

JOSEPHINE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTAL COMMITTEE/INDIVISIBLE
Minutes for Meeting of March 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Howard Owens. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Officers were introduced. Minutes were approved as online.

Treasurer's Report: **Balance: \$6,230.** Dorothy announced that there would be a bin to make donations to the Party. \$50 is tax deductible. If you donate more than \$200 (total) please fill out name, address, employer and occupation. We DO take credit cards. If you'd like to donate on a monthly basis, that's great.

Gordon O'Hare of Unitarian Universalists welcomed all. Unitarians have no creed and are active in peace and social justice issues. They have been active since the founding of our country. 8 signers of the Constitutions and 4 Presidents including Thomas Jefferson were Unitarians. Half the amount from the raffle tickets will go toward their meeting hall.

Howard announced that we would be **working with Indivisible** on national politics but all politics is local so we hope to find people who will run for office from City Council, school boards, planning commission, all places where politics is important.

Kevin Marr, delegate for District 2 announced that a donor has given us an office upstairs at 514 7th St. on the corner of 7th and C. We need phones, furniture, coffeepot and VOLUNTEERS for 2-3 hours/day. **It was moved we accept the offer for the office. It was seconded and passed.** Hours will be posted on the website.

Dixie suggested a senior/Elders club. We will get it started.

Brian Clark: **Highway clean-up:** We have adopted 2 miles on Hwy 199 west of Hubbard Lane. Please sign up. **April 1** will be the first clean up day. We will meet at Albertsons near the paint store by McDonald's. It will be on the website.

There are 22,000 Republicans in the County, 14,000 Democrats. There are 47 precincts in Josephine County. Please sign up if you'd like to be a precinct captain.

National Postcard Event: Postcards were passed out. People are mailing postcards to Trump tomorrow, March 15 to swamp him. OR you may mail a postcard to your State Rep. Addresses are on the tables.

David Smith of **RogueIndivisible.org** spoke about its purpose and beginnings. It is for inclusion, diversity and dignity for all. There are 7500 Indivisible groups nationwide. Each Indivisible group is independent. The goal is to build bridges and create a big tent. There were 350 at the big meeting In G.P. on Feb. 19. There are now 515 members, 750 on Fb. The focus is on several issues. Oregon District 2 is one of the largest in the country, from the coast to Joseph in the east but we can influence Greg Walden. **Every Tuesday** there are **Resist Trump** protests in front of the Jackson County Courthouse in Medford. "Where's Walden?" We have more people on Medicaid than any other county though Ashland is 4x our size. The ACA is not perfect because Republicans added poison pills to it but it is far better than the new Trumpcare plan.

On **April 15** there will be a Tax March (probably from Riverside Park to the Courthouse) to request that Trump release his tax returns. Since he just released one today, it may include health care. Fb and the website will have more information.

On **April 22**, here in Grants Pass will be a march for science and the environment. Please write letters to the editor.

Gary Eby of **Resist** (JosephineDemocrats.org/Resist) is another group working to bring about positive change with Indivisible. They stand for human rights, dignity, non-violent demonstrations. Their motto is "NO ban. NO wall. Stand for Human Rights. National health care Now."

It was **moved, seconded and passed that we support the National Popular Vote** compact, HB 2927 to require states to allocate their Electoral College votes to the person who wins the popular vote nationally. It is being voted on in Salem this week. Call Peter Courtney in Salem. Ten states and Washington, D.C. Have voted for it so far.

There was ACLU training in town on March 11.

Howard reminded us how important unions are in protecting workers wages.

Derek Boyd spoke about the library. They need volunteers to help phonebank and canvas for District measure 17-79 to fund them. The district will be contiguous but outlying people can opt in. The campaign office is in a farmhouse across from ROC at 535 SW Foundry. They will be canvassing every Saturday at 10 a.m. And 3 p.m. Phone Bank training is at 2 and 5. Please sign up. Pat Fahey announced that there have given out 500 signs to support the library measure but would like more people to sign up for them.

Sen. Merkley will be speaking at GPHS on Saturday, March 25 at 2:30 in the Commons. Please sign up if you'd like to help at 1:30 (training for registration, tickets to speak, etc.)

The 50-50 drawing raised \$232. Half went to the winner of the drawing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Pat Bath