

## Benton County Democrats General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018, 7PM

Location: Benton County PUD  
2721 W 10<sup>th</sup> Ave, Kennewick WA 99336

### Officers in attendance:

Allison Dabler (Chair)  
Peter Gerhard-Roberts (Vice-Chair)  
Micki McKinley (Treasurer)  
Judi Johannesen (Secretary)  
Kate Moran (State Committeewoman)

## MINUTES

1) Meeting called to order at 7:02PM

2) Guest presentation: Student-led March for Our Lives Presentation, local students organizing a sister March for Our Lives event probably at Howard Amon Park, March 24, 3PM. They will set up GoFundMe account to accept donations. We will post to our Facebook page.  
Motion, Brett/2<sup>nd</sup>: \$200 to fund March for Our Lives-TC event. Approved.

3) Adopt agenda: Carl moved/2<sup>nd</sup>: approved

4) Approve minutes: Jay moved/2<sup>nd</sup>: approved

5) Chair's Report (Allison)

Seven people from Benton County went to the state meeting in Bellingham at the end of January. Remarkable! Snoqualmie Pass was closed for a couple hours. One carload drove around through Portland. Long trip any way you went. Excellent representation from Benton County. People in this town involved and passionate. Any of us can go, not just executive committee. Nice to be around a lot of like-minded people.

Upcoming caucuses and convention: Desert Hills Middle School, doors open 9:30, start registration at 10. Planning committee (Allison, Judi, Kate, Chuck). Good state support, webinars, checklists. Need chair Credentials, Rules, Platform. John Masulonis-- Credentials, Rules--Jey Castlebury, Platform--Kate Moran. March for Our Lives at 3 following LD caucuses/County Convention. Suggestion: get FB event out there.

Organizing Academy Saturday, 2/24, 1-5PM at the fitter's hall in Pasco. Maria Beltran will train on GOTV, doorbelling, canvassing. Welcoming PCOs, and non-PCOs.

March for Our Lives: need a voter registration effort. Probably Fingernail. Printers calling about swag/shirts. Jay w/ work with merchandising contracts. Postcard Sundays – until after the march, the issue is gun safety. Can set up a segregated account in BCDCC.

Plenty of work to do, if you're not on a committee, get signed up for one.

#### 6) Treasurer's Finance Report (Micki McKinley - Vote on budget)

Financial report: Savings \$7,670.61, Checking, \$15,250.84

Motion John/2nd: Reimburse John for \$57.85 for office supplies. Carried

Budget: Micki presented the proposed budget. Motion Jay/2<sup>nd</sup>: Approve the budget. Passed

Audit: Need an audit of the financial records. Kate Moran, Judi Johannesen volunteered.

#### 7) Committee Reports:

State Committeeman (Doug McKinley/Bonnie Kendall) Absent

State Committeewoman (Kate Moran): Issues: Ag & E WA combine? Would W WA ag areas lose representation? Ongoing discussion. Training & Communication: PCO handouts, more how to, Spanish version. Consent workshops – general, not just sexual. Planned Parenthood put on the workshop. Digital copy of presentation may be available from State Dem org.

Jay (8<sup>th</sup> LD SCM): Employee parenting leave policy. Refined Conduct consequences. Policy will come out, probably by next mtg. Bystander tips. Women's Caucus, Asian American Caucus, Finance Committee: creating treasurer's handbook, LPO funding request (Local Political Organization) for party-building, Rise and Organize house parties. Jay very excited about this. Labor caucus: Natural gas plant proposed in Tacoma, to replace ship fuel with Natural Gas. Environmental Caucus hijacked the Labor Caucus meeting. Very contentious. Allison helped get the Labor and Environmental caucuses to talk to each other. Automatic proxy by law change so that vice-chairs can vote for chairs, and YD chairs can vote for reps. Fixes to the CD chair white guy group, tabled until spring. ~15 resolutions submitted, ~13 got to floor, resolution to allow taxing flexibility. Urging senators to sponsor single-payer. Renter resolution: money discrimination. I-1600 universal health care. Trump religious encroachment. Siting of solar energy. Lots of these things are now coming from the governor's office and state legislature are working on them.

Carl: Johnson Amendment: Preachers can't advocate for a candidate. Trump proposing to repeal this amendment. Churches don't have to report finances, so churches could function as ultra SuperPAC, and could funnel foreign money to campaigns.

Janie: Also proposing OKing gay conversion therapy at the Federal level.

#### Organizing Committee (Peter Gerhard-Roberts, John Harder):

Peter: recently met to coordinate w/ Franklin, build momentum with doorbelling Sunday after Org Academy.

Need to start planning 5 de Mayo. Need volunteers. Voter registration booth. Better float, plan candy better. Also, ready to start thinking about fair.

John: 4 maps, can take picture of your area of interest with your cell phone.  
Accomplishments: Do-it-yourself inspirational videos. State committee meeting. Tech caucus: project: file-palooza for folks thinking about running. Project 7229: Attended canvas training: went to canvas outside of own precinct to get feet wet. Canvas host event: easy! ½ hour to prep, 2 hour to canvas, ½ hour to debrief. John Christenson will put out calendar for PCOs. Need to fill empty precincts with PCOs. Have new PCO appointments for Allison to make tonight.  
Organizing Academy this Sat, PCO filing 5/14-18. File online. State produced PCO handbook, link on Bencodem.org website.

Carl: need to get fair booth reviewed and fixed.

#### Communications Committee (Jay Clough)

Sign up for FB, Twitter, & email.

Elections Committee (Jay Clough) Have identified about 20 potential candidates. Reached out to 7-8 and got positive response. Have offered to walk them through to see what a campaign would look like.

Platform Committee (Chuck LoPresti) 5 meetings since last general meeting. Draft document summarizes our values on about 18 topics.

#### 8) Old Business

Morgan: Exec committee recommends that we not dissolve the PAC because we could still get sued anyway.

#### 9) New Business (By Laws Change, March for Our Lives)

By Laws: I want the Tri-Cities Young Democrats chair be part of the Executive Committee as a non-voting member.

Rules Change proposed: If you sign a check, it must be countersigned by chair or vice - chair. Want to add secretary.

PCO appointments:

Jay Castlebury Acting 6284

Stanley Moon Appointed PCO 6195

Tim Foreman Appointed PCO 5627

William Petrie Appointed PCO 6115.

10) Good of the Order

Jeffrey: Pasco Inclusivity Resolution passed, and committee set up!! Hosting canvas 1-5 on Sunday, Meeting Taco Bell Rd 68

Kate: I-1600 Whole WA Universal Healthcare initiative to sign.

11) Motion to Adjourn (several)/2<sup>nd</sup>: carried at 8:29