

Executive Committee

Josephine County Democrats
June 28, 2020, Zoom Meeting

Present were: Chair Brian Clark, Vice Chair Lynda Spangler, Treasurer Dorothy Yetter, Secretary Lynda Demsher, Rules Committee Chair Geri Ventura, Membership Committee Chair Collette Storms, Events/Office Coordinator Sheri Morin and Janet Bianco.

Discussions:

- The group decided to stay with the Democratic Party of Oregon's BLM resolution instead of adopting their own at this time.
- Geri has arranged a meeting with representatives of the Grants Pass Department of Public Safety to discuss our concerns regarding treatment of people of color in our community as well as the intimidating presence of gun-carrying self-appointed militia members who have been showing up at local BLM rallies and creating community tension over social media rumors. Democrats also want to get the message across that we are not anti-police and do not advocate abolishing police departments but are interested in how mental health and homeless cases are handled and if hate crimes are prosecuted here. The meeting will be July 8, 2 p.m. Up to 10 people can participate.
- We need to establish a communications channel between BLM event organizers and Democrats.
- After learning that Josephine County Fairgrounds has offered us advertising on their reader board and website for the money we sent them for a booth, it was decided not to pursue that at this time and ask for a refund.
- Brian will apply for a DPO grant of \$500 to help with this year's election. One idea for the money was to put it toward a reader board ad at the Fairgrounds and the fee for the sign for our office.
- Adopt-A-Highway is resuming. Brian set Sunday, July 12 as the next trash pickup day for our stretch of the Redwood Highway.

Committees:

- Geri, formerly Rules Committee Chair, switched to become Membership Chair while former Membership Chair Collette Storms went to the Finance Committee where she will work on fund-raising ideas. One idea is a virtual event featuring Gov. Kate Brown or a state or national representative for a discussion at \$25 a ticket to join.
- Campaign Committee Chair Lynda Spangler has been busy arranging Zoom "Town Halls" for Democrats running in districts in Josephine County. She said she has contacted Secretary of State candidate Shemia Fagan but so far no one has called her back.
- The Environmental, Health, and Stonewall caucuses have been on hold for a while. The Youth Caucus needs a new Chair.

- Communications Committee reported they want to get out a weekly newsletter basically saying what we've done that week, what we have planned, weekly "asks" and upcoming events.
- Susan Johnson was appointed chair of the Election Committee with Nancy Johnson-Wilson as a member. Other members will be approved by the general PCP membership at our next meeting.

Endorsements: Sarah McGlaughlin, running for Circuit Court Judge has asked us for an endorsement. Lynda S said she has been asked to provide a short bio and reason for running.

Socials: Ideas for evening socials and lunches included trivia games, offering small prizes and wine as attendance incentives, and a social-distancing brown bag lunch at the park. A tentative date for the park event was set for July 30 but the site will be announced later.