

Benton County Democrats Executive Committee

Round Table Pizza

George Washington Way,

Richland WA 99354

6/3/2019

Attendance: Judi Johannesen, Micki McKinley, Carl Baker, Kendall Miller, Kate Moran, John Masulonis, Kitty Tominy

Meeting to order, 6:33 PM

Chair's report

We have a targeted list from Allison Dabler for some telephone work to encourage people to become more involved in Party activities. Judi will be working with the Communications Committee to develop a "You might be a Democrat" messaging campaign. The idea is to use properly framed language (ref. Lakoff) to help folks have a more favorable view of Democrats.

Chair comments

It would be nice if we had some coaching on the Spanish language in terms of elections. Typical SSL speakers haven't been taught the terms normally used in electoral contexts.

From John Masulonis

John talked to Tumbleweird. Their minimum purchase is \$50 for a business card spot. We could also use Tumbleweird as a method to advertise our meetings and activities.

Events report

Cinco de Mayo parade went well.

[] Look for more shared pictures.

The sign waving for Awareness was done.

Pride was awesome, fun, and lively. The BCDCC participation was rather ad hoc. Franklin County DCC had a booth that BCDCC folks help staff. Carl Baker has the banner now.

There will be a June 15 impeachment action is planned.

There will be a Juneteenth parade in Pasco on June 22. Currently the big issue is equal justice and treatment by law enforcement.

July 4 Parade. We will use the trailer for that. We have a spot reserved for that.

On August 17 is the B-F Fair Parade with the fair starting on the 20th. We will need to staff our booth for that. Micki will set up a sign-up for that. We need to get our fair booth in order. The counter may be a bit too tall for shorter folks. Last year it was suggested that we have a phone charging station there that the public could use. It would be nice to have our messaging program ready to roll for the fair. The idea

is to use the “You Might Be A Democrat” theme. Add some representative photographs that are funny. There’s an idea for a drawing for campaign swag by presidential preference. By PDC rules we must charge candidates for space in the booth. There was some discussion about how to handle the non-partisan candidate literature at our booth. We can’t recommend or endorse but there really are some candidates whom we would be reluctant to help. As a public service, we can provide the text from the candidate’s statements on the voter pamphlet.

[] Our August meeting will be a week earlier since there will some remodeling at our meeting site.

Kate is looking for a classic car in which she can ride for the Benton-Franklin Fair parade.

We need to do some more setting up and checking of the fair booth. The problem is that Carl is tied up just about every weekend from now until the fair. We need to find some weekdays on which people can meet and help.

The shelving we received was smaller than expected. [] We still need to take action at the next meeting to authorize money for shelving that meets our needs better.

Treasurer’s report

The Norm and Shirley Miller dinner had expenses of \$10,000. Income was \$25,000. Some invoices are still out. When all is said and done, we will have made \$15,556 profit. Savings is unchanged at \$7600. Our income is a combination of the dinner and regular contributions for \$18744. Expenses were \$1186. Checking balance, \$30K, with some expenses still outstanding.

Secretary’s Report

Secretary was absent at last Central Committee meeting but was ably backed up by Alisha Victorine and Stan Moon for notes and recordings that facilitated the production of meeting minutes, nonetheless. The Secretary will be absent again for the next E-board meeting.

Platform Committee

There isn’t a meeting time set yet for planning session. But people are working on some resolutions to be presented at a future meeting.

Good of the Order

The Tri-Cities Realtors Association is having a candidate training session on June 19 from 9-3 at 7151 West Clearwater. Put on by the National Association of Realtors. Kate will forward the info to the Secretary.

If we want to be in the County Fair Parade, we need to register. It was agreed to go ahead with that.

There was a question about the process of observing the counting of ballots during an election. The County puts out a letter to the parties requesting observers. There is a rumor that the recording of the precinct results are such that the data is difficult to find. The rumor is that in precincts in which Democrats prevailed, the name of the precinct is in an irregular fashion. The suspicion is that this may be malicious. Judi will follow up on it.

[Secretary's note: There are irregularities in precinct names but they have always been there and do not correlate with the winning party. The precinct codes are consistent and regular. This has been observed by me for years.]

Nonetheless, it is important that we provide observers to make sure that the county knows that people care about the integrity of the process. Micki volunteered to communicate with Auditors office to get the details of the observation process and how many people and when they are needed. In addition, we want to know about the ballot challenge process. Maybe set up a field trip to the appropriate place.

Adjourned at 7:49.