

**Zoom Executive Meeting
Josephine County Democrats
Sept 26, 2021**

Potential general meeting speakers

Those attending thought getting some DPO legislative specialists to talk to us about what the state legislature did last session and what might be coming up was a good idea.

Lynda Spangler also suggested Jody Wiser, a tax fairness advocate, who revealed timber product tax figures as a speaker. She will contact her and find out if and when she would be available.

Chair Dorothy Yetter also said she was contacted by an author living in Germany who is available to speak about a book chronicling Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkle's time together. She said she will find out more about that.

Fund Raisers

Treasure Colette Storms said plans for an in-person fund-raiser have been put on hold until spring and if we want to raise money before then we'll have to do a remote event. Mailing out fund-raising letters has been discussed as too expensive for the result but email letters and phone calls to our regular donors was suggested, asking them to provide an extraneous donation to boost our treasury before this spring's election season starts. The "ask" shouldn't put pressure on people but appeal to what inspires them to give, such as preserving democracy in these turbulent times. Colette will write a script and make calls. Lynda Spangler will help but more people will be welcome to assist. Also discussed was the possibility of holding an on-line raffle, with our membership tapped for donations.

DPO Checks for Democracy

Patty Downing will write a proposal to submit to the DPO for a \$500 grant. Those present thought getting more money for texting campaigns is a good idea. Dorothy said the grant requires something that can be measurable. The application is due Nov. 1.

Committee and Caucus Reports

Joey DeShields said his Campaign Committee has identified several possible candidates to run in local elections but contacting them has been a challenge. Those present were asked to take a look at his list on Google drive and contact the ones they might know. For non-partisan elections, Joey said it may be best to offer to help in the background with filing deadlines and paperwork.

Joe Stodola reported the Environmental Caucus continues to meet regularly with good attendance.

Dorothy said she is trying to encourage a revival of our Healthcare Caucus since there is so much going on in that area right now. She also said the DPO has a Rural Caucus we might be interested in and asked if anyone is interested in sitting in on that one. The state Stonewall

Caucus is being revived and one of the new officers is in Ashland so we may be able to have a good contact there.

DPO Platform Delegates

So far, Kevin Marr, Lynda Spangler and Brian Clark will be delegates. Joey DeShields and Elva are checking to see if they can get involved. Whether the Platform Convention will be in-person or virtual is still up in the air. Lynda S said it is fun to attend and you can have a real influence on proposals that eventually become law.

Neighborhood Leader Program

Colette said she would take this on if she can split the duties with at least one partner. She asked if Debbie would be interested in taking on the very complicated technical side of it. Geri Ventura, who ran the program last election, said the complicated software and the reluctance of people to get out and knock on doors or make phone calls in the county are challenges.

New Website Design

Dorothy showed a revised website design that will make our Facebook posts visible to those who log on. It was suggested more pictures be posted with comments on Facebook as that's what people gravitate to on social media. Lynda S also suggested we use our own picture instead of the one from the Josephine County website on the front page. She volunteered to get a picture of the courthouse.