

Benton County Democrats Executive Committee

Round Table Pizza

George Washington Way,

Richland WA 99354

9/2/2019

Attendance: Judi Johannesen, Micki McKinley, Kate Moran, Kitty Tominy, Carl Baker, Kendall Miller, Jessica Wadsworth

Meeting to order, 6:03 PM

Treasurer's report

Printed report submitted. Total assets \$27349.53. Fair expenses \$1664.62 against a budget of \$17000.

Secretary's report and minutes

In process of loading the Fair signup sheets into iContact. Kate mentioned someone to add to the iContact list. Would email info. Judi said she would forward.

Around the table

Kate – Jason Call is a State Committee Member is running for the CD 2 Congressional seat. The WSDCC Executive Board seems to have weaponized the Code of Conduct against him. He had a heated discussion with someone in a parking lot and that person brought a charge against him under the code. The WSDCC E-board essentially suspended him for 6 months based on a hearing that didn't seem to provide a fair representation of the issue. This has deprived him of being able to participate in some important meetings including those of the DNC. There will be floor action at the next WSDCC meeting in the form of a resolution that calls the WSDCC Executive Board to task for its actions in this regard. Many are of the opinion that the consequences don't fit the infraction and that the WSDCC Executive Board is over-reaching. This is the first time the new Code of Conduct has ever been used. Jason is "primarying" a conservative Democrat in a safe Democratic district. The Constituency Caucus will have some important things on their agenda. However, their meeting is scheduled during a WSDCC session so no State Committee Members will be able to attend. The two-day schedule is packed and is problematic in a number of ways. [Judi will be driving to the WSDCC meeting and would be happy to take passengers if anyone would like a ride.] There is a chance that Iowa will go to a primary next year that occur after the New Hampshire primary. The DNC seems to be forcing all the states to do primaries instead of caucuses for presidential delegate selection. The DNC fired the Alabama Executive Board and they have to start from scratch for their primary season without an approved plan in place. At the DNC, Tina and others tried to push through a resolution for a climate change debate and it failed. As a fallback they decided to have a climate change town hall.

Jessica – Labor had a successful picnic and are now getting ready to knock on doors in support of the candidates who have been endorsed in this year's elections. The KEA voted to strike. They have been working without a contract while talks were ongoing but the talks have broken down. Since then, an agreement was reached and teachers are going back to work.

Carl – Thanks to Peter, Alisha, Jey Castleberry, and others for all the help with the Fair setup and teardown. The Fair booth drape structure is in good shape but the fabric itself is shot. We may have to do something different in our next iteration. Thanks also to all the volunteers who showed up. We were able to staff almost all of the shifts. A lessons-learned session has been conducted and notes have forwarded to the Secretary. There are also some notes from Richard Badalamente. It was mentioned that people didn't know that the Central Committee was buying tickets for the volunteers. It was also mentioned that a senior bus pass was actually cheaper than the regular fair tickets. We need to add ticket information to the volunteer sign-up sheets. There's a number of climate activities coming up. The Tri-City Democrats are sponsoring the Climate March on September 20. There are additional climate related activities on days before and after that date. Carl would like to buy a trailer for parade float duty rather than continue to be at the mercy of the rental vendors. He is interested in a model that costs around \$1,000. We could build an appropriate parade superstructure for another \$1,000.

Motion to purchase a trailer for approximately \$1000 plus another \$1000 for outfitting it. Seconded and Carried.

Kitty – Official copies of the approved resolutions were passed around for appropriate signatures. Kitty provided a printout showing the status of other possible resolutions on which the committee was working. The status of last year's summarized platform was discussed. Fairgoers asked for something like that and it would be useful to provide something like that to candidates as well. Passed out handouts of resolutions and development status. Doug McKinley is a patent attorney. He may be able to help.

Judi – The Wendy Culverwell article about Brad Beauchamp came out in the paper yesterday. Since Judi alerted the newspaper to the Beauchamp issues, she has had 3 conversations with Bill Bergman, the Benton County Republican chair. The article was disappointing since it left the impression that Judi was doing something partisan in a non-partisan election when it was the Republicans who had acted as partisans by making endorsements. Part of the problem is that the Herald is in trouble financially and may be sold. We may lose our local paper. We may have to find non-commercial funding like the public media model.

We need a logo. For example, we could have a Democrats of the mid-Columbia banner with logos of the various LPO's on it.

End of meeting 7:27 pm