

Benton County General Meeting
September 16, 2020
7:00 PM
Online via ZOOM

Proposed Agenda

Call to order
Approve agenda
Secretary's report/ approve minutes
Treasurer's report/ Finance Committee
Campaign Reports
Chair's Report
Vice Chair's report
State Committee Member 1 report
State Committee Member 2 report
Resolutions/Platform Cmte. report
Elections Committee report
Organization Committee report
Events Committee report
Labor Committee report
Young Democrats
Communications Committee report
Unfinished Business
New Business
Good of the Order
Adjourn

Minutes:

Call to order Chair Judi Johannesen at 7:01 PM

[Secretary's note: We have 51 Central Committee members so the 20% is 10 and minimum quorum is 10. Attendance was 12 members and 11 from the general public.]

Adoption of Agenda- Moved, Seconded, Carried

Approval of August Minutes- Moved, Seconded, Carried.

Officer Reports-

Secretaries Report -

1. iContact
 - a. TCD meeting announcement
 - b. Announced September Executive Board meeting
 - c. Announced September online general meeting
 - d. Booked August meeting attendees
 - e. Added new contacts. We have a number of new subscribers.
 - f. Flagged 2021-2022 PCO contacts
 - i. Six of these are not subscribed to our mailing. I'm working to get good emails for them.
 - g. Distribute Platform and Resolutions Survey to the PCO's
 - h. Building Bridges event announcement
2. Google account
 - a. Booked August meeting attendees
 - b. Added new contacts.
 - c. Flagged 2021-2022 PCO contacts
 - d. In the interest of seamless transitions to new officers, I'm in the process of moving historical documents from my personal computer onto our Google Drive. Encourage other officers to do likewise. The website serves as an archive of publicly published documents but the Drive would be a place to handoff working documents as we go along.
3. Google Phone
 - a. The phone has been active with sign requests. We were able to respond and get lots of signs distributed.
4. Website
 - a. Developed a beta that breaks up the long home page.
 - i. Added section navigation buttons to all section pages
 - b. Announcements. Six announcements were posted.
 - c. Added list of 2021-2022 Elected PCO's

- d. Added link to the Environmental and Climate Change endorsement questionnaire
 - e. Slide show.
 - i. Need more pictures.
 - f. Posted the August General meeting minutes
 - g. Updated local meeting information for online meetings.
 - h. Posted Thank you to voters supporting the Fire District 4 Levy Lift
 - i. Posted events notices for 15 events
 - j. Events added to our Google Calendar
 - k. Monthly transfer of past recent events to Weblog.
5. Specific Recommendations
- a. Approval of the August General Meeting Minutes

Treasurer Report – Micki McKinley

Savings increased with an interest income of \$0.26. Savings is at \$7678. We had a refund from Eastlake for \$201. We received \$207 in contributions for a total income of \$408. We spent \$53 for our annual internet domain fee. Which leaves us with a checking balance of \$3355.51. This would make our total assets at \$11034.27. Since then we have had income from our signs. We spent \$490 for them and have received \$913 in donations from the distribution of them. All of our original batch of signs have been distributed. We received 100 from the 16th LD and have 80 remaining to go into the next distribution event.

Campaign Reports.

Frances Chvatal gave an update. She attended an event with the Walla Walla Rotary. There was also an endorsement interview with the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin. They went with her opponent just because he was a Republican. Her campaign is doing 5 days of phone banking each week. They will hire some Spanish speakers to help with the phone banking.

Ansley Gerhard-Roberts has signs for local distribution. She can provide large signs for those who would like them. The campaign will do a no-contact literature drop in October. There are other events and meetings

on September 23, 24, and 25. They have a need for literature drop volunteers.

Shir Regev gave an update. She has a Chamber forum on the 21st. She and her opponent may be taping their segments for the League of Women Voters forum on the 22nd. The series will begin airing on PBS on October 1. Her session will air October 8. A few Legislative District races will be presented but she is the only Democrat in the group. She posted the link to her ActBlue page and her volunteer page to the chat. Shir will need a troop of volunteers to help her with distributing door-hangers. They are also text-banking. The 4X6 signs are being put up and they are looking for good locations for them. Suggestions are welcome. Private property is preferred because there has been lots of vandalism with signs on easements.

Carly Coburn. This week she had a candidate forum. Phone-banking each Friday plus Coordinated Campaign phone-banking on the 23rd and maybe the 30th. She will attend the Chamber of Commerce Forum on the 21st. Carly will have an interview with Reka on 99.1 on September 24. She will tape a forum interview with the League of Women Voters on September 25. On October 3, there will be a home-stretch fundraiser beginning at 6:30 PM with a Halloween theme. There will be local leaders and politicians there. The event will also have a local musician provide entertainment during intermission. She still has some signs for distribution.

Larry Baker representing EleanorBaker.com expressed his pleasure at being at the meeting. From September 21-27, he will be in town and available to volunteer.

Shir Regev added that she will have an event on Sunday, September 20 entitled Democracy Cooks. On October 11, she will have a National Coming Out Day Text Banking event. Roxanne Von Cummings will be the special guest for that. After the text-banking, they will have a virtual dance party.

Danielle Garbe-Reser campaign by Carly Rang. They will have their Building Bridges meet-and-greet event on Saturday. They are phone-banking Thursdays and Saturdays. There's a Rogue Lobster concert fundraiser on Saturday, September 26 at 4:00.

2327

Justin Raffa. Endorsements are coming in at a steady rate and fundraising has remained strong. Tomorrow on 99.1 he will be talking with Reka Robinson plus Facebook Live.

2828

Chair's Report – Judi Johannesen

There's a lot of information coming down from the State. It's legal to help get ballots to the ballot boxes. We must provide training, log any ballots we handle, and they must be into the ballot box the same day. The Chair needs to hear from anybody who wants to gather ballots so she can make sure they understand the requirements.

From Tina Podlodowski: Washington state is a national leader in coronavirus suppression. We must mind our P's and Q's. Letters to the Editor would be well to include comments about Trump and his disrespect of the military. It does not look like we will need a special session on the state budget. Actions have already been taken to reduce spending by hundreds of millions of dollars.

We've had a sign distribution event that was successful and we distributed all the Biden signs we had. We obtained another 100 from the 16th LD. These signs will be available at this week's event at Lawrence Scott Park.

Fifty days until election and 30 days until ballots drop.

Vice-chair Report - Stan Moon not present.

State Committee Member 1 is not present

State Committee Member 2 is not present.

There's a special meeting tonight.

Election Committee - Alisha Victorine.

Get your ballots in. Benton County is posting positions for people to pick up ballots from the boxes. The positions pay \$13.50/hr.

Resolutions and Platform Committee – Kitty Tominey.

Kitty is almost done with a resolution template as well as a list of topics the committee has accumulated. She will have it ready for the E-board meeting in October. Members are invited to share any potential resolution topics they may have. The known issues are numerous.

Organization Committee – Allison Dabler not present.

Events Committee - Carl Baker.

Black Lives Matter activities have been curtailed lately due to the level of smoke in the air.

Tri-City Democrats had Dave Petersen speak to them plus some other candidates. We have been active in putting up 4X8 signs while keeping up with the vandalism.

4308

Labor Committee – Jessica Wadsworth.

There will be a Twin City Foods workers rally on October 2. Information is available on their Facebook page. Over 200 workers are standing up to win basic personal protection equipment, health care, and rights at the workplace. They are organizing. The Laborers local has been working with the rank and file to provide education on the candidates who support the interests of labor.

4429

Young Democrats – Sebastian Marichalar.

They have had some responses from their candidate questionnaires. They are finishing up their platform and will have a meeting soon to vote on it. Dylan Wright-Mockler is working on the website and it's almost ready to go live.

Communications Committee - Judy Johannesen.

Nothing new to report that wasn't covered in the Chair's report.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

4723

**Motion to recommend Dave Peterson for Superior Court Judge.
Seconded.**

Some members have a problem with supporting Mr. Petersen while realizing that his opponent is a worse choice. He has some problematic endorsements from Lisa Thomas, Brad Klippert, and Defend-the-Tri.

Others commented about other concerns they had with him.

Motion failed.

010501

Good of the Order.

Matt Boehnke - Matt wants to build bridges wherever he can despite being a member of a certain political party. We have more in common than the media says. We need to find ways to have more one-to-one connections and build trust wherever we can. He's looking forward to the day in the future when he may speak to us about his candidacy and he thanks the Democrats for allowing him to attend the meeting and have time to share a few words.

John Masulonis reminded us to get in touch with the Coordinated Campaign and sign up for a phone-banking shift.

Kate Moran came in from her meeting with the state party with information about the issue they were working on. A resolution proposed at the last state meeting about police violence referenced George Floyd. A member of the state central committee objected to including his name in the resolution. This position was sufficiently controversial to delay the vote

on the resolution. There was a vigorous debate and the issue will be taken up again in a soon-to-be-forthcoming state meeting. The other issue they considered had to do with the nominating process for vacancies in state elected offices which may occur between election cycles.

Adjourned at 8:02.