

Minutes of SAW Joint Democratic Program

February 11, 2020

Meeting of the SAW Democratic Committee was called to order by Jenni Kitchen, Chair of the Augusta County Democrats, at 7:05 pm

The meeting was well-attended. Jenni Kitchen began her remarks by asking for attendees to sign the petition for Sen. Mark Warner to get on the 2020 ballot and by asking if anyone would like to be a delegate for either the National Democratic Convention in Milwaukee or represent SAW in the more local 6th Congressional District Committee, and if they want more information to contact their local Committee Chairs.

She then introduced our speakers – the presidential campaign representatives for Mike Bloomberg, Pete Buttigieg, Bernie Sanders, and Elizabeth Warren. Speakers were selected to speak by drawing the names out of a hat.

Jenni made it clear that the SAW Dems committees do not endorse any candidate at this point.

The first speaker was Cain Turner from Sen. Elizabeth Warren's campaign. He gave her background, explained her platform, and took questions. The questions from the audience focused on our health care system and Warren's plans to improve it.

The second speaker was Chris Rini, the Sen. Bernie Sanders representative locally. He stressed his role in the campaign and declared that he thinks that Sanders is, "The last, best hope for democracy." He highlighted Sanders' progressive stands.

The third speaker was Ellen Quinlan for Mayor Pete Buttigieg. She highlighted his platform, including his plans for the rural areas.

The fourth speaker was Brooke Haas, speaking for Mike Bloomberg. She said she sees a great deal of apathy on the campaign trail, but when she asks people what their biggest issue is, their reply is, "Beat Trump." She explained why she thinks only Bloomberg can do that.

The SAW Democrats program was ended at 7:50 pm. The meeting broke into separate groups for the SDC and the ACDC monthly business meeting.