



Minutes for Dec. 11, 2018 General Meeting

Josephine County Democratic Central Committee

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: 129 NE "E" Street, Grants Pass

Chair: Brian Clark

Scribe: Lynda Demsher (in for Pat Bath)

Treasurer's Report: Bank Balance for this month is \$4,736.02.

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes were approved with no changes.

Attendance: There were 34 people in attendance including guests Jamie and Cass McLeod-Skinner. Grants Pass Courier reporter Shawn Hall was also present.

Actions: New Officers were elected. The 2019 Executive Committee will consist of Chair, Brian Clark, Vice Chair, Dorothy Yetter, Treasurer Anita Savio, and Secretary Lynda Demsher. Dorothy made a motion that since all offices were uncontested we vote by acclamation. Lynda Spangler seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved by all PCPs present.

New delegates were elected unanimously: SCC Delegate--Kevin Marr
SCC Alternates--Anita Savio, Lynda Spangler, Constance Palaia
CD-4 Delegates--Daniel Elash, Janet Bianco
CD-4 Alternates--Anita Savio, Brady Keister
CD-2 Delegates--Jean Mount, Michelle Anderson
CD-2 Alternates--Sheri Morin

Janet Bianco then made a motion to accept the change in treasurer to Anita Savio and that the signatories will be Anita and Chair Brian Clark. Connie Osborne seconded the motion. The board acknowledged that Dorothy Yetter be removed from the Jo Co Democratic Central Committee bank account at First Interstate Bank and that the newly elected Treasurer Anita Savio be added as authorized signer. Brian Clark continues as Chair and therefore remains as an authorized signer.

Announcements:

Former Josephine County Democrats Chair Howard Owens passed away Wednesday, Dec. 5. Brian gave a brief eulogy and a moment of silence was observed.

Dixie Owens, Howard's wife, announced a celebration of his life will be held Saturday, Jan. 19, 2 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 129 NW "E" Street in Grants Pass "After the Women's March. He would want all of you to be there." Dixie added that "Howard was very proud of this organization. He loved you all."

Dorothy announced she had a display on a table for donations to California fire victims, and envelopes for contributing.

Delegates' Reports: Lynda Spangler attended the Platform committee where 3 resolutions were passed and later approved by the body at large: banning drones in combat situations, expunging past marijuana convictions and protecting the rights of LGBTQ individuals from religious and corporate discrimination. She also attended the environmental caucus. They set priorities for the coming year 1) global warming, 2) pollution from logging, 3) cap and trade legislation. The labor Caucus discussed labor's contribution to the state, they knocked on about 400,000 doors during the last election cycle.

Michelle Anderson, CD 2 Delegate, reported on her district's phone conference with Jamie as speaker. She said they concluded it takes two election cycles to build network and we should have a good structure going into 2019. "Keep your signs," she added, as Jamie intends to run again in 2020. Michelle noted CD 2 went from "stark red to almost pink," and that delegates agreed they want to be "in the conversation" during redistricting in 2021.

Brian, as Chair, is the delegate to the Democratic Party of Oregon's meetings. He said changes in the state Bylaws added a "non-binary" gender category and language that assures parties don't have all one gender boards, unless no one else runs. He said the party is working on how to help disabled delegates get to the meetings, possibly using technology so they can participate from home, and that an effort will be made to get an Oregon Disabilities Act passed because the American Disabilities Act doesn't apply to private housing, so the question up in the air is whether the housing created by Measure 102's expansion of funding will be considered public or private. Brian also attended the Rural Caucus, comprised of delegates from smaller areas, where some alarming statistics from the Motor Voter Law were discussed. He said when people are registered to vote at the DMV they are not asked to declare a party. A postcard is sent to them later asking them to choose. As of August 31, 2017, 78 percent of these people did not return the postcards, so are automatically listed as Non-Affiliated in voter reports. The Caucus would like to see that changed to allow people to pick their party as soon as they are registered. Brian also said during the DPO holiday party a new leadership training organization was announced: the Meredith Wood Smith Grassroots Leadership Training Organization. Senator Ron Wyden donated \$20,000 to get the new group off the ground.

Lynda Spangler, also a DPO delegate, said she attended the Platform Committee and Environmental Committee. Discussions centered around protecting LGBTQ rights, forest practices, working on legislation to expunge past marijuana convictions, and the LNG pipeline, which wasn't opposed by Governor Brown in her reelection because of the strong union representation in Portland.

Discussions: People running for office had a chance to comment. Brian outlined his goals: to increase membership, voter turnout, and involvement by young people in the community. He would like to see every PCP become a Neighborhood Leader, and he plans to get an apprentice canvassing and organizing program going for RCC students involved in the Young Democrats. He also like to have more Democrats attend Commissioner and City Council meetings to show them that our community is more than just the "tin foil hat" people who often show up for

meetings and demand attention. Anita said she was excited about becoming treasurer and is thankful for Dorothy's efforts organizing and straightening out the books. She said she takes the job seriously and has experience from being treasurer for other non-profits. Lynda Demsher recognized former longtime Secretary Pat Bath, and Jean Mount, as the next CD 2 delegate, said she is eager to participate in health and environmental discussions. CD 4 delegate Janet Bianco said she decided to become a delegate to be able to participate in the process, and Kevin Marr, the new DPO delegate replacing Lynda Spangler, said he wants Josephine County to have a voice in state matters. He also said he'd like to see Sen. Jeff Merkley throw his hat in the 2020 presidential ring so the rest of the country can see what a great public servant he is.

Goal Setting: A list of issues were printed on a large sheet of paper and those present asked to pick which three should be prioritized. The issues were:

Issue	VOTES
Affordable Housing	8
Ballot initiative "Roads Ordinance" & Control over Federal Lands	0
Climate change and impact on local residents' health	13
Guns – Safety protection measures	2
Healthcare for All in Oregon	10
Immigration	2
Increasing our active membership (general and youth)	7
Increasing transparency of County Commissioner actions	4
Jordan Cove	2
Oregon's Education System	5
Our Children's Trust (Lawsuit by youth against government re: climate change)	0
Proposed "land swap" with BLM	1
Protect and Restore our Forests and Watersheds	3
Protect (private) farm and forest land via Land Use regulations.	0
Protecting local resources from logging, mining, fracking	2
Recycling	4
Student loans	1
Sunny Valley Mine	0
Wildfire and Smoke	7
Good Wage Jobs	1

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m. to a holiday party.