasurer's report for July, 2025. Carried unanimously.**
6. **Chairperson's report.** (a) Kathleen reported that Mandela Barnes was asking to come to our office on Wednesday, December 17, at 5:30. We discussed and noted that the Neighbors Union was having a big event at the same time, with Fred Clark and Angela Stroud, and decided to respectfully ask the Barnes campaign to schedule another time. (b) Kathleen noted that we've received a request to change the name of Drinks with Dems, and to expand the venues where the events are held, to make them more inviting to people in

recovery. The matter has been referred to our Comms Committee, and any suggestions will be warmly received through our website. (c) The Wis Dems (state party) are in good shape financially. (d) Flock cameras in Bayfield County. We discussed the concerns that have been raised about the Flock cameras in Bayfield County. We will invite the Bayfield County Sheriff to our January meeting so that he can answer our questions.

**7. Chris Taylor for Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice.** Mike had copies of nominating papers for Chris Taylor which he handed out to those who wanted to collect signatures.

**8. Fred Clark campaign.** Ellen Lafans asked Fred Clark's campaign manager, Kelby, to give us an update on the campaign. As noted earlier, Fred will be at the Neighbors Union on December 17 with Angela Stroud. He will then be taking a break from intensive campaigning over the holidays. After the New Year, on January 8, he will be in Seely and Hayward, and is open to invitations from the area to meet with groups.

**9. Adjournment. Motion (Jamie Paterson), second (Caroline Twombly) to adjourn. Carried unanimously.** We adjourned at 11:04 a.m., and proceeded to have a holiday social time.

Respectfully submitted:

David Siegler  
Secretary