

Benton County Democrats Executive Committee

Round Table Pizza

George Washington Way,

Richland WA 99354

11/04/2019

Attendance: Judi Johannesen, Kate Moran, John Masulonis, Carl Baker, Kendall Miller, Sabastian Marichular, Stan Moon, Alisha Victorine, Jessica Wadsworth, Charles LoPresti, Micki McKinley, Allison Dabler, Jeffrey Robinson.

Meeting to order, 6:05 PM

**Chair's report, Judi Johannesen** –Discussion about venue for County Convention. May be able to get the Doris Roberts Gallery for free. May 3. LD 8 is April 26.

Lisa Thomas was officially un-endorsed by the Republican Party.

Discussion about condolences to the Benton County Republicans on the untimely death of their Chairman. Card or flowers. Judi will do it. Judi is acquainted with the presumed successor for the chairmanship of the Benton County Republicans. He is well-respected. Can't remember name at this time.

**Secretary's report and minutes, Kendall Miller** –

Post-mortem of the exercise of tighter parliamentary practices at last general meeting. Folks made good efforts to adapt to them, but we can do better with more practice. The order was hijacked at one point when, in the absence of a subcommittee chair, a member of the committee used the reporting time to speak about his own pet project. Another improvement would be for committee reporters not be the ones to move to accept the recommendations of the committee. That should be done by someone else in the body.

It would be nice if the head table had an additional screen or a view of the main screen so the officers could see what the audience is seeing on the overhead screen. Carl will check with the Uptown staff to see if a second screen is technically possible.

**Approval of minutes of last meeting moved, seconded, and carried.**

**Treasurer Report, Micki McKinley** –

We've had \$120 in contributions. We've spent \$1928.36 on the trailer for which we allocated \$2000. The only thing outstanding is the nominal expense of fabric for bunting, flags, and other incidental decorations. When these numbers are known, we will have to go to the body for the supplemental funds. Total assets are \$25021.66. The Chair recommended that the Treasurer send out the remaining balances of Sub-committee budgets to the various chairs so that they can plan their expenses from now until the next budget cycle at the end of the year.

**Update from the 8<sup>th</sup> LD**

The 8<sup>th</sup> LD has secured a venue for the 2020 LD Caucus. It will be Southridge High School in Kennewick. There was a savings in expense because they charged the rate for a non-profit organization. The State will pay for the insurance and will also provide registration software. The software has yet to be provided.

**State Committee Member 2. Kate Moran –**

The Kennewick City Council meeting has many issues of possible interest to the Party. These include the needle exchange, breed-specific language in the animal control regulations, and the scandal around the Mayor. Workshop meeting time has been advanced to 5:30 PM to accommodate the expected number of citizen speakers.

**Resolutions and Platform, Charles LoPresti** – A new resolution is being resubmitted on Stranded Assets. It calls for a task force to look at the impact of major loss of value of fossil fuel assets as the economy evolves into more of a renewable regime.

**Labor Committee, Jessica Wadsworth** – Generally, things in the labor area are slowing down with the season. The Kadlec nurses are considering a strike. Judi asked about the best way for the Party to support strike actions. With the nurses, there will be a 10-day notice before a strike goes into effect. The best thing to do would be to contact the nurse's union for specific suggestions. Jessica will research and provide contact information for the union. We can also display yard signs in support of the nurses.

Motion to budget \$1000 for the nurse's strike fund. Seconded. Motion to also contact their committee to find out how best to support them. The Chair indicated that the second motion wasn't necessary since she was planning to contact them anyway. First motion to budget \$1000 donation to the nurses was carried.

**Election Committee, Alisha Victorine** – Many members of the board expressed the awareness that we need to be researching and inviting potential candidates. We need to expand the membership of the committee. Several suggestions for cultivating candidates were offered. We could contact LULAC, AACCES, Win With Women, ACLU, etc. [] It was suggested that we maintain a contact list for affinity groups like these. We need to do a better job of encouraging younger folks to get organizationally involved. The Win With Women leader, Diane Ham(?) McDaniels, may have a list of women who are interested in political office.

**Events, Carl Baker** – Construction in underway on the parade float. We should be able to use it in the Veterans Day Parade on Saturday in West Richland.

Motion to reimburse for Veterans Day Parade expenses up to \$70. Seconded. Carried.

We would like to be able to pass a 2020 budget at our December meeting.

TCD Dems are having Steve Ghan as their speaker this month on Climate issues. They will not have a meeting in December.

**Organization Committee, Allison Dabler** – She has lists to make for some PCO's. We need to help our PCO's provide voter education about the 2020 Primary process. We also need to be prepared to provide press releases and articles about it in local publications: TCH, Tumbleweird, TC Daily, etc. It's time for

people to start doing the local work for their preferred Presidential candidate. This information needs to be compiled and distributed by the Communications Committee.

**16<sup>th</sup> LD, not represented** – The chair noted that the State Party will be putting energy into the LD races next year and we need to boost our 16<sup>th</sup> LD team, especially with the recruitment of more PCO's there.

**Young Democrats, Sabastian Marichular** – The bylaws are almost done. It was noted that there is an extant organizational registration with the PDC and the IRS that can be inherited by the reorganized Young Democrats. We will need to provide training to the Executive Board.

**New Business** – The Tri-City Democrats have a supply of Hate Has No Home Here signs available with a nominal donation.

We are running late on organizing a Holiday Party. Venues are more expensive than last year. We need to secure a date, speaker, and venue. We are looking for a date in early December. A number of possible speakers were floated. Progress on Holiday Party planning will be tracked on a Google Doc. Will look at inviting unions who are active and endorsed our local candidates. Jessica will provide the union contacts. We can also mine PDC for donors we might want to invite. Ladies from the Purple Hat Soiree. Ask Adele to run the silent auction. Speaker possibilities discussed include Jim Mattis, April Sims, Laurie Jenkins, and our political candidates.

**News from Franklin County, Jeffrey Robinson** –

The local Republican party is in disarray. Jerome Delvin may be going out as well as Brad Peck. The election will be bad for them and there will be internal repercussions. The 16<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats are getting more mobilized than it has been in a long time. The Franklin County organization has a 5-year plan. They will start their annual Valora Loveland Dinner next year. Will plan to do it in June.

**Adjourned, 7:58 PM**