

Greene



County

Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2023

A Note about the Minutes from our 1/19/2023 meeting à

No official minutes from that meeting will be published. We were unable to get a video which, due to the lively interaction, would have given the full scope of the discussion presented by our guest speakers Gail Griswald and Charlene Moore. An audio recording was made but on a device that isn't allowing an upload for the public. I am sorry for this technical challenge.

Now to the minutes from our 2/16/2023 meeting à

This was a uniquely joint meeting where *We the People* partnered with *Back On Track America* (the Education-focused organization led in the area by Dianne Ely) to present sorely-needed, timely information on the School Choice issue/question in Missouri. It was held at the Eagles Lodge on Plainview Road in Springfield and based on feedback provided by the 11 members and 25 guests attending, it was a success.

Valerie Swearingen opened our meeting with a prayer and Cary Wells led us in the Pledge. From there, the "**WOW, who would have known?**" began.

The topic was "School Choice – What Is It?". In a panel discussion format, the following panel members introduced and led continuous discussion (*not a single lull*) on this highly charged topic.

- Senator Jill Carter
- Representative Darin Chappell
- Dr Mary Byrne
- Stacy Shore
- Gail Griswald
- Jeremy Cross

Cary Wells served as MC.

Senator Carter began the discussion. At this point, rather than writing all the details here, the full presentation is available for you to enjoy on our We the People of Missouri website at:

<https://wethepeopleofmissouri.org/mo-school-choice-presentation-2-16-2023/>

(Simply copy and paste this into your web browser)

After viewing the video, it's evident the discussions, questions and answers could have gone on for hours. However time constraints forced the panel's conclusion around 8:30 pm. WtP appreciates the Eagles Lodge for allowing us the space to meet and to Jeremy & Angelique Cheverri who made it happen.

While our next meeting won't be nearly as *revealing* as this one, it will be one that everyone registered to vote should attend. Candidates on the April 4th ballot will be guest speakers. Any questions you might have, here's your opportunity.

That meeting will be:

- On **3/23/23**
- Time **6:30 PM**
- Location- **Pasta Express (3250 E Battlefield)**

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Herring, Secretary