

## Josephine County Democrats

Executive Committee Meeting

ZOOM

Minutes June 27, 2021

Meeting at 1:30 pm, the Executive Committee learned the office air conditioning unit has failed. Chair Dorothy Yetter got a preliminary estimate of \$6000 to replace it. Kevin Marr, our liaison with the owner of the building will find out what she plans to do about the problem. Executive Committee members agreed we should be looking for a new location. Dorothy said she will contact Mike Flynn to find out if he knows of any possibilities.

Dorothy and Treasurer Colette Storms are preparing for our July 14 meeting at Taprock. They are planning a hybrid in-person/Zoom meeting and tested the equipment necessary for that. It works and could be used for future meetings as well. Dorothy said we don't have access to a projector, however, but they are expensive and not in our budget right now. Dorothy also warned we may have a disrupter at our July meeting and she has mollified him somewhat by telling him he could bring a one-page handout outlining his cause to leave on a back table.

Possible speakers for the September Fund Raiser were discussed. Dorothy has asked Secretary of State Shemia Fagan to be our keynote speaker, but she hasn't heard back from her office yet. State Treasurer Tobias Reed has also been mentioned as a possibility. Our Congressional representatives will also be contacted. Colette and Patty Downing will be working on that event. A speaker on water issues facing the county will be featured in August.

Colette and Eva Manquera are also working on our booth at the Josephine County Fair. We will have a 10' X 10' booth but the location isn't known yet. It will be decorated with various media showing our vision. Volunteers are needed.

Ways of responding to Republican lies and intimidation were discussed after Dorothy said a man came in the office asking what we Democrats were doing about them. Dorothy and Lynda Spangler have been working on a podcast. Joe Stodola has offered his equipment, studio and music he has written for podcast production.

Coming up with responses to Republican lies along with topics for the podcast was delegated to a Think Tank consisting of Rebecca Anderson, Joe Stodola, Patty Downing, Brady Keister, Lynda Demsher and whoever else wants to add their two-cents. At this point, everyone was directed to come up with a list of ways they would like to see Republican lies and intimidation combatted which could lead to topics for the podcast. Ava came up with a possible name for the podcast: Under the Rug in Josephine County

The rest of the meeting was a review of the new Strategic Plan and ways to implement it. Patty led the discussion:

- How to change the conservative culture in Josephine County – We need a tag line, an easy phrase people can associate with Democrats

- Increase community engagement with the party – Participate in community events such as the fair and Porchfest
- Increase voter turnout – Send welcoming letters to new Democrats, follow up with phone calls
- Recruit candidates to run for office – go to candidate training sites to see who's there, approach prominent people in the community, give people the candidate's manual.

In other discussion, Dorothy brought up the possibility of starting a recall of Commissioner Herman Baertschiger. People were asked to come up with good reasons.

Caucus chairs were asked to come up with a brochure or other materials for the fair booth.

Membership Committee Chair Geri Ventura is working on a volunteer guide for new people.

Anyone having trouble with Slack was asked to look at their notification settings or contact Geri for help.