



GENERAL MEETING
August 22, 2012

President Mark Brandon called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. County Commissioner Larry Brown led the pledge of allegiance.

It was moved and approved to accept the treasurer's report and the minutes from the last meeting.

Mrs. Tolman and Bill Ward gave information on Organizing for America that has opened a new office on 7920 West Tropical Pkw. (On Tropical and Centennial). The other office is on 7469 W. Lake Mead (on Lake Mead and Tenaya). On August 28th from 6.00 to 8.00 PM they will be making phone calls to Democrats to ensure turnout at the election and create teams of volunteers.

Larry Brown has lived in Las Vegas since 1983 and became a City Council man in 1997. Three years later he was on the County Commission which he described as a lot more complicated with four times the fiscal responsibility. When the economy tanked the County Commission was faced with completely new challenges and had to redefine government in Clark County. They decided that to focus on three core functions:

1. The citizens: police, fire department, public safety, education.
2. Infrastructure: roads and the part that is invisible: water, sewer.
3. Social Service Network that helps the vulnerable part of the population: seniors, disabled, those without health insurance.

Challenges:

In order to balance the budget the Clark County Administration has been reduced by 22%. An increase in the sales tax provided sorely needed cash but was off-set by a large drop in property taxes.

Larry Brown emphasized how what is done now will lay the foundation for the next thirty years. The County has to live within its means; besides it is unrealistic to depend on gaming; the county needs more stable revenue. The general opinion is that it will take 3-5 years before we are out of the recession. They have to decide which services to prioritize.

Public salaries and benefits have been spiraling out of control for 25 years. Only the last three years has arbitration been successful. Compensation has to be realistic. The more that can be left to the private sector, the better.

The pot of gold was won by George Trachtman.

There was no more business and Mark Brandon adjourned the meeting at 8.15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kershaw

Lisa Kershaw, 2012 Recording Secretary