

Executive Meeting

March 28, 2021

Treasurer Colette Storms is working on the budget. She expects office expenses to go up when we re-open, possibly in May. She will use last year's budget as a base for working out what to spend, then have the caucuses adjust their needs. She will have a tentative budget put together to discuss at a special Executive Committee meeting April 11th. Colette also needs to know if we will be participating in Boatnik and the fair this year if they are going to be held or open.

Campaign Committee Chair Joey DeShields reported he is keeping track of Democrats running for various boards who will be voted on in the May election. Two Executive Committee members are running for the proposed fire district board. Mary Middleton is running for Zone 1 Southern Oregon Education Service District Director.

Communications Committee Chair Patty Downing reported on the status of the Platform update. A Google Doc has been posted on Slack and everyone was encouraged to comment. She said she recently attended a communications workshop with an emphasis on talking up the American Rescue Plan, keeping "self-talk" among ourselves positive and inspiring others to help create a better future. It is also important to keep our government accountable by paying attention to local issues.

Young Democrats: Joey will head an effort to get a Young Democrats Caucus going again.

Elections: Endorsement rules were discussed. Brian Clark said he would look at the policies of other Democratic Parties in red counties. Our dilemma is to endorse or not endorse during Democratic primaries. In addition, can our party endorse a Republican if no Democrat is running? It was determined that all candidates must request and earn an endorsement from our party. The possibility of having a "support" category was brought up and discussed. Joey reminded us the Local Election Project has funds but will help only if we endorse a candidate and hold a fund-raiser for that candidate. The Executive Board voted to allow Dorothy Yetter VAN access for \$50 per month.

Speakers for the April meeting: Five candidates for the proposed Josephine Independent Rural Fire Protection District will be at our April 13th meeting.

Possible speakers for May meeting: Dorothy will work on getting someone with knowledge of ranked choice voting.