

Benton County Democrats Executive Committee Meeting
Online meeting via Zoom

10/05/2020

Attendance:

Judi Johannesen, Carl Baker, Kendall Miller, John Masulonis, Micki McKinley, Kitty Tominey, Stan Moon, Jessica Wadsworth, Carly Rang, Jeffrey Robinson, Allison Dabler, Carly Coburn, Randy Slovic, Kate Moran, and Alisha Victorine.

Meeting to order, 6:31 PM

Agenda:

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

Motion to adopt the agenda. Seconded. Carried.

**Motion to approve the minutes of the September E-board meeting.
Seconded. Carried.**

Secretary's Report – Kendall Miller

1. iContact
 - a. TCD meeting announcement
 - b. Announced October Executive Board meeting
 - c. Announced October online general meeting
 - d. Booked September meeting attendees
 - e. Added new contacts. We have a number of new subscribers.
 - i. Donors
 - ii. Facebook contacts
 - iii. Website sign-ups
2. Google account
 - a. Booked September meeting attendees
 - b. Added new contacts from sign distribution
3. Google Phone
 - a. Phone activity of 65 calls since last meeting
4. Website
 - a. Implemented the shortened home page
 - b. Announcements
 - i. Signs Events
 - ii. Phone Banking Works
 - iii. WSDCC RBG
 - iv. 8th LD Signs Update
 - c. Slide show.
 - i. Added more pictures harvested from current campaigns.
 - d. Posted the September General meeting minutes
 - e. Posted the September Executive Board minutes
 - f. Posted events notices
 - i. Zero-Carbon Energy Mix
 - ii. /TCFE Allies Panel
 - iii. ACLU: Pandemics
 - iv. Carly Coburn Phone Banking
 - v. Doug McKinley Town Halls

- vi. Signs Update
 - vii. Something's Brewing
 - viii. National Coming Out Day
 - ix. Race Series: Part 1
 - x. Whole Washington
 - xi. Disinformation in Local Elections
 - xii. History of Civil Rights: Tri-Cities
 - xiii. BLMWW-Breonna Taylor
 - xiv. 8th LD Signs Update
 - xv. Riden with Biden
 - xvi. Badger Club 4th CD Forum
 - xvii. Badger Club BC Forum
 - xviii. Badger Club Basic Health Care
 - g. Events added to our Google Calendar
 - h. Monthly transfer of past recent events to Weblog.
 - i. Added some new You-Might-Be-A-Democrat riffs.
5. Specific Recommendations
- a. Approval of the September E-board minutes

Treasurer's Report - Micki McKinley

We had a tiny bit of interest income into our savings. Saving is at \$7679. Checking started out at \$3555. We received a refund from the Doug McKinley campaign of \$4000. The amount we had donated exceeded his FEC limit. Donations from sign distributions have been doing well. We have donations above the costs of around \$1700 so far. That with other contributions brings our income to \$6354. We had \$70 in expense for our continuing TumbleWeird ad. Checking is at \$9840 for a total asset figure of \$17519. Our bill for the signs has not come in.

Campaign reports.

Carly Coburn

Her campaign is phone-banking from 6 - 7 pm every Friday. All events are on their Facebook page. They are producing some radio ads. These will play until election day. Donations and volunteers are always welcome. She asks that we refer our friends to her campaign.

Carly Rang for Danielle Garbe-Reser

They have a number of the same needs as Carly Coburn. They have run out of postcards and are about to run out of yard signs. Their real need is for phone-banking volunteers on Thursdays at 5 and Saturdays at 1, but Carly is available most anytime to set up a phone-banking session. There is the Women in Leadership event coming up on Saturday. They also have a TV ad that is running. There's a link in the chat for anyone who would like to share it on social media. Donations are also always appreciated.

Allison Dabler for Doug McKinley

They are getting ready to cut some more commercials. It's not surprising that not many have seen the current ads because they are targeted rather than full spectrum. The targeting is to the younger and Spanish-speaking voters. The ads appear in Spanish-language radio and periodicals. They are asking for people to upload a picture of themselves and with a statement of endorsement so they can share them on social media and their website. They are using the Coordinated Campaign for phone-banking which has switched to GOTV now. They are also promoting a few events. They are doing a Zoom meeting with Elsie Gutierrez on the 17th in Yakima. On the same day they will be attending a Ruth Bader Ginsburg honorary event. On 10/22 they will be on 99.1 radio with Reka Robinson. She has been really doing a good job of voter education. They just uploaded their presentation to the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce Forum today.

Special Announcement from Judi

Tina Podlodowski called an all hands for chairs on Saturday. The ballots in Spokane have already dropped.

Kate Moran for Justin Raffa

They just had the League of Women Voters forum. That went well. They have 1,000 rack cards to distribute in targeted precincts in Kennewick. They will also be doing some text-banking. They have some commercials that will be dropping soon on radio and TV. The campaign also has some

special additional swag that can still be purchased. Please let the campaigns know about any damaged signs that are observed.

Ballot Chasing

Judi can get sets from the Auditor's Office of rejected ballots. If the voter has supplied a telephone number, we can call them. If not, we will have to contact by some other method. Kendall will do matchbacks with Primary Voters. We need to derive a process. We will break the rejected ballots into smaller batches. Missing signatures are a common problem. Affidavits can be mailed in.

It was suggested that people mention signing ballots in their letters to the editor.

The Danielle Garbe-Reser campaign did a small test. The counties do send out notifications of rejected ballots but people often don't pay attention to them. Candidates will also be chasing ballots. We need to be concerned about overlap and develop some sort of coordination.

Jeffrey Robinson spoke for Everett Maroon about ballot chasing. He agrees that ballot chasing is important and is in close contact of all 4 county chairs in the 16th LD. All their campaigns will be watching ballots, Danielle Garbe-Reser, Carly Coburn, and Frances Chvatal. Danielle is having a fundraiser this evening.

Judi will set up a series of meetings to bring folks together to apportion out the ballot chasing tasks.

Chair's Report

Alisha Victorine posted a link in the chat,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AytDzZ2ecCc>

about how to properly sign your ballot.

Candidates have been banned from going door to door. The county organization will not be talking to anyone face to face.

Franklin County will revoke endorsements of people who violate the rules.

Judi Johannesen will set up meetings to split up lists for ballot chasing. Especially after the election. We are making plans with the campaigns.

We will meet Thursdays at 6:30 to split lists as soon as ballots drop.

Kate suggested we not be bashful about contacting anyone who is not explicitly pro-Trump. We can expect there to be a large number of non-data voters.

Chair's Report - Judi Johannesen

Judi had a letter to the editor for Justin Raffa published. She has been doing lots of sign distribution work.

Vice-Chair's Report - Stan Moon.

Doug McKinley will be speaking to the Badger Club in a town hall on Tuesday at 6 PM.

State Committee Member 1 - Kate Moran.

Tina Podlodowski sent out an all-hands notice to discuss GOTV and early ballot drops. Cedar Kennedy and the State Progressive Caucus have put together a 21-day racial equity challenge. It's a good program. Perhaps it can be replicated on a local scale. Erin Jones was also instrumental in the production of the program.

State Committee Member 2 Report - Jay Clough not present.

Organization Committee - Allison Dabler.

We have been filtering people into the Coordinated Campaign activities. We encourage PCOs to be paying attention to their own precincts.

Judy asked that we keep the contact information of any previous PCO's who did not run this time around. We want to ask if they would like to be appointed PCO if their precinct PCO position is empty. And if their precinct position is filled or others who ran but did not win their election, whether they would like to be assigned to a different precinct than their home precinct as an acting PCO. We want to also invite some of our new contacts from election activities to become PCO's, either appointed or acting.

Events Committee - Carl Baker.

Tri-City Democrats have received a large number of sign requests. The vandalism rate on signs has been high.. There is a group called Refuse Fascism that has been wanting to protest the Trump/Pence regime. They have an active protest effort going on starting October 3 in the Seattle area. On 10/9, the Tri-City Democrats will meet. Sharon Brown will be their guest.

West Richland is having a virtual Veterans Day parade. The flyer asks us to sSend in a picture or a 3-minute video by 10/26. The parade is on 11/7. We will look into that. It's really hard during the election season.

Carl just contacted Marisol from Planned Parenthood about the R-90 issue. She has received literature but no signs. We said that we are here to support them in whatever actions they may want to do. Further updates on that may come.

BLM has continuing efforts and events. There is another group just forming that may be an additional resource for the detective work on systemic bias. This will be work that may end up being done by a range of interest groups in a range of areas and at multiple governmental levels. There will be a need for coordination among a constellation of actors.

The Badger Club, Northwest Public Broadcasting, and the League of Women Voters have had a number of events that we have been publicizing in the Tri-City Democrats and Democrats of the Mid-Columbia pages.

In regards to Black Lives Matter, Washington state is the only state that has a bad police immunity law. You must show that the police had malicious intent. Otherwise, a police officer is immune to prosecution for harm they do.

On the first Saturday in December, we will have our reorganization meeting.

Elections Committee - Alisha Victorine

The LWV forum information is posted in the chat. The Elections Committee is planning to get together immediately after this year's election to look at viable candidates for city council and school board elections. Please let the Elections Committee know who might be on your mind. Alisha would like to start reaching out to potential candidates early. She also would be happy to curate materials for a Veterans Day presentation.

Resolutions and Platform Committee - Kitty Tominey.

We've received two new topics on which to craft resolutions. Charles LoPresti suggested a resolution to explicitly incorporate equal rights into the state constitution. It was also suggested that there be a resolution calling on our Congressional representatives to support a nationwide vote by mail measure.

Labor Committee - Jessica Wadsworth

She wasn't able to attend the rally for Twin City Foods workers. Kate Moran said the rally went well. Lots of folks from a number of organizations showed support. There will be another rally soon. A number of horror stories were shared about worker conditions and the COVID epidemic. Letters to the editor in support would be good.

Laborers Local has been phone-banking to members to communicate their endorsements.

Communication Committee - Judi Johannesen

Covered in the chairs report.

8th LD representative - John Masulonis.

The Coordinated Campaign is hosting phone-banking for the 8th LD every Tuesday night. It needs more people. They have signs. Two hundred signs are left to get out there. Next distribution is Wednesday night at Lawrence Scott Park at 5:30.

16th LD representative - Jeffrey Robinson.

The 16th LD is working hard with the Coordinated Campaign doing phone-banking every Wednesday. They had a great week last week. All candidates are doing a great job.

Young Democrats - Sabastian Marichalar.

He was unable to attend because he is suffering mild COVID symptoms. The Young Democrats have approved their platform and endorsements.

New Business

None

Unfinished Business

None

Good of the Order

None

Adjourned at 8:27 PM