

Pebble Creek Democratic Board Meeting Minutes January 28, 2026

- President Barber called the meeting to order at 9am. All board members present; treasurer by telephone; committee chairs and web master, President thanked everyone for volunteering to serve the club and membership this year and for attending an expanded board meeting to allow adequate time for planning for a successful year.
- Additions to the Agenda: Social committee achievements for 2025, and school supplies for Veteran committee achievements added.
- Minutes from Board Meeting from December 10, 2025 – any corrections/additions, please advise Barb McMahon.

1. Review Major Objectives for the Club and Leadership Team from 2025: The following objectives were established in January 2025 and Accomplishments related to each area:

A. Maintain and increase membership level obtained in 2024.

- a. Club has continued to grow in membership. We are currently showing 408 members on the website.
- b. Many of the Members that had not renewed their membership for 2025 were contacted by members of the leadership team to personally encourage them to renew and pay their dues for 2025. *(In response to a question, Membership Committee Chair Archer and President Barber both agreed that this was a very successful and well-received undertaking. Board attendees discussed whether, when and how to do so again, to be considered at a later date.)*
- c. We also added a Support Membership category in 2025 to allow non-residents of PC to be actively involved and notified of Club activities.

B. Maintain and support high quality Programs and Speakers at Club General Meetings and the Club's outstanding Community Outreach efforts.

- ❖ 2025 Programs were outstanding: including the following keynote speakers:
 - a. January - **Heather Macre**: Board Member Central AZ Water Conservation District;
 - b. February – Shared information from Sociologist Jennifer Walter regarding what is happening with the Shock Doctrine being employed by the Trump Administration and how to address it. Shared information on Building Our Arsenal with Key Issues and Talking Points, as well as Other Resources Available. Keynote Speaker was **Adrian Fontes**: AZ Secretary of State.
 - c. March – Shared Posters and Talking Points regarding Medicaid, DEI, USAID Impact on Farmers, and ESAs. Shared copies of the Constitution and Emphasized Resources available on website. Recognized Champions that had come forward to Develop Issue Talking Points on Voting Rights, Women's Reproductive Rights, Education, Health, Energy and Environment, Judicial, Economy and

Workers, Immigration, Tariffs, Disparity of Wealth, Veteran Affairs, and Marriage and Family. **Robert McWhirter**: Constitutional Law Expert was our Keynote Speaker.

- d. April – Shared information on Hands Off Rally, including Rally Sign Ideas. Posters and Talking Points were shared regarding Voting Rights, Tariffs, and Veteran Affairs. **Robert Branscomb**: Current Chair AZ Democrats was the speaker.
- e. May – Recognized Members who participated in Hands Off Rally. Continued to encourage members to use website for information and making calls. **Jaime Kelley** spoke regarding recall effort (ROAR) Reclaim Our AZ Representation which was seeking to recall Steve Montenegro because of Republican Legislators refusing to fund parents as paid caregivers for children with developmental disabilities. Shared information on Goodyear special election. Speaker was **Teresa Leyba Ruiz**: Candidate for AZ Superintendent of Public Instruction in 2026.
- f. June – Shared information regarding NO KINGS Protest, ROAR, and political volunteer opportunities. **Kris Mayes**, AZ Attorney General was our speaker.
- g. September – Recognized the initiation of Weekly Call to Action communication being sent out to members in cooperation with Grand Dems. Initiated new Club Committee: Veteran Services. Speaker was **Ricardo Reyes**; Executive Director VetsForward.
- h. October – Provided Information on November Propositions and Bonds, NO KINGS Rally, and requested information from members as to how they had supported Democratic Candidates, Issues and Our Democracy. Speakers were **Nicky Indivacitch and Kristin Roberts** from Save Our Schools.
- i. November – Representatives from Lattie Coor Elementary School thanked the Club for all the support. Shared compiled information on how Club Members had supported Democratic Candidates and Issues. Keynote Speaker was Goodyear Mayor **Joe Pizzillo**.
- j. December – Recognized Democratic Club Leadership Team, presented President’s Special Award to Frankie and Chuck Veltri, and shared Postcards to Remind Members to Check Voter Registration Status. Candidates **Eric Stafford (AZ LD 29 Senate Candidate)**, **Christine Scianna (AZ LD 29 House Candidate)** and **Dani Sterbinsky (CD 9 Candidate)** were recognized and received signature petitions from club members in accordance with the Signature Petition Project initiated in November. **Charlene Fernandez**, AZ Democratic Party Chair was the keynote speaker.

C. Outreach Efforts were expanded this year through the Community Outreach Committee and the Initiation of the Veteran Services Committee.

- ❖ The Community Outreach Committee:

- a. Collected food, clothing, and other goods to support more than 10 local community organizations, which assisted in strengthening our relationships with each
- b. Sorted and delivered the appropriate donated goods to each organization
- c. The Committee's 2025 efforts resulted in 6,836 pounds of goods collected and delivered, as well as a bike and accessories valued at \$757.00. \$1,050 cash was donated. Among the organizations that benefited from donations were the Homeless Youth Connection, Phoenix Rescue Mission, Agua Fria Food and Clothing Bank, Hope's Closet, Dress for Success, Maricopa County Humane Society, Kare Bears, and others.

❖ The Veteran Services Committee

- a. Coordinated efforts for 233 children at the Lattie Coor Elementary School to receive Christmas gifts
- b. Initiated projects to provide shoes and school supplies donation drives for the children, both of which were successful.

D. Consider whether the Board should conduct another Survey regarding Member Satisfaction.

- a. At the February 2025 General Meeting we used Mentimeter to request feedback on programs, and put cards on each table to invite members to input any other issues they felt should be addressed.
- b. The Board determined that another Survey was not needed in 2025.

E. Explore ways in which the membership can be galvanized to hold the country's administration accountable. (i.e.: Create Talking Points to post on the website on pertinent issues in order to provide Members with information to use for written correspondence, social media, and/or responses to comments made in the community?)

Talking Points and Posters were prepared, shared, and posted on the website starting with the March club meeting.

F. Prepare for State and Congressional elections to be held in 2026 to support Democratic Candidates. (i.e.: Add information to the website listing all current office holders and contact information?)

- a. Initiated Petition Signature Project as noted in November meeting program summary
- b. Encouraged members to continue to volunteer and support State and Congressional Candidates
- c. Provided opportunities for Candidates to speak at meetings and to have tables with signage at all meetings
- d. Enhanced the Website with information on all statewide, LD 29, CD 9, City of Goodyear, and Maricopa County elected officials,

- e. Expanded the Website with information on AZ state and local governance structure information on Becoming Engaged, Volunteer Opportunities, Having Your Voice Heard, Issue Talking Points, and more.

G. Explore additional strategies to increase support and communication with LD 29 and surrounding Democratic organizations. (i.e.: Add additional newspaper outlets for distribution of articles regarding club activities? Create a Social Media position to regularly distribute information regarding club activities and information of interest from the Democratic Party perspective? Coordinate such efforts with LD 29 and other Democratic Organizations, such as Grand Dems?)

- a. Talking Points, Posters, and Information related to strategies for being engaged and having your voice heard were all shared with West Valley Democratic Organizations.
- b. Representatives from West Valley LDs regularly attended Club Meetings. Constant Contact included representatives from the West Valley LDs, as well as Democratic Organizations from the West Valley.
- c. PC Democratic Club volunteered to host the West Valley Democratic Candidate Rally scheduled for September 19, 2026.
- d. The club did attempt to distribute articles written for the PC Post beyond PC and to utilize new social media platforms with limited success. However, the PC Democratic Club Facebook page's use expanded in 2025.
- e. (The 2025 Board was very happy with the upgrades to the Website, thanks Renee for all her hard work and updating, and wants to thank the Grand Dems for their sharing of the materials we now send out under the Call to Action.)

H. Actively seek succession planning and/or support for Leadership positions.

- a. Each individual in a position on the leadership team crafted a transition document that went beyond the original roles and responsibilities document, in order that any successor to the position would have detailed information as to what the position entails.
- b. Active discussions with a variety of Club Members encouraged additional leaders to step forward. We are excited that a new Communication Chair was identified, as well as previous leaders again accepting positions on the Board. (Upon reflection, these steps did not have the results that we would like to have had.)

I. Identify and engage Independent Voters registered in PebbleCreek.

Democrats and Left Leaning Independents in PC were called by Club member volunteers to encourage them to join the Active Early Voting List.

- J. Other Major Accomplishments in 2025, included:**
- 1. Communication**
 - a. Wrote and published two articles each month in the PC Post
 - b. Posted flyers at each of the Clubhouses prior to Club Meetings.
 - 2. Program**
 - a. In addition, Program and Political Chairs represented PC Dems and connected with LD 29 on an ongoing basis.
 - b. Program Chair also took on the Treasurer position for LD 29.
 - 3. Social Committee**
 - a. January 24: Potluck
 - b. February 28: Mardi Gras Dinner/Dance
 - c. April 4: Annual Picnic at Sunrise Park
 - d. April 28: Women's Kentucky Derby Luncheon
 - e. March 24: Baseball Spring Training Game
 - f. May 19: Kax Solid Gold and lunch
 - g. October 25: Roaring Twenties Dinner/Dance
 - h. November 6: Friend's Giving
 - i. November 11: Babbo's- Veterans Day Luncheon
 - j. November 13: Potluck Welcome Back at Oasis Pool
 - k. Monthly Women's Luncheons
- 2. Financial Statement – Treasurer Tammy Dana-Bashian – See Attached –**
accepted and approved, Barb moved, Alisa seconded, passed
 - 3. Budget for 2026 – Treasurer Tammy Dana-Bashian – See Attached (tentative –**
added to, final approved) accepted and approved, John moved, Alisa seconded,
passed
 - 4. Priorities and Major Objectives for 2026:**
 - A. Maintain and Expand Membership – Other Strategies?**
 - a. The Board expressed interest in utilizing the strategies used in 2025
 - b. We would like to see more contact made with left-leaning independents. It is important to let those folks know that we are a broad tent, and provide a home for the disaffected, the like-minded or just those trying to find a comfortable chance to explore their political options.
 - B. Ensuring Access to the Website for all Club Members – Strategies?**
 - a. The Board agreed to announcing at the club meeting(s) about the breadth of information available to members on the website that is not generally available. A reminder to make sure the slide for the meeting indicates what info is not publicly available. This will start with the February 2026 meeting.
 - b. A reminder was made not to unsubscribe from Constant Contact because it is really difficult to get someone reinstated on the site.

- c. We also have regular visitors who are not and will not be either members or supporters, like the Goodyear City Council folks and others who receive our Constant Contact communications.
- d. Should we have a workshop training/demonstration on 1) getting on the website (access) 2) the information available and how to utilize that information effectively? Need to do it sooner rather than later – looking at who has not paid dues, who has paid but not activated their access to the site. No conclusion reached. Good trainers are available to help with these issues on a case-by-case basis if needed.

C. Continue with High Quality Program Content – Discussion Regarding Potential Speakers?

❖ Suggestions and information about already scheduled speakers included LD 29 candidates, Eric Stafford, Chrstine Scianna, and Dani Sterbinsky in March. Other ideas noted, included:

- a. Bringing Adrian Fontes and Kris Mayes back during our bigger meetings because they are good draws, get Hobbs, Kelly, and Gallego,
- b. Provide a speaker on information for the membership about what the candidates need,
- c. Provide a speaker with information on supporting education issues in AZ, as well as State Superintendent of Public Instruction Candidates,
- d. Have Mariana Sandoval to speak about and provide a legislative update,
- e. Use the September meeting to discuss ballot initiatives, and provide a candidate list like we have for every election.
- f. For the spring meetings, we need to catch people before they leave, which varies from April thru Memorial Day, usually, so that may impact attendance at both meetings.
- g. If we decide to have any summer meetings – or a meeting each month – make sure they are well publicized and are speaker driven. It’s an election year and our democracy is at risk, so the interest level should be high. In addition, many full-time residents may be here over the summer. Not everyone is gone all summer.
- h. October is traditionally our biggest meeting because people are generally back by then. We will also have the Rally here on September 19, so we need to consider that when booking speakers.
- i. Show the video clips of Kelly & Gallego from the Common Defense with Ricardo Reyes

D. Continue with Exciting and Fun Social Events –

- 1. Social Events that continue throughout the year, include Ladies Luncheons, Men’s Breakfasts, Saturday Breakfasts, Games, Book Clubs, etc.
- 2. Social Events Currently scheduled for 2026:
 - a. Mardi Gras, February 6

- b. Spring Training Baseball Game, March 2
 - c. Spring Picnic, April 10
 - d. Kentucky Derby Ladies Luncheon, May 1
 - e. Denim & Diamonds Dinner/Dance, November 6
 - f. Veterans Celebration, November 11
 - g. Friends Giving Women's Luncheon, date tba
3. Social Events Currently scheduled for 2027:
- a. Mardi Gras, February 6
 - b. Ladies Kentucky Derby Luncheon, April 30
 - c. Dinner/Dance event, October 27
 - d. Friends Giving, November 7
 - e. Veterans Celebration, November 11

E. Continue to Support, Educate and Inform Members regarding Political Issues, Engaging Members to Volunteer and Participate – Other Strategies to consider?

- Postcards?
- Text Messaging in addition to phone banking?

F. Consider the Student Intern Proposal from Estrella Mountain College in Avondale for a GOTV effort for younger voters: John Moore moved, Barb McMahon seconded, that the Board commit up to \$750 matching funds towards the hiring of the intern. Motion carried

G. Hosting West Valley Democratic Candidate Rally September 19, 2026: Event will be at Tuscany Falls Ballroom and Chianti Rooms

- Committee: Vicki, John, Barb, Marcia and Charlotte. Vicki and John to serve as the program moderators.
- Budget set out includes a ½ page ad in the PC Post, room rent, decorations, table favors, printing expenses, name cards, ballots, Luke Honor Guard, AV tech, security, Save the Date cards
- Registration is required, we will volunteers staff the check-in table

H. Outreach Committees - Information and Reports:

1. Communication –
 - Social Media and Other News Outlets?
 - Remember that any photos submitted to the PC Post must be at least 300 dpi.
 - Make sure all the Constant Contact lists are sent the meeting notices and other public information.
2. Community Outreach – Other Strategies? Find additional ways to promote the upcoming meetings.
3. Veteran Services – Priorities for 2026. Report Attached. Additional information:
 - Add the Grandmother Assistance at the January meeting which raised \$2200 and was gratefully acknowledged.

- Group is about 7-10 veterans participating- Chuck would like to grow the participant group
 - Pat Chernow has offered to help with the Armed Forces Plaza project.
 - The Board expressed interest in adding a PCDC brick to the Plaza. Information will be forth-coming.
 - Tammy requested a budget from the committee – numbers were discussed and agreed upon. Those now appear in the final, approved 2026 budget.
 - Bob Weidemann is writing an article for the PC Post. The Committee has lots of good photos.
 - Collecting gift cards, infant and newborn items for the March meeting
4. Other Areas- none noted

I. Standing Committee Reports:

1. Program Committee: – Charlotte Krause, Chair
2. Social Committee – Frankie Veltri, Chair, provided list of events scheduled for 2025, 2026 and 2027
3. Political Committee – Marsha Wallick, Chair
4. Membership – Sheryl Archer, Chair: The Welcome Document has been updated, printed and attached to the agenda.
5. Community Outreach – Judy Hart, Chair
6. Communication – Kirk Brown, Chair
7. Veteran Services – Chuck Veltri, Chair, information provided with agenda, updated as noted above.

J. LD 29 Update: Next Meeting: February 18 in Surprise. Candidates are still seeking the \$5 donations to run as clean candidates.

K. Old Business:

1. Consider when **Constant Contact** is reviewed and names are maintained on the site for Members that have paid their dues, as well as when names may be deactivated. Discussed, more info will be provided at the training as needed
2. **Review of Current Procedures/Agreements Developed:**
 - A. Ownership Confirmation Agreement between Renee Borsari and PC Democratic Club, Approved and dated 10/29/2025
 - B. Procedure regarding Contributions to Other Clubs/Organization within PebbleCreek, Approved and dated 3/2025
 - C. We created a Support Category for People not residing in PC, but wishing to participate with our club. The following is the communication we send to individuals meeting that criteria:

Response to potential Supporters of the Club

You are not eligible for membership, because members have to live within PebbleCreek. However, we have initiated a Supporter classification for the PebbleCreek Democratic Club, that allows you to receive all of the information we distribute. You are more than welcome to come to our meetings. Our next meeting is _____ and the social hour begins at 6:00 pm and the meeting starts at about 6:45 and we end at about 8:00 pm. We will have _____ speaking. You can sign up to be on our Supporter list at the meeting, or just let either myself or Sheryl Archer, our membership chair know that you want to be included as a Supporter. Our dues are \$25 per person, and you are welcome to contribute that amount to the Club. However, know that you are welcome to come to our meetings whether you join us as a Supporter or not, and regardless of whether you are able to make the contribution to the Club. If you need anything or have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Take care.

3/5/2025 This will be revised as needed.

- D. Guidelines Related to Political Action Committee, Approved and dated 5/17/2023
- E. Honorary Membership Procedures, Approved and dated 4/26/2023
- F. Social Event Guidelines, Approved and dated 2/22/2023
- G. Constant Contact Policy Statement, Approved and dated 2/22/2023
- H. Membership Guidelines, Approved and dated 2/22/2023

L. New Business:

1. **Website – Next Steps** – to be addressed at a longer, off-site meeting
 - Training for Leadership Team (scheduled since this meeting for February 17)
 - Ensure All Positions are Trained and Posting Information on the Website as appropriate.
 - Support for Webmaster – Renee also needs a successor.
 - Ensure Website is up to date.
2. Any changes that should be considered for the **General Meeting** structure?
None mentioned, conversation will continue.
3. Anyone participating in the Gosar Be Gone Rally on Saturday, please bring clipboards and help collect signatures on petitions.
4. The Board addressed the issue of making the website information available to supporters/nonmembers, with the exception of the membership list and information. Alisa moved, John seconded. Motion carried. (Vicki will approve all such additions to those lists. Renewals of supporters/non-members count as donations in the budget but are not required. Additions to the Honorary Membership need to be updated.)
5. Anyone who learns of a member's passing, please alert Vicki, Alisa, Sheryl and Kare Bears so appropriate steps and communications can be handled.

- **Next Board Meeting: February 25, 2026**

- **Meeting Adjourned: 11:45 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Alisa Sparkia Moore, Secretary