Minutes of the Bonneville County Democratic Party Central Committee, Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Miranda Marquit, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Introductions followed.

In attendance:
Miranda Marquit, Chair
John Conquergood, Treasurer
Pat Tucker, Secretary
MaCay Frerichs, State Committeewoman
Paula Bendixsen
Karen Leonard
George Morrison
Kathryn Welsh DeVries
Todd DeVries
Annette Harker
Jackie Stephens
Leslie Smith
Ron Hampton
Robert S. Nielsen
Jade Nielsen
Jerry Sehlke
Andy Frerichs
Karen Lansing
Collette Olson
Dennis Sutton
Ruth Byron
Kaycee Byron
Karen Bauer

The November 2018 minutes were reviewed. Dennis Sutton noted that he should be removed from being in attendance. Pat Tucker moved that the minutes be accepted as corrected. MaCay Frerichs seconded, and the minutes were approved as corrected by voice vote.

1. Ms. Marquit noted that the order of the agenda needed to be changed to elected a State Committeeman, to then allow his participation in voting. Annette Harker nominated Todd DeVries, and Ms. Tucker seconded. No one else was nominated, and Mr. DeVries was elected by voice vote. Ms. Marquit announced that she was resigning as Precint 4 chair. MaCay Frerichs nominated Andy Frerichs as chair. Karen Lansing seconded, and Mr. Frerichs was elected by voice vote.

2. John Conquergood presented the Report of the Treasurer. The beginning balance was $3,875.54, and the ending balance was $6,630.38. Collett Olson suggested that amounts that are set aside for future years be noted as such. There was agreement to make that change.

3. Report of the Chair and Vice Chair, Ms. Marquit reported the following:
   - The holiday party went well at the home of Jackie Stephens and Jim Delmore.
   - The election debrief for the December 1, 2018, and legislative preview Jan. 12, 2019, Pizza and Politics were both well attended and informative. The February Pizza and Politics will be on public lands with Rob Thornberry. The March topic will be legislative status presented by the IDLCC and will be March 2.
   - The Women’s March will be Jan. 19 with speakers at the Library plaza. Speakers will include Saprena Lyons, Gracie Burgart, Cecile Pérez, Kristi Brower, Mayor Casper, Keishiana Peterson, and Lisa Burtenshaw. The event will be nonpartisan. Jackie Stephens suggested that speakers include the effects of the government shutdown in a separate rally if need be. She noted that the DNC pulled its support of the national march.
The Truman Banquet is scheduled for April 27 this year at the Downtown Event Center (DEC). Ms. Olson noted that the last symphony of the season is on that date. It was agreed that the date should be moved to Fri., April 26.

4. Annette Harker provided the following liaison reports:
   Idaho Falls Progressives
   • The first Wed. meeting was on TRYPTA and concern over routes being cut. The location of meetings will be flexible until a permanent meeting place can be found after the Central Labor Council quit allowing meetings in its building.
   • The second Sat. meeting was canceled because of the Women’s March.
   • The group will be working with the ACLU to support “Add the Words.”
   • At the first Sat. meeting, Rep. Ehardt spoke on criminal justice reform.
   • The website, IFProgressives.org, is running.

Medicaid Expansion
• Help is needed to contact legislators to keep Medicaid expansion as written on the ballot.
• Every second and fourth Tues. from 7 to 8 p.m., strategy meetings will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church.
• There will be an information table at the Women’s March for how to contact legislators.
• Monday, February 4, will be a Day of Action for Medicaid Expansion. People are encouraged to carpool to Boise for a noon rally and to meet in small groups with legislators to urge them to keep Medicaid expansion as written.

5. MaCay Frerichs provided the Communications Committee report:
• The committee met at Tap n Fill. Ruth Byron will manage the Bonneville County Dems website. Jackie Stephens will monitor the legislative session.
• Schedules between editorials in the Post Register and Pizza and Politics will be coordinated with the February Pizza and Politics meeting. Video teasers interviewing the speaker presenting the monthly topic will be posted on Facebook during the week before the meeting.
• Leslie Smith will help write editorials.
• Facebook Live will continue to be used for events.
• People interested in writing a weekly guest column for the Bonneville Dems should submit the column to Ms. Marquit.
• Ms. Frerichs repeated advice from Dave Manson that the guest column to be effective could begin with a personal statement that is then broadly applied.

5. Reports from the Idaho Democratic Party
• Monthly call—Executive Committee
  Ms. Marquit noted that Bert Marley is stepping down as chair of the Idaho Democratic Party. Van Beechler is seeking to become the next chair. Elle Casner is stepping down as executive director. The record amount that the IDP raised in 2018 was $850,000. Robert West is looking for people to join the Rapid Response Team.
• Weekly call
  Ms. Frerichs noted that engage.newmode.net is a new app that will provide users with contact information for legislators without having to look up information.

7. New Business
• Ms. Tucker noted that a minimum wage bill has been introduced in the legislature. It is sponsored by Reps. Sue Chew, D-Boise, and Chris Abernathy, D-Pocatello. A rally at the capital will be held for the bill on Feb. 6. Congressional candidate Aaron Swisher is supporting the effort and is a point of contact.
• Ms. Marquit reported that three seats are expected to be vacant on both the Ammon and Idaho Falls city councils.
• Karen Bauer has agreed to be the Campaign Committee chair.
Ms. Marquit adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.