

Benton County Democratic Central Committee

Draft Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2017

1. Call to order

The regular meeting of the Benton County Democratic Central Committee (BCDCC) was called to order by the Chair, David Rose, at 7:04 PM.

2. Flag salute

Dave led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approve Agenda

There was a motion to approve the agenda as distributed. It was seconded and carried.

4. Announcement for Young Democrats Bake Sale

5. Guest Speaker: Martin McBriarty on Indivisible Washington State 4th CD

6. Reports of the Committees

a. Finance Committee/Treasurer (Stacy Cash-Ware)

Stacy was unable to attend but Dave shared information that she had given him.

In checking there is \$7946.35 and in savings there is \$7667.55.

Chair's comments results of PDC Hearing: They have fined us \$3000. Two thousand of that is suspended for 4 years. One thousand is due April 5.

A proposed budget had been distributed. The Chair made some explanatory comments.

Neil Norman moved that the budget be approved and that the executive committee be authorized to make expenditures which fall within the budget without requiring specific approval from the Central Committee. Motion was seconded. Motion carried on a voice vote.

b. Organization Committee (Allison Dabler)

A Newsletter sub-committee has been organized consisting of Misty Muchlinski, Stacy Cash-Ware, and Jessica Monterey.

Volunteers have been doing outreach work with various other affinity groups as well as religious and cultural minorities. The issues and needs of these groups can be part of the content for our newsletter as well as events and calls to action. A PCO directory will be included on the BCDCC website. A number of upcoming events were mentioned. We still need volunteers to attend city council meetings and school board meetings.

The Organization Committee will need volunteers to staff subcommittees for the various activities and parties like the Fair, Picnic, and Holiday Party.

There are 11 people on the PCO Outreach subcommittee and we have 77 PCO's in place so far. The county has been broken up into regions with a member of the PCO Outreach subcommittee assigned to each region. PCO's will work directly with their assigned PCO Outreach member for training, direction, and assistance.

c. Communications Committee (DeNomy Dage)

The Communications Committee is holding a Tech Day event. We are looking for volunteers to help and for folks seeking help.

d. Labor and Commerce Committee (Nick Bumpaous)

Nick was not able to attend tonight but will be going to D.C. soon to have a meeting with Bernie Sanders to talk about the unique challenges of our district and the immediate area in terms of labor.

e. Elections Committee (Heidi Hill and Christine Brown)

We are working on having a Women's Power Lunch event. Maria Cantwell's staff is working on getting it on her calendar when the Senate is in recess. Tina Podlodowski has also agreed to attend if the scheduling can be worked out. We are also reaching out to Patty Murray and Christine Gregoire. We are having the event to encourage women and allied men to run for office. We are looking at a format with keynote addresses and break-out sessions.

We want people to consider attending the all-day campaign training being put on by a group called Amplify on April 29. It's for both people running for office and people interested in working for a campaign. It's a good opportunity for only \$20 for the day.

We are working hard to have candidates for all positions on the ballots. And we will be working closely with Allison and the PCO army to support those candidates.

As soon as we have a date for the Power Lunch, we will be pushing that out.

[w]We will be posting the list of open positions so folks can think about where they might fit in.

We are educating ourselves about the incumbents as well as potential candidates. We want to have a full field of candidates challenging folks who need a challenge and we want to support incumbents who may already be allies.

If you are thinking about running for office, please tell us. The only positions this year that are partisan are the County Treasurer and Sheriff. All the others are non-partisan.

Christine shared that in consulting with Mimi Latta recently that the biggest takeaway about getting into political office is to start small. People typically start with being appointed to or volunteer for a board or commission. This allows you to build a resume and to learn how to do these kinds of jobs.

Andy Miller took a moment to talk about the County Treasurer's race. The recent appointee to that position by the Republican Party is not performing well. There is an opportunity here to field a competent replacement.

There is going to be an introductory workshop for new candidates taught by experienced local candidates based on their own experiences.

The Elections Committee also wants to build a volunteer base so that when we support a candidate, we have human resources at hand. We will help supply them with people who have some money as well as the time and training to help them. We will be encouraging folks to get training so they can be part of that team. The filing dates are the weekend of May 15-20.

f. Platform Committee (Charles LoPresti)

John Christenson of the Bylaws sub-committee spoke about upcoming revisions. There will be a Policy Guide revision. There will be a change to the bylaws to clarify the identity of the BCDCC as an official part of the State Democratic Party. There will be a clarification of the voting privileges of the statutory PCOs. Of course, the proposed bylaw changes will be distributed 10 days in advance of our next meeting. [need a copy in advance of the next meeting]

7. Reports from the officers

a. Treasurer

Dave spoke for Stacy in her absence. The audit is in process and going well.

b. State Committee Woman

Kate Moran told us that the sessions at the next state party meeting in Walla Walla are being changed from what they have been before. There are a few new committees and they are trying to have all the caucus meetings on Friday so there is more time for the main full committee to meet on Saturday. There also will be more training available on Saturday. The dates are April 21-22. Tina Podlowski will be meeting with our local people on Thursday, April 20.

c. State Committee Man

Tina is coming Thursday, April 20, to meet with the Tri-City Democrats Club. A venue hasn't been determined as yet because we expect higher attendance than normal. We need folks to let us know that they are coming on the Facebook event for that meeting. [We will send out an email with a link to that Facebook event.

d. Vice-Chair

The Finance Committee is looking for suggestions for future events. There will a thank you sent out to our regular monthly donors. We will be looking for volunteers for the Fair booth. The Fair is from August 22-26. We would like for more people from Prosser to like our Facebook page.

e. Chair

House Bill 1723 has cleared the House. Nick Bumpaous was a key author the bill. Brad Klippert voted against it.

8. New Business

a. PCO Appointments

Jessica Monterey
Gavin Rider
Virginia Rogalsky
Jesse Roa
Yvonne Michel
Janine Romine
Kristy Lyon
Dennis Clayton
Levi Nelson
DeNomy Dage

Judi Johansson moved to accept the list of Appointed PCOs. Motion was seconded. Motion carried on a voice vote.

b. Appointment of Acting PCOs

Steve Goheen
Justin Raffa
Carl Sjostrand
Aaron White
Tas Brown
Ken Buxton
Chuck Eaton

[no motion]

c. New PA system

The actual price of the PA system came in at \$502 and we had only approved \$450.

Judi Johansson moved that we approve an additional \$52 to cover the difference. Motion was seconded. It carried on a voice vote.

9. Good of the Order

The 16th LD will be having a meeting in Walla Walla on the 29th.

The 8th LD has signed up to be a member of Our Revolution. This gives us access to potential Our Revolution endorsements as well as access to the Our Revolution email list.

Every Tuesday there is a protest at John Dam Plaza.

Tri-City Young Democrats thanks the 8th LD and BCDCC for the opportunity to raise funds by selling baked goods at our meetings.

The donations this evening were \$200.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50.