
THE BROADWAY DEMOCRATS

◆ District Leaders: Curtis Arluck, Paula Diamond Román ◆ President: Pat Almonrode◆

THURSDAY, May 11th:

Endorsement Meeting 2:

- **Mayor**
- **City Council, 6th District**
- **City Council, 7th District**
- **Judicial Delegates and
Alternates**

Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m.

Bank Street College

610 West 112th Street (between Broadway and Riverside Drive)

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May 2017

District Leader's Report

Curtis Arluck

Endorsement Meeting Round 2

First, thank you for your unanimous vote at our April endorsement meeting! This year was the 20th time I've sought and received your support for Democratic District Leader. Though the outcome was not exactly in doubt, I still get a few goose bumps before, during and after these meetings, and am as excited to meet the challenges ahead as I was as a 26-year-old seeking my first term.

At our April meeting we also unanimously endorsed District Leader Paula Diamond Román and Borough President Gale Brewer; Comptroller Scott Stringer and District Attorney Cy Vance were endorsed with only a couple of dissenting votes. The only significant protest vote was against Public Advocate Letitia James, who still received more than 70% of the ballots. The protest votes here, I'm sure, were not against Tish's exemplary record as Public Advocate—she was “on the barricades” with us at 122nd and Broadway just last Sunday—but for her lamentable support of the IDC candidate Marisol Alcantara in the recent, tragically close State Senate race in the 31st District. We hope—and expect—that Tish will have a different position next year, which is shaping up as a rematch between Robert Jackson and Marisol Alcantara, with the third major candidate in last year's race, Micah Lasher, already having thrown his support to Jackson. Stay tuned!

This Thursday, May 11, we will endorse in the remaining races, all of which are contested. I will refrain from editorial comments, but, especially on the 7th City Council race, “you know where I stand”, and how important it is that we beat back the forces of division and hatred that are sweeping our country.

For Mayor, incumbent Bill De Blasio is opposed by Sal Albanese, IDC member Tony Avella, and several others we are trying to contact.

For City Council, 6th District, incumbent Helen Rosenthal is opposed by Mel Wymore and Cary Goodman. In order to be endorsed by our club, there must be at least 10 votes cast from club members who live in the district. Since most of our area is in Mark Levine's 7th District, it will be a stretch to get the 10 votes in the 6th District. Those of you who live in this district, which is both west of Broadway and south of 109th St. (plus everything on the Upper West Side south of 96th St.), are encouraged to attend and let your voices be heard.

For City Council, 7th District, Mark Levine is opposed by Thomas Lopez-Pierre.

Broadway Democrats will also select its candidates for **Judicial Convention Delegates and Alternates**. This year, we get three delegates and three alternates of the 8 person 69th AD delegation.

Protesting Overdevelopment in our Community



This Sunday I joined with **Tish James, Gale Brewer, Danny O'Donnell, Brian Benjamin (State Senate nominee in the May 23 Special Election)**, and scores of community residents, spearheaded by **Laura Friedman and the Morningside Heights Community Coalition**, at a rally protesting the four luxury monstrosities proposed in the narrow band running from 120th to 122nd Streets. Furthest along is the 32 story, JTS-sponsored Savanna Tower at 122nd and Broadway; UTS has proposed a 40+ story tower on its campus. We demand

- * **Building heights consistent with nearby buildings;**
- * **Exteriors harmonize with surrounding buildings;**
- * **Provide 30% affordable housing for neighborhood;**
- * **Hire union labor;**
- * **JTS/UTS developers: invest in a community benefits agreement;**
- * **Rezone Morningside Heights to stop future overdevelopment.**

In our neighborhood and across the country, citizen action *can* work. Let's make sure that it does.

RL



200,000+ March in Washington for Climate, Jobs & Justice on Trump's 100th Day in Office

From the President

Pat Almonrode

Meanwhile, the day before, the EPA begins an "update" of climate-science on its websites

On Saturday, April 29, resident Trump's 100th day, more than 200,000 people braved 90° heat to march from the Capitol to the White House. We marched to draw attention to the urgent issue of climate change, and to the need to combat this grave danger in ways that account for and protect the poor and marginalized among us. These are the people whose lifestyles contribute the least to global warming, but who are often affected first and hardest.

Despite the sweltering heat, it was a glorious day. The diversity of the crowd was beautiful to behold--people of all colors, ages, genders, faiths, walks of life, and localities were there, making their presence felt and their voices heard. The energy and determination were palpable, and the creative signs, props, costumes, and artwork kept things lively.

Marches like this one can focus our energies, remind us that we're not alone, and gain public attention (including good coverage from The Times, CNN and The Guardian, among others). But let's not kid ourselves: **Marching is not enough**. The forces that ignore and even profit from this global crisis are still in power:

Researchers from the Center for American Progress recently calculated that the Republican president, 142 representatives and 38 senators, who do not accept the overwhelming scientific consensus that human activity causes climate change, have received a total of nearly \$83 million from coal, oil, and gas industries. The top three recipients were Senator John McCain, who opposes the EPA's finding that greenhouse gases are pollution; Senator Mitch McConnell, who once said, "For everybody who thinks it's warming, I can find somebody who thinks it isn't"; and Senator John Cornyn, who actually acknowledges that humans have an impact on the environment

but doesn't think it's the responsibility of the government to do anything about it.

And perhaps even more to the point, on Friday, April 28—Trump's 99th day in office and the day before the March—the EPA announced that its website would be “undergoing changes” to better represent the new direction the agency is taking, triggering the (temporary?) removal of several agency websites containing detailed climate data and scientific information. Truly, these are dangerous times. But there *are* things we can do.

With such a difficult “climate” in Washington, state and local action is more important than ever. And fortunately, New York City has a strong and growing climate-justice movement. I invite you to become more familiar with **350NYC, Bronx Climate Justice North, WE ACT, the SANE Energy Project, the People's Climate Movement NYC, and Food & Water Watch**, all of which are doing immensely valuable work. Most importantly, in my view, these groups are serious about using the political process to effect change. They work with city and state legislators to propose and support measures to curb emissions, develop wind and solar energy, and promote sustainable “green” jobs.

You can see local activism in action at this upcoming event:

Climate, Jobs & Justice Accountability Forum
May 16, 6:30-8:30 PM
NY Society for Ethical Culture – 2 W. 64th St.

This event is billed as “a mass people's interview of NYC Mayor de Blasio, Public Advocate James and NYC Comptroller Stringer.” Come learn about the issues that NYC needs to tackle locally, hear our leaders' views, and hold them accountable to taking the bold policy action we need to protect our people and our city from the threats of climate change.

See you there!



From Go Blue 2018

Mary Peppito and Richard Siegel

The Broadway Democrats have created a special committee to channel the energy that has developed since Donald Trump won the election. We believe—as is stated by Indivisible and now by the DNC and others—that electing Democrats at all levels of government is a key to enacting progressive policies that truly benefit the vast majority of Americans. We want a government that supports the working class, middle class, and all vulnerable populations.

Our committee is dedicated to taking back the House of Representatives in 2018. Our work has just started. We are looking at local Congressional races where the seats are ‘flippable’—where a Democrat take the seat from a Republican. Our thought is to partner with the local Democratic clubs and take whatever action they ask for. Giving money is always good. We hope to be able to help them campaign—by making phone calls, by going door to door—whatever is asked.

As many are aware, this year a few ‘special’ elections are being held. Most are to replace folks that entered Trump's cabinet. The Democrat came close in Kansas. Jon Ossoff got 48% of the vote in the first round in Georgia. He will be in a runoff in June.

The next vote will be in Montana. **Ballotpedia** has said about this race:

The **At-Large Congressional District of Montana** will hold a special election for the U.S. House of Representatives on May 25, 2017.... The election will replace Ryan Zinke (R) who was confirmed as secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior on March 1, 2017. Primary elections were not held in the race. Instead, party leaders chose the nominees at conventions. **Democrats selected musician Rob Quist at the party's convention on March 5, 2017**, while Republicans nominated businessman Greg Gianforte

at the convention on March 6, 2017. A third candidate, Libertarian Mark Wicks, will also appear in the election.

The polls have tightened in this race. Republican groups are now spending money to keep the seat. We are urging all to support Rob Quist. His campaign website is <https://robquist.org/>. We will be preparing additional information shortly.

We plan to send regular updates to the listserv. We encourage all to email us any ideas. You can reach us at goblue2018@broadwaydemocrats.org Go Blue in 2018!



VOTING: Eligibility and Procedures

To be eligible to vote, you must have attended at least one of the previous nine monthly public meetings and you must pay your dues.

Votes may be cast in person or by proxy, limit one proxy per voting member. A proxy must be written. The proxy giver must state the name of the proxy holder (i.e., the name can't be filled in later by the proxy holder). The proxy must be signed or verifiable, as by electronic transmission stating the person's name.

Membership

In order to vote in club elections (endorsements, elections of officers, judicial convention, amendments), you must be an eligible, voting member of the Broadway Democrats. You must have attended at least one of the previous nine monthly public meetings and you must pay your dues. Dues partially defray the costs of presenting forums and putting out this newsletter. Dues are \$25; senior dues are \$10.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Special Interests: _____

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FIRST
CLASS

Assemblymember: Daniel O'Donnell
District Leaders: Curtis Arluck,
Paula Diamond Román
President: Pat Almonrode
Newsletter Editor: Gretchen Borges

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Endorsement Meeting

Thursday, May 11th 8:00 p.m.

Bank Street College of Education

(610 West 112th Street (between Broadway and Riverside Drive))