

JCDCC

Minutes, regular meeting

May 9, 2023

Chair Colette Storms opened the meeting with a voter report. So far turnout is 13.71 percent with about 9847 votes cast for the May 16 election.

Election

Get Out The Vote (GOTV) report: 4,000 postcards were sent out. Texting is going out to Dems and NAVs (non-affiliated voters), print and digital ads were purchased in the Grants Pass Daily Courier and Illinois Valley News. Copies of the ads were passed out. Democrats also gave candidates and the Library PAC money. District 7 school board candidates bought radio ads. People from Basic Rights Oregon came to help distribute door hangers.

Announcements

The Environmental Caucus will hold a meeting Wednesday. Topics will be Whitehorse Park, Mining and timber management.

Vickie Palmerton, Office Manager, said she needs more volunteers and would like to expand office hours during the summer.

Two new people joined Democrats' social at Two Rivers Winery.

We now have a new events page on our website, josephinedemocrats.org.

Brittney announced she is organizing a Dems float for the Boatnik Parade May 29. She needs volunteers to march but there is a place for those who don't walk the distance of the route to ride as we have a pickup and trailer. She would like flags representing all the caucuses.

Colette said she talked to Sheriff Dave Daniels recently who said he is considering putting a service district for law enforcement on the ballot at 99 cents per thousand, excluding the City of Grants Pass. He is doing feasibility studies now.

Rick Flora said he is writing a letter to Gov. Kotek recommending she appoint Jamie McLeod-Skinner to replace Shemia Fagan who recently resigned as Secretary of State. He urged others to write letters as well.

Dorothy Yetter announced that a citizens group will be filing a proposed county charter that expands the board of commissioners to five members and provides for a county manager. Volunteers will be needed to help gather signatures to get the proposal on the ballot.

Brian Clark announced a road cleanup coming up at 9 am May 21.

Business

Rules Committee Chair reported the changes in the Standing Rules and Bylaws the committee has been working on. PCPs suggested changes and clarifications. Dorothy Yetter displayed the texts on Zoom and will make suggested changes. A PCP quorum present voted to approve the Standing Rules. The Bylaws were presented to be approved at the June meeting. Anyone with a proposed change or clarification can email Colette through her chair email address on our website.

Treasurer Michael Storms gave the Treasurer's report. We made about \$12,000 from our fund raiser in March, including a matching donation from former Congressman Peter DeFazio. Our current balance is \$14,454. There are still some outstanding campaign expenses.

Colette and Dorothy (from Zoom) presented the budget, which after explanation, was approved by the quorum present. Categories include Campaign, Stonewall and Core. Core includes all the basic expenses for operating the office. An additional but temporary expense will be \$100 a month to pay for Dems share of the new air conditioner/heating system installed this spring.

Colette asked for speaker suggestions. Some recommended Grants Pass Mayor Sarah Bristol. Max's Mission, which hands out Narcan and clean needles, was also suggested. This led to a brief discussion about challenges related to the homeless in Grants Pass. Rick said to reduce litter Max's Mission should require a dirty needle in exchange for a clean one. Jean Mount pointed out that the Newman United Methodist Church has held needle exchanges for years.