

Communications Report

Joseph “Jay” Pflugh, Communications Committee Chair
Lisa Andres, Media Subcommittee

To All:

On or about Wednesday, March 29, 2023, I was informed by Lisa that our website had gone down. This was the second time in roughly six months that the website has returned a specific error, so I had a pretty good idea what the culprit was and how to fix it. Last time this had occurred, it was due to the Google Captcha program, which prevents our membership and contact forms from being spammed with nonsense/scams/phishing attempts/etc. Figuring the same was most likely true here, I attempted to enter the back-end to deactivate it and try to fix it, but I was unable enter the back-end, no matter what I did. I searched and did everything I knew and was told to do, but nothing I attempted worked.


Long story short, I was left little choice but to delete the entirety of the website and basically start over from scratch, with no plugins, no pages, nothing. It was the only way to access the administrative back-end to try and fix anything.

What this means is that, for the time being, our website is very bare bones. I’ve got our membership and contact forms up and working, and a very basic home page, but little to none of the other pages have any material on them. The current layout of the website is also different because it was the default one that was given – this doesn’t mean we are moving to this new layout.

I do still have the previous version of the website saved locally to my computer so I can upload it at a later date and, hopefully, everything can carry on like normal, but this has led me to wonder just what the overall issue was. Attempting to rebuild with WordPress even after deleting everything on our site returned the same error message that I got before when the website was still around, so I’m kind of at a loss. I cannot say with any certainty what the issue was: Google Captcha, a WordPress plugin malfunctioning, WordPress itself, or perhaps a mix of all three.

I will work on trying to reinstall the website when I am able to, even if it’s only a page or two at a time. Unfortunately, all of this happened at a time when my Spring Break was ending and, as luck would have it, the first week back is riddled with multiple exams and other things to take up the majority of my time. I will do my best to try and bring it back up, but the most important thing – the membership application (as well as the link to ActBlue payments) – is active and functioning, which I think is better than nothing.

Any questions, please reach out to me via email and I’ll try to answer them when I get the chance. I wish I had more of a clue as to what happened, but here we are. Technology, am I right?

DEMOCRATS OF GREATER RIVERSIDE 1st Quarter 2023 REPORT	JANUARY 2023	FEBRUARY 2023	MARCH 2023	1st quarter 2023
Checking acct balance BEGINNING	5,106.30	5,173.35	\$5,638.12	5,106.30
Membership dues paid	120.00	480.00	175.00	775.00
Donations to DGR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest Provident bank account	\$0.22	0.21	0.24	0.67
TOTAL REVENUE	120.22	480.21	175.24	775.67
Actblue processing fee 3.95%	(3.17)	(15.44)	(6.93)	(25.54)
General Operating expenditures	(50.00)	0.00	(200.86)	(250.86)
Political expenditures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Charitable and Community Outreach expenditures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
diaper drive via actblue and cash (\$160 check#1013 12/1/22)				
TOTAL EXPENSES	(53.17)	(15.44)	(207.79)	(276.40)
Checking acct balance ENDING	5,173.35	5,638.12	5,605.57	5,605.57
In-kind service or goods received	0.00			0.00
				
Marilyn Odello, Treasurer 3/31/2023				