

Benton County Democrats Executive Committee

Round Table Pizza

George Washington Way,

Richland WA 99354

9/30/2019

Attendance: Judi Johannesen, Kate Moran, John Masulonis, Carl Baker, Kendall Miller, Kitty Tominey, Frank Lockwood, Laura Lockwood, Sabastian Marichular, Stan Moon

Meeting to order, 6:00 PM

Agenda is just a cycle around the table, moved, second, and carried.

Secretary's report and minutes, Kendall Miller –

Minutes, moved, seconded, and carried.

New PCO, Sabastian Marichular added to iContact list. Emailed copies of the WSDCC packet to PCO's.

The link to the 8th LD website was updated on the BCDCC website link list. August general meeting minutes were corrected, September general meeting minutes and the Fair Lessons Learned posted on website.

Parliamentary issues, Kendall Miller – The committee reporting process in our general meeting has become susceptible to being hijacked. Kendall suggested that we have a more rigorous practice. Interruptions should not be allowed during a report unless or until such time the floor is opened for questions or comments. Should the reporting committee or officer have items that could warrant action by the body, the reporter should clearly list those recommendation at the end of the report in language suitable for motions. At the end of the report, the chair should prompt the body for motions by reading each recommendation and asking the body, "Are there any actions you wish to take in regards to this recommendation?" Only motions relevant to the recommendation are in order. Other motions must be deferred to a more appropriate point in the agenda.

Regular debate can also be exposed to hijacking. Kendall suggested that motions be stated concisely and confined to the specific action desired. Editorializing and commentary is not appropriate either before or after the phrase, "I move ...". These things must be deferred to opening of debate. If there happens to be no second to the motion, the time of the body does not get taken up by discussion for which there is no support. The chair must clearly state a motion before it goes to the floor for debate. If the motion is too complex to state from the initial hearing of it, the chair should request that the mover take the time to put the motion in writing and bring it up later in the meeting when a copy can be handed to the chair for reading.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer absent but there has been no significant change in our finances since the September general meeting.

Around the table

Chair, Judi Johannessen – Judi attended the WSDCC State Committee meeting last weekend in Yakima. Code of Conduct issues were really big. She joined the African-American Caucus and attended the Latino Caucus and Rural/Urban Caucus. She did not stay for the general meeting. She is anxious to get storage unit cleared out.

Vice-Chair, Stan Moon – Nothing to report

Organization Committee, John Masulonis for Allison Dabler – The main state meeting was filled with concerns about the constituency caucuses. Lots of bylaws and amendments were proposed. They rescued the caucuses by voting for the first bylaw. They exist as ad hoc committees and they can determine their own membership and leadership. Reaffirmed some other caucuses until time ran out.

State Committee Member 2, Kate Moran – Picking up the review of the State meeting. The State executive board will decide the motions to reaffirm caucuses. There is talk that we will be looking bylaw to see how and what can be a special meeting to do more of this work. There may be a change to 3 days for the meeting and 4 meetings per year. Kate is looking for input on this. We may need some committees to meet more often than the Central Committee meeting. Possibly a remote meeting for some things. Try to avoid meetings than could be handled with an email. Hospitality suites used to act as places to work things out before the big meeting. Lots of discussion is going on Facebook threads. Kitty Tominey asked about the County LPO making suggestions to the WSDCC. Kate offered that the Chairs organization should be a better avenue.

Events, Carl Baker – Carl attended the WSDCC. I-1000 started out as an initiative to roll back the Eyman initiative, I-200, from years ago that banned affirmative action. It brings back affirmative action. It went to the Legislature and they decided to pass it into law. Tim Eyman countered by putting a resolution to oppose I-1000. It will be on the ballot. The referendum one sees on the ballot is Measure 88. It is worded such that a Yes vote affirms affirmative action. There were a number of activities in relation to the Climate Strike. Carl introduced Fred and Laura Lockwood from the Green Party. They helped with some of the good events. The trailer purchase is stalled a bit while the Treasurer is out of town. It will pick up again when she returns. We will ramp back up on the storage unit issue. There will be a Diversity Summit in the morning of 10/16. Tri-city Democrats on 10/11 will have music provided by Sagebrush Sounds and Jeffrey Robinson will talk about the role county commissioners. Frank and Laura represent the Move to Amend organization and have asked to speak with us. They would like to bring a national speaker to the area. We need to find a date that works for our folks to be able to attend that. The amendment they are promoting is the We the People amendment. The amendment establishes the point that corporations are not people but are entities established by law. As such they do not have the same rights in our system of government that individuals do. Another part of the amendment is that money is not free speech. The third part is that government has the right to regulate corporations. Website is <https://movetoamend.org>. There is a natural collaboration among Move To Amend, Climate Change activists, and the Green Party. Excessive corporate power contributes significantly to environmental problems. The speaker being sponsored is Caitlin Sopoci, a national director of Move to Amend. The originally proposed date of 10/16 collides with the Benton County meeting. They have renegotiated to a date of 10/15.

Motion to cooperate with the Green Party in hosting this speaker at the Uptown Theater on 10/15/19. There was a discussion about the strategy of MTA whether they are advocating a constitutional convention or simply putting it through Congress. The preference is to do it without a convention, but all options are open. Question: Will we be responsible for any expenses of the speaker like travel or lodging? MTA would like to pass the hat at the meeting to fund the travel. We have an issue with that. Under Washington law, political contributions need to be attributed if at all possible. Motion seconded and carried. In regards to the financial support, Move To Amend is PAC so BCDCC can make a direct donation to it.

Motion to allocate \$100 to rent the facility and \$200 as a donation to MTA to help support the speaker's travel expenses. Seconded. Carried.

We will forward information to Faith Action Network, Indivisible, Immigrant Coalition and other affinity groups. We will also publicize with a email to membership and notice on the Facebook page and the website just as soon as we have a bio for the speaker.

The Win with Women event will be at the new IBEW hall in Kennewick at 114 N. Edison on 10/26/19 at 10:00 AM. Featured speaker will be the new Washington Legislature Speaker of the House, Laurie Jenkins. This is a fundraising event to support female candidates. Christine Brown and Rebecca Francik are sponsoring this. The funds will go to Win with Women Emerge who will provide sponsorships to progressive candidates and potential campaign staff to attend Emerge training. This particular event will be talking about what Win with Women Emerge is. It will be a brunch.

Motion that BCDCC sponsor and donate \$250 towards the costs of the Win With Women Brunch. Seconded. Amendment, change amount to \$500. Amendment seconded and carried. Motion as amended carried. [This motion requires approval of the BCDCC at the next meeting.]

There is something coming about election security, but the details are not yet clear.

The Tri-City Democrats on November 8 will have Steve Ghan from the Citizens Climate Lobby. The topic will be legislation in process for climate issues.

Election Committee, not present

Resolutions and Platform, Kitty Tominey – Our resolutions did get to the State Resolutions Committee for the recent State meeting but the State never got to any resolutions. They will be presented at the next State meeting. They are working on some new ones at a steady pace. It was suggested that resolutions be routed to appropriate constituency caucuses as well as the main state resolutions committee. The more routes the resolution has, the more likely that it will get on the State agenda. Kitty would like to compress the platform down to 2 pages so candidates can more easily process it in relation to their own particular positions.

Labor Committee, not present

8th LD, John Masulonis – They are working on selecting a venue for the 2020 8th LD Caucus. The calculation is for about 200 people to attend. The Crawfish Boil fundraiser brought in around \$2,000.

16th LD, Kitty Tominey – Tried to do a XOOM meeting but it didn't quite work out. Next meeting will be on the 4th Thursday.

New Business – Kate Moran asked whether our Code of Conduct language exactly copied the language from the State. If so, we need to go back and change it to be sure that it includes an appeals process. Judi recommended that Kate take a look at our Policy Guide and propose appropriate changes at a future meeting. Or move to establish a committee to review the guide in light of this need and propose appropriate changes.

Old Business, none

Good of the Order – Kate Moran has some new signs that need to be posted. Sabastian Marichular is now on the Executive Board as the Young Democrats representative. He is reestablishing the organization with the help of Carly Coburn.

Motion to donate \$1000 to the Young Democrats. Seconded and carried. [This motion requires approval of the BCDCC at the next meeting.]

Tri-City Democrats have procured more Hate Has No Home Here signs.

We cancelled the budget allocation for shelving but it seems we now need to re-instate it.

Motion to allocate \$400 for the purchase of storage equipment. Seconded and Carried. [This motion requires approval of the BCDCC at the next meeting.]

Adjourned, 7:45 PM