

SPOKANE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Quarterly Reorganizational Meeting Minutes

Red Lion River Inn, Spokane – January 14, 2017

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 9:35am and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cynthia Schwartz.

Jim CastroLang appointed Susan Brudnicki as temporary Secretary; Zack Schwartz as temporary Parliamentarian and Kris Cejka, Anne Whigham and Emily Provincio as the Tally Committee.

Preliminary Credentials Report:

Ellen reported we have 167 Precincts filled with PCOs and that of those we have 119 PCOs present; with 44 guests and elected officials, for a grand total of 211 in attendance at today's meeting.

Adoption of Agenda:

A motion to accept the Agenda was made, seconded and approved with the following changes/additions:

- 1) Vote on the Resolution in support of Hate Crimes Responses in the state of Washington
- 2) Resolution for Lowering Pharmaceutical Drug Prices
- 3) Ashley Johnson #4446 requested moving the reports to be given while the votes are being tallying and moving the state chair and vice chair's remarks until after the reorganization and before new business

Sean Comfort suggested that meeting be live streamed and/or recorded. Discussion ensued in which other PCOs raised objection. The Parliamentarian stated there needed to be a motion on the issue. Sean Comfort volunteered that he would not record or live stream, in light of objections.

Approval of October 2016 Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the October 2016 Quarterly Meeting Minutes. Motion passed.

Parliamentarian Zack Schwartz read from the Policies & Procedures Manual regarding decorum during the meeting. We need to remember to direct our passion in a constructive fashion; all breaches in protocol must be addressed before we move on from a discussion and we can't go back. 'Points of information' are now called 'requests for Information.' When something is preventing you from being able to actively participate in the proceedings, you can only interrupt the speaker in the case of an emergency, otherwise wait until they are done speaking.

Financial Report:

Jim CastroLang advised that the incoming chair will need to find a new treasurer; Jim has been doing the financial work since August. We brought in over \$30,000 more in 2016 and have increased the giving through the addition of sustaining members and partners. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Financial Report with one abstention. Dan Lambert #3217 asked why the Drumheller scholarship account is in arrears and Jim advised that the Executive Board has addressed this and it will be repaid by the end of 2017 with interest.

Final Credentials Report:

Ellen Miller advised that there are a total of 343 precincts in Spokane county and we have 121 elected PCOs present out of 167 Precincts which are represented by PCOs. A meeting quorum of 40 PCOs is present, along with 43 guests and 5 elected officials, for a total of 169 individuals signed in today.

PCO Recognition and Ceremonial Swearing In:

New PCOs were recognized and all PCOs were sworn in. Jim CastroLang advised that after this meeting new PCOs can begin being appointed.

REORGANIZATION BUSINESS:

Overview of Election Process:

Jim CastroLang explained what the process is for election of new officers and reviewed the proposed rules. If we have more than one candidate in the race we vote for the top vote getter, then drop down to the next two, with a tiebreaker vote and coin toss for the last vote if needed. Each candidate gets 3 minutes to speak; 1 minute for the nominator and 30 seconds for the seconder. A motion was made and seconded to accept the rules as proposed.

Election of SCDCC Chair:

Ben Stuckart nominated Andrew Biviano as Chair, with a second by Breean Beggs. Valerie Rongey #4433 moved to elect Andrew as chair by acclamation with one abstention.

Jim gave remarks as outgoing Chair and asked everyone to treat each other with respect. Our work towards the dream needs to be sustainable. The Chair represents and reflects the whole party. **It's important to be disciplined about how we work** for justice to destroy oppressive systems; not people. Jim thanked those who have made a big difference for him including, Kris Cejka, Dave Koch, Joanne Fleming and Lorilee Gill.

Newly elected Chair Andrew Biviano gave a statement to the group. The goal of the party is to promote our values. The way we get there is by becoming a party of service. We can't ask people to support us until they know that we support them. We're only strong because of our differences. We need everyone; we should celebrate our disagreements on issues. He won't take any sides on platform and debates; except that **he'll always be in favor of inclusion**. Both the temporary Secretary, Susan Brudnicki and Parliamentarian, Zack Schwartz appointments were made by Andrew for the remainder of this meeting.

Election of SCDCC Vice Chair:

Ava Sharifi #3219 nominated Joanne Fleming as Vice Chair and was seconded by Ed Wood #4445. Joanne withdrew as a candidate. Amy Biviano #4449 nominated Jaclyn Archer and was seconded by Erin Ross #6032. Jaclyn has been working with NOW, the NAACP and has had the opportunity to work with a number of great individuals and organizations working to make Spokane a more inclusive and progressive place. A motion was made, seconded and approved to elect Jaclyn by acclamation.

Election of SCDCC State Committeepersons:

Valerie Romney nominated Lynette Vehrs and was seconded by Bart Haggin #7022. David Green #3320 nominated Mary

Carr and was seconded by Bill Forman #3200. Mary Carr won the election for State Committeewoman. Tim Hattenburg #4448 nominated Rick Lloyd and was seconded by Bill Pierce #4418. Daniel McKinney nominated Sean Comfort and was seconded by Melissa Magliori #4451. Don Dover #6617 nominated Donovan Arnold and was seconded by Yvette Joseph. David Green nominated Ed Duhaime and was seconded by Mike Miller. After three rounds of voting, Ed Duhaime was elected the new State Committeeman.

Tina Podlodowski & Jaxon Ravens, both candidates for State Party Chair, addressed the body while votes were being tallied.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Yvette Joseph for an audit committee to be appointed by the Chair. The motion was ruled by the Chair as out of order, but Andrew stated that he intended to promptly appoint an audit committee and encouraged people to email him if they're interested in serving on it.

Resolution Concerning State Party Elections:

David Green proposed a Resolution for Spokane County Democrats to support the candidacy of Tina Podlodowski as

Chair and Joe Pakootas as Vice Chair to inspire change to occur at the state party and the national level. Dan Lambert #3217 spoke against the Resolution. Ed Wood #4445 asked the Parliamentarian to determine whether the Resolution is in order. The Parliamentarian advised that the Resolution merely advises the State Committeewoman and

Committeeman to Podlodowski and Pakootas; but does not mandate how they should vote. Suzanne Girtz #4433 asked whether other counties have created resolutions like this and David Green advised that other counties have in fact passed such resolutions. A motion was made, seconded and the Resolution passed.

Permanent Executive Director Hiring Process Status Report:

Kris Cejka gave the history of the process of formation of the Ad Hoc Committee to make a recommendation to the Executive Board for the hiring of a permanent Executive Director, which included the advertisement, vetting and interviews of applicants. The Executive Board hired Jim

CastroLang to continue as Executive Director with an evaluation of Jim and the position after 6 months. There were other task stipulations from the Eboard to Jim in this hiring.

Resolution on Hate Crime:

Michael Kirk #3321 advised that hate crimes in Spokane County have spiked and this resolution addresses the response by Democrats to create a hate crime response plan. A motion was made, seconded and the Resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution on Lowering Pharmaceutical Drug Prices:

A motion was made, seconded and passed that due to the lack of time to satisfactorily discuss this matter, it will be tabled until the next quarterly meeting.

REPORTS:

No reports were given due to the time constraints on the location of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40am.

Submitted March 20, 2017.

Susan Brudnicki, Secretary

Spokane County Democratic Central Committee