

Executive Committee

Minutes for July 25, 2021

ZOOM

A report from Colette Storms on preparation for the Josephine County Fair indicated swag and signage has been ordered and Eva Manquera is busy putting together video content to run in the booth featuring our members involved in various activities. The booth will feature Democrats' accomplishments, from the American Rescue Act to Oregon Legislation. Colette mentioned the possibility of doing a quiz with prizes but that's undecided at this point. Now volunteers are needed. A link to the signup sheet will be sent out. Brian Clark said he will take the evening "killer" shifts from 8 to 10 pm and Joe Stodola said he can fill in anywhere since he won't be doing music for the fair this year.

Colette is also handling the fund-raiser, set for Saturday, October 23 at Patty Hansen and Jed Keller's home. Invitations won't be ready until a featured speaker is settled upon, but Lynda suggested sending out save the date notices to people we want to make sure come. She is working on getting a local caterer and DPO Chair KC Hansen has already committed to coming and serving as auctioneer. Chair Dorothy Yetter said she will start calling for a featured speaker and is starting with potential gubernatorial candidate Nicolas Kristoff.

While waiting for a guest to show up (who never did) Dorothy asked if Sunday afternoons were still a good time for our Executive Committee meetings. Everyone present said they were fine with Sundays but there is a poll on Slack Dorothy urged everyone to participate in.

Statewide events coming up include the Democratic Party of Oregon's biennial Oregon Summit, a lively weekend conference on "Becoming a Democrat" workshops, speakers and activities that Gov. Kate Brown has attended as speaker. The Summit is scheduled for October 15-17 at the Sunriver Resort in Sunriver Oregon. Sign up for email notification for details on the DPO's website. Other statewide events include the State Executive Committee meeting in Milwaukie Oregon, scheduled to be in-person but it may have a hybrid Zoom component. This is a chance to meet with state caucus leaders and get involved in platform discussions. Dorothy will have more information on this.

Our next business meeting will be at Taprock Northwest Grill and Joe volunteered to handle the sound system. He said it's a noisy venue hard to cover. The speaker will discuss the water situation in the county. Dorothy said it will be in person but masks will be required for unvaccinated people. Those not wearing masks must show proof of vaccination. Dorothy said she is trying to get back to having meetings at the Unitarian Universalists Church on E Street which seats 100 people comfortably and has sound and video equipment we can use. It was suggested we still have forums at Taprock though, which worked out well for the last event.

Progress is being made on the Strategic Plan with more refinement coming at the next Communications Committee meeting this week. The Podcast is also coming together, with a practice session already held. Patty Downing suggested we have a transcript for those who might not listen to podcasts and they be accessible through a click on our website.

Joey DeShields reported he has a list of potential commissioner candidates to run in the 2022 and 2024 races. He's being helped by John Rickert who is having some success contacting people to see if they're interested. A list will be kept on our Google Drive to be updated as necessary. DeShields said the Committee also discussed the pros and cons of recalling Commissioner Herman Baertschiger. It would be costly and a lot of work and probably wouldn't be successful, but it would bring out the issues and show commissioners there are people in the county who don't agree with their very conservative views.

Dorothy said anyone with potential topics for the podcast, called "Reality Check" is invited to submit ideas on our Google drive. Patty suggested our next forum have a non-partisan co-sponsor so it won't be branded as partisan to get more of the general public to attend.