

SPOKANE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
SDCC Office – February 13, 2017

Voting Members Present:

Biviano, Andrew
Archer, Jaclyn
Duhaime, Ed
Carr, Mary
Green, David
Whigham, Anne
Fleming, Joanne
Kirk, Michael

Lloyd, Rick
Provencio, Emily
Wood, Ed
Silva, Susan
Mary Wissink (Don Dover
proxy)
Dover, Don
Joseph, Yvette

Fabric, Elliot
Schmidt, Rosemarie
Schwartz, Zack
Schwartz, Cindy
Johnson, Jeremiah

Non Voting Members

Anundson, Jessica
Brudnicki, Susan
Schwerin, Don

Staff: Jim CastroLang, Lorilee Gill **Guests:** Carol Eugene, Shannon Kozlovich, Logen Compore, Geoff Bracken, Jeri Kopet, Ken Hannahs, Bob Eugene, Nick CastroLang, Ben Stuckart

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jeremiah Johnson.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion to accept the Agenda was made, seconded and approved with the addition of time for four items: Jaclyn and Emily to speak during Presentations; Susan Silva to speak about safety; Nick Castrolang to speak to the Board about the Young Dems; Jaclyn to speak about a PCO survey under New Business.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the January 9, 2017 Meeting and Minutes with minor clerical corrections. There were two abstentions: Mary Carr and Ann Whigham.

Treasurer's Report – Jess Anundson:

No money was transferred into the scholarship fund in January, but it will be done in February. We've received a renewed sustainer partner this month, the Firefighters. Exempt funds cannot be spent; nonexempt funds can be spent on anything, including candidates. We still owe \$2,500 for the election night bill and \$7,000 to the scholarship fund. Mary Carr requested we get a review of the entire last year. Elliot requested all expenses be detailed out each month. Jess submitted all the C3s & C4s to the PDC. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Report.

PRESENTATION:

Reflections From the New Chair Andrew Biviano:

Andrew sees himself as the facilitator who can bring us all together to get things done. Our goal is to promote our values, get Democrats elected and change the battlefield that we're working on. Before doing anything, first ask ourselves "does this serve our main mission?"

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn:

Jac's background is in organization; enjoys working with volunteers and wants to use their skills to help expand the team so that everyone has a place in this party.

Audit Committee Process:

Andrew has formed a four-person Audit Committee and has already met with the people who volunteered to serve: Chair Warren Stout is a retired CPA and a PCO from 4LD; Mayo Sayers has great PDC knowledge about compliance requirements; Bill Payne has done books & finance at his business; Jeanette Hauck has great audit/ financial experience at the YWCA. The Committee has already met once with Andrew and Jim CastroLang to explain their tasks; discuss the records needed and a meeting schedule. They will work independently and provide results to present at the next quarterly meeting. Yvette requested a future discussion and review of insurance binders/policies.

Bank Authorization:

A motion was made, seconded and approved that authorized check signers be limited to three people: Andrew Biviano, Jim CastroLang and Jaclyn Archer. Lorilee and Jess will be authorized to make inquiries about our accounts to the bank.

Foley Legacy Dinner Update:

Joanne Fleming is organizing the dinner and reported that: Nina Turner is keynote speaker; along with Bob Ferguson and Maria Cantwell. The Lincoln Center is currently the lowest bidder and has a capacity of 440. A table of 8 will be \$600; VIP reception tickets are \$150 each; and sponsorship options will be available. Nina Turner will be paid a \$5,000 speaker fee and Sandy from the Black Lens has agreed to give us a full-page ad in exchange for an interview with Nina Turner.

Kandace Watkins Report on Foley Auction:

Kandace has volunteered to take over the silent auction for the dinner. She's already secured a few auction items and asked Eboard members to contribute auction items at a variety of price ranges with one table of 6-8 higher valued items (>\$250).

Plans for the Year – a Discussion:

Andrew asked for an open discussion on how we can lay the groundwork for a productive year.

- 1) Jaclyn Archer – survey all the PCOs about how they see their district functioning and put together a PCO and intern training program that would allow interns to fulfill college requirement for experience; create a You-Tube channel with a weekly address about issues people are rallying about.
- 2) Andrew Biviano – use the media to rebrand the party or do outreach to proactively define ourselves; he's already spoken with Don Hamilton about what the cost would be and has written a short script for spots talking about one issue at a time; we need to raise funds to pay for the spots; start canvassing as soon as the weather turns, asking for information from households about what their concerns are.
- 3) Ed Duhaime – we need to reach out to the unions and talk about what we're all about; need jobs for volunteers and to get people trained to work with PCOs; get teams stood up in the precincts to help with outreach; Ed Wood is working on the labor piece with Andrew.
- 4) David Green – to make this work, we need to fill all the empty PCO slots throughout the county as soon as possible.
- 5) Yvette Joseph – schedule a strategic planning retreat on a Saturday as soon as possible; devoting four hours for long-range planning.
- 6) Mary Carr – we should have a common set of messages we use on all these projects; we should have business cards that we can hand out to people; Lorilee will check into pricing.

- 7) Zack Schwartz – the 7LD is working on creating a cohesive message to put us into a position to put forward our ideas into practical processes and procedures. Would it benefit the organization to have specific E-board members handle specific activities?
- 8) Susan Silva – all these ideas are great and we need to work on a list of projects we can hand out to people now that will encourage and give them hope; this is an opportune time; people are frustrated and want to be active; we need to grab them and pull them in to the party now.
- 9) Joanne – we can add other community events to our website and refer people to other activities; Susan Silva agreed to help with this.
- 10) Michael Kirk – we can be doing actions of solidarity in the community; i.e., contact local Islamic Center and partner with them.

Andrew Biviano made a motion which was seconded and approved authorizing the expenditure of \$1,500 on an advertising campaign.

Michael Kirk made a motion which was seconded and approved to create an ad hoc committee, chaired by him to reach out to and stand in solidarity with endangered religious communities, specifically the local Islamic Center. Let Michael know if you would like to serve on it.

A motion made by Yvette, and seconded by David Green for purposes of discussion, to create an ad hoc committee to facilitate a strategic planning session to provide options, advice and a proposal to the E-board as to how the event would go. Andrew tabled the motion until Jim CastroLang can present the strategic plan he is already working on.

2017 Quarterly Meeting Schedule:

A motion was made, seconded and approved establishing the following three quarterly meeting dates:

Q2 - Sat., April 1, 2017, 9am

Q3 – Sat., June 24, 2017, 9am

Q4 – Sat., October 7, 2017, 9am

Appointments by the Chair:

We have 14 standing committees, the majority of which have no one on them. David Green suggested in the interest of time, that the Chair circulate a list of all committees so that people can sign up.

Young Democrats Listening Tour Event:

Linda Foster, WSDCC Chair of the Chairs wants to do a listening tour to speak with Chairs and Vice Chairs of the 5CD to discuss the challenges of leading organizations on April 1, 3pm, or earlier at Spokane County Democrats Headquarters.

Safety – Susan Silva:

Last week the people in the 4LD had a get-together talking about issues of safety and aggressive, inappropriate behavior at our meetings. Do we as a group need a plan? Ed Woods said this should be the Grievance Committee's job. Don Dover suggested a letter be sent out before our next meeting along with a reminder of meeting decorum before the meeting begins.

Spokane County Young Dems Request for Funding – Nick Castrolang, Secretary

They're sending a group over to Olympia to lobby and they need financial support for hotels, gas money, food, etc. A motion was made, seconded and approved to contribute \$250.

OLD BUSINESS:

REPORTS:

Executive Director Report – Jim CastroLang:

Jim will provide written reports for future meetings. He's been attending local events and has prepared a spreadsheet that will be provided to the Audit Committee in a week to compare every financial transaction across the Bank accounts – PDC reports – and NGP Financial Accounting. Senator Patty Murray is a \$2,500 sponsor for the Foley Legacy Dinner. A rough draft of a strategic plan has been put together targeted towards what Senator Murray would like to fund. A person who works with Spokane Community Indicators Project is working with Jim to help organize a incubator with in the Party of a progressive think tank to counter the Washington Policy Center. Jim's goal is to help keep the administrative type activities managed so that Andrew doesn't have to work on logistical things. Andrew asked Jim to have a draft job description next month. While fundraising is an important piece of the work Jim will be doing, it also includes many other responsibilities.

State Committeepersons' Reports – Mary Carr & Ed Duhaime:

David Green requested written reports from the Committee representatives so that the Chairs can keep their members informed about state-level activities. Mary feels she needs to do more learning about what's happening in the various LDs to listen and learn.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT REPORTS:

3rd LD Report- David Green:

They met last week and are looking forward to a successful year.

4th LD Report – Rick Lloyd:

They met with Endorsement Committee members and have picked up some new PCOs. They have a former high school teacher to head PCO training and will be researching elected officials records and tracking activities. "Project Alias" consists of outbound calls to people in precincts or going out strictly for strong democrats asking for yard sign placements.

6th LD Report – Don Dover:

Their next meeting will be Tuesday, March 7th at Shadle Park Library; Jim Dawson will speak about defending against the Trump agenda. They will be putting on a candidate forum/Labor Day picnic in early September. 21 new PCOs have been identified and they now have 66 out of 105 precincts filled, leaving 30 vacancies, 18 of which are City of Spokane precincts.

7th LD Report – Carol Eugene/Zach Schwartz/Rosemarie Schmidt:

They had a good turnout at their recent meeting and are going to Olympia for Lobby Day on February 20 to meet with representatives and senators. Black Lens is going to be sponsoring "I am Not your Negro" on February 21. They're talking about having educational meetings to show a video and have a discussion afterward. They had a postcard meeting last Thursday to sending to legislators. Bob Eugene has created a spreadsheet identifying all elected positions coming open.

5th CD Representative Report – Don Schwerin:

There have been staff changes in the state office and a Communications Strike Team has been created.

Tina is expecting to fund additional staffing with new sources of revenue and there will be continued discussion of an eastern Washington office. March 18 the Ag and Rural Caucus is having a rebranding meeting in Ritzville. March 21 there will be a half day in meeting in Dayton focusing upon rural issues; more material to come. Next week is the DNC election, which effects funding to our state. The next state meeting will be in Walla Walla in late April.

9th LD – Cynthia Schwartz:

No meetings have been held since the first of the year, but she's working on filling in PCOs.

Labor Committee Report – Ed Wood:

The Spokane Regional Labor Council has voted to continue their sustaining partnership, subject to review; they send \$500/month instead of one check to keep the party honest. Ed was in Olympia lobbying last week with representatives of the 6th and 4th LDs. They gave information to legislative aides about the right to work bill and had a reception for local legislators on Thursday night. The local Council met and voted to send \$5,000 to Senators Testor, D-Montana & Murkowski, R-Alaska, because of their positions on some of the votes they're going to be taking when they go up against Trump.

Spokane County Young Democrats:

No report was given.

Endorsement Committee:

The Committee has been formed and will meet to take up Ben Stuckart's request for endorsement.

Announcements/Good of the Order:

Rosemarie Schmidt – Holy Family Hospital nurses are now in negotiations with Providence; she's on the team and asked for prayers and good thoughts for the best outcome. They're not allowed to do picketing or lockouts and the Washington State Nursing Association is behind them.

February 25th Chuck Schumer and Bernie Sanders have asked for marches around the U.S. in support of the ACA.

Young Democrats next meeting will be on Wednesday, 6:30pm at Tamarac Public House on Sprague and Monroe.

March 10th is Standing Rock Solidarity Day.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

Submitted March 2, 2017.



Susan Brudnicki, Secretary