

Benton County Democrats Executive Committee Meeting
Online meeting via Zoom

06/01/2020

Attendance: Judi Johannesen, Carl Baker, Kendall Miller, John Masulonis, Jay Clough, Micki McKinley, Alisha Victorine, Jessica Wadsworth, Kate Moran, Sabastian Marichalar, and Chuck LoPresti.

Meeting to order, 6:33 PM

Agenda:

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Adopt Agenda and Minutes
- 3) Secretary's Report
- 4) Treasurer's Report
- 5) Chair's report
- 6) Vice-Chair's Report
- 7) State Committee Members
- 8) Organization Committee
- 9) Events Committee
- 10) Elections Committee
- 11) Resolutions and Platform Committee
- 12) Labor Committee
- 13) Communications Committee
- 14) 8th LD
- 15) 16th LD
- 16) Young Democrats
- 17) Coordinated Campaign
- 18) New Business
- 19) Unfinished Business
- 20) Good of the Order
- 21) Adjourn

Motion to adopt the agenda. Seconded. Carried.

Secretary's Report – Kendall Miller

From iContact, we announced this meeting. On the website, we posted our endorsed candidates, the minutes of the special E-board meeting held on May 20, and the May general meeting minutes. On iContact we assisted a member in getting their Do-Not-Contact status reset so they could receive our emails. It was easy and just involved the member sending an email to iContact support. If others encounter that problem, we would be happy to assist in correcting things. I'm still waiting for some links from Cigdem for the Yakima strike group and for the Environment and Climate Change caucus meeting on June 12. We also have an open task on sending out a set of emails for each of our endorsed candidates.

Motion to accept the minutes of regular May E-Board meeting and the minutes of the special 5/20 E-Board meeting. Seconded. Carried.

Treasurer's Report – Micki McKinley (written report submitted)

Saving is unchanged at \$7678. Income was about \$60. Most of our campaign contribution have come through. Expenditures was \$9852. Which leaves us with a balance of \$3462. When the remaining campaign contributions come in our revised checking balance is \$1362. This would make our total assets at \$9140.

Micki has supplied Judi with a mockup of a fundraising appeal in lieu of the Norm and Shirley Miller Banquet. We hope to have that out before the State Convention happens on June 13.

State Committee Member 2 Report – Jay Clough.

Jay has been working with the Justin Raffa campaign. The State Committee has been working through the changes needed to operate without face-to-face meetings. He is working as the volunteer coordinator of Justin's campaign. Volunteers will mostly be tasked with phone-banking and networking.

Chair's Report – Judi Johannesen

Judi has been working on our tea-bag fundraiser. One of our 8th LD delegate candidates was blocked by the Biden campaign and she has been working on getting that reversed. She has also been working on the Doug McKinley campaign and Justin's campaign.

Vice-Chair's Report – Stan Moon. Not present.

State Committee Member 1 – Kate Moran.

The race for the State Convention Chair was not contested so there was no online voting required by delegates. June 8 is the final date for committee majority and minority reports. There is a debate in the Executive Board whether the minority threshold is 20 percent or 35 percent. On June 11 at 6 PM until June 12 at 6 PM, the convention delegates and alternates must check-in online in order to be seated. Then on June 12 at 8 PM, any alternates who are going to be seated for absent delegates will be notified. The virtual State Convention will be on June 13.

In matters related to West Richland City Council activity, Katy spoke to the Police Chief about whether officers are always required to wear their firearms. They also discussed issues with body cameras. When body cameras are worn, someone must make the redactions required when footage is released pursuant to public records requests. This is an extra expense which police departments must bear. Some additional funding must be found like a grant. This is especially difficult for small departments with limited budgets. Despite that, the West Richland Police Chief sees the cameras as value because they protect police as well as the public. He also sees the need to change the mindset of seeing police as warriors to one of seeing them as guardians of the public.

There is a Citizens Advisory Board, but members must have attended the Citizens Academy to serve on that board. The Academy is a good program. Kate would be happy to receive input from citizens or communities of color about policing.

Right now, West Richland is functioning as a backup to the other cities' police departments during the protests. All the police departments are busy right now. Kate recommends that folks write letters to city councils and city clerks. To get things before them it needs to be written. That is how we get their attention. It is hard to get money out of the State because of all the coronavirus expenses. They are even having to move funds from the education budget. Pasco was motivated to get body cameras for the police after the Zambrono shooting and all the lawsuits that arose from that.

Organization Committee – Allison Dabler.

The filing date for elected PCO's has passed. Allison was able to successfully arbitrate one precinct in which multiple candidates filed. Allison has talked to lots of people at the Black Lives Matter rally about becoming a PCO.

She was listening to the police scanner during the recent protests and was concerned that the police were not taking things seriously enough. Kate noted that you can make a public record request of scanner audio. In the case that she knew of the redactions were made to protect the identities of citizens before any formal charge or action was taken as is normal policy. These requests take about a month to process. There are phone apps that allow you to listen to live scanner audio.

Events Committee – Carl Baker.

Carl was at the Pasco rally Sunday. Excitement was high.

The Tri-City Democrats will be doing an online candidate forum with the June 12 Potluck.

Election Committee – Alisha Victorine

No updates and nothing to report.

Resolutions and Platform Committee – Kitty Tominey.

The platform is out and has been sent to the State. We have the many comments that were made in the process of assembling the platform and we will make those available to the Executive Board.

Labor Committee – Jessica Wadsworth.

There is no news from the farm workers. Jessica will forward contact information to Judi so our campaigns can contact the various unions for possible endorsements.

Communication Committee – Judi Johannessen

Judi updated our Tumbleweird ad so that it refers to our online meetings. She and Micki are working on the fundraiser flyers. She has also been doing lots of Facebook posts.

8th LD representative – John Masulonis.

Nothing to report.

16th LD representative – Kitty Tominey.

There is lots of work being done to support the 16th LD candidates.

Young Democrats – Sabastian Marichalar

The website is almost done. Just finishing their platform so they can send it out to candidates. They can then begin the endorsement process. They are in discussion with ActBlue so they will be able to take online donations.

New Business

None.

Unfinished Business

None.

Good of the Order

Kitty Tominey needs some VoteBuilder help. Alisha does as well.

Adjourned at 7:18 PM