

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Sixth Ward Democratic Organization  
Southside Wellness Center-Saint Louis, MO  
General Membership Meeting- Feb. 18, 2010 at 7:00pm

Alison Gee called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the January 21, 2010 meeting were presented. M/S/A John Maxwell/Damon Jones

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mary Sue Rosenthal presented a written report. The income was Membership Dues \$205 and Contributions \$20 for a total of \$225. Expenses are Southside Wellness Center Rental 2009 \$125 and Alderman Triplett Fundraiser 2/18 Donation \$300 for a total of \$425. The total cash on hand is \$4,689.94.

### **Proposition A, Transit Tax**

Nancy Cross of SEIU presented detailed information on Prop A. The proposition asks for a St. Louis County countywide sales tax increase of one-half of one percent for the purpose of providing a source of funds for public transportation purposes that includes the restoration, operation, and expansion of MetroLink, MetroBus, disabled and senior transportation. This proposition needs a simple majority to pass. Severe cuts will happen if not passed because there is no money. The anti-Prop A campaign is coming out of South County. They are against the MetroLink, but not the buses. A sign-up sheet was passed around to work the phone bank. To find more info regarding this please go to [www.moremetrolink.com](http://www.moremetrolink.com) or [www.advancestl.org](http://www.advancestl.org).

### **Mega Sales Tax**

Heather Lascher Todd of the Missouri Budget Project presented detailed information on the mega sales tax. Missouri lawmakers are currently considering a proposal that would go on the November ballot which would make dramatic changes in the state's revenue structure by eliminating individual and corporate income taxes and replacing them with a greatly expanded sales tax. The proposal would increase both the statewide sales tax rate and the sales tax base. The expanded sales tax would apply to everything Missouri consumers buy, with the sole exception of higher education tuition and fees, and would exempt all business to business transactions. Studies show that the tax rate would need to be at 11%. Please call Senator Engler and Senator Shields and tell them to stop this bill. A sign-up sheet was passed around to work the phones and get out the vote. To find more info regarding this please go to [www.mobudget.org](http://www.mobudget.org).

### **Decline to Sign Earnings Tax Repeal**

Kelly Anthony of Jobs With Justice presented information regarding a repeal of the 1% earnings tax for St. Louis City and Kansas City. A billionaire investment banker is trying to cripple our city by cutting one-third of our funding (\$150 million) without any money to replace it. This means there would be drastic cuts in services like: firefighters, police, snow removal, garbage collection, street repair, libraries and other public services. This also means there will be massive increases in property taxes. Mayor Slay has not come out and spoken against this tax repeal. A sign-up sheet was passed around to get people to volunteer. For more information go to [www.mojwj.org](http://www.mojwj.org) or call 1-877-644-0466. The membership unanimously voted to oppose this effort and to endorse the Decline To Sign campaign. SWDO will send a letter urging our elected officials to come out publically against this effort.

### **Approval of Expenditure for Membership Outreach**

Alison motioned for the okay to spend no more than \$2,000 to produce magnet door hangers. The motion was approved and there were no abstentions. Chrissy informed the group that Madco gave the most reasonable bid and that they are union. Damon Jones suggested that we look at the frequent and primary voters as the target list of people in order to narrow the universe, hit those most likely to be interested and save money.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm