

Long Island Network for Change (LINC)

March 8, 2020 general meeting 3 pm

Emily Kaufman welcomed everyone and introduced the Guest Speaker, Michael Marcantonio.

1. Marcantonio, a Democrat, is seeking to replace outgoing NY State Assemblyman, Andrew Raia, a Republican, in the 12<sup>th</sup> AD in Huntington. Raia is becoming Town Clerk and there is a Special Election on April 28 for the vacant Assembly seat. April 28 is also the Democratic primary day. Early voting begins April 18.

Marcantonio emphasized the importance of the election beyond the district as a “bellweather” for Republicans to maintain control of this “swing district.” Marcantonio said he supports LINC’s mission and agrees with its Progressive agenda. He is a lifelong Northport resident and a graduate of Duke Law School.

One of his key issues is introducing legislation in the Assembly to limit the amount of tax refunds LIPA can seek from towns and taxpayers. Marcantonio is seeking campaign workers to canvas, hold house parties, and to distribute flyers. Go to [www.michaelmarcantonio.com](http://www.michaelmarcantonio.com) for more information or contact his campaign manager, Deana Davoudiasl, [deana@michaelmarcantonio.com](mailto:deana@michaelmarcantonio.com) 917- 974-6591.

2. Committee Reports:

- Racism Discussion Group. Brook recapped today’s discussion on the topic of Black History month and its value. One takeaway was that in light of our Euro-centric teaching of history in this country, we need space for African-American history-- and it should be expanded all year to include systemic and structural issues, too.
- Events Committee: David spoke about the Census event—Every Person Counts-- held at Temple Beth El last month in partnership with HWCLI on importance and impact of 2020 census to Long Island. The event was well-attended by 85 people and a tab was added to the LINC web site with the full video of the day. Flyers are available to spread the word.
- Elections committee: Harriet spoke about arranging a meeting with NY Sen. Jim Gaughran and possibly with Rep. Tom Souzzi. Souzzi will speak at the next LINC meeting, April 5, at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington.
- Robin is working on Indivisible Payback Project <https://www.paybackproject.org/>

3. Updates:

Robin circulated petitions for Melanie D’Arrigo – Running in Primary against Tom Suozzi

Helen spoke about the success of the recent NAACP luncheon and urged LINC members to join the Huntington chapter

#### 4. Upcoming Events/Action

- Women's Diversity Network annual summit, April 18 all-day event. LINC is a sponsor again this year. All urged to attend at SUNY Old Westbury
- Next meeting April 5 Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington.