



Minutes of the Bonneville County Democratic Party Central Committee, Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Miranda Marquit, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Introductions followed.

In attendance:

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Miranda Marquit, Chair      | Kaycee Byron          |
| MaCay Frerichs, Vice Chair  | Ruth Byron            |
| Pat Tucker, Secretary       | David Nipper          |
| John Conquergood, Treasurer | Collett Olson         |
| Robin Piet                  | Jim De Angelis        |
| Robert Nielsen              | Earline Reid          |
| Jade Nielsen                | Harry Guelzow         |
| Claudia Pine                | Jim Sathe             |
| Dave Manson                 | Andy Frerichs         |
| Karen Lansing               | Dennis Sutton         |
| Don Watters                 | Parker Hume, guest    |
| Mel Fitch                   | Cassandra Hume, guest |
| David Urieta, guest         | Annette Harker        |
| Casey Icenhour, guest       | Lary Larson           |
| Cécile Perez                |                       |

The May 2019 minutes were reviewed. Dennis Sutton moved that they be accepted, MaCay Frerichs seconded, and the minutes were approved by voice vote.

1. Ms. Marquit called for nominations for secretary to replace Pat Tucker, who is now State Committeewoman. There were no nominations. Ms. Tucker will serve in both capacities until someone else comes forward.
2. John Conquergood provided the Report of the Treasurer. The beginning balance on May 20, 2019, was \$15,726.09 and the end balance on June 17, 2019, was \$13,913.02.
3. Report of the Chair and Vice Chair. Ms. Marquit reported the following:
  - The mega donkey for the float for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade will be assembled on July 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at Paul Rippel's home. Dennis Sutton attended the required parade meeting for float entries. The parade will follow the 3-mile same route as last year, beginning at the 4<sup>th</sup> St. Post Office and ending at Tautphaus Park. There will be 126 floats. A photograph of the float must be submitted by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Floats should be in configuration by 6 a.m., they will be judged at 7:30, and the parade begins at 9 a.m. There is a \$100 fine for distributing literature. The exit is at Sunnyside School.
  - Because of health issues, Ms. Frerichs will not be running in the Cady Tucker Run in the Spirit. A substitute was requested.
  - Volunteers are needed for the Eastern Idaho State Fair booth. The booth is inside out of the heat.
  - A watch party for the Democratic presidential candidate debate will be held June 26<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 p.m. at Dixie's Diner, 2150 Channing Way. Robin Piet is the point of contact, and is working with the Sunrise organization climate lobby to promote discussion about global warming in the debates. In the 2016 debates, only 1.5% of the questions were about climate change. Robin will reserve Dixie's for the June 27<sup>th</sup> debate.
  - Pizza and Politics will be Sat., June 13<sup>th</sup>, at the College of Eastern Idaho, Room 6163. Claudia Pine has been working with the Idaho Falls Progressives and the National Issues Forum. The forum's July topic is the national debt, which will be the focus of discussion. The forums are moderated by subject-matter experts such as university professors. More information is available at NIFI.org.
4. David Nipper, Rules and Bylaws Committee member, recommended amending the committee's rules as follows:
  - Allow proxy voting by email notification. Ms. Frerichs moved for approval of this amendment. Ms. Tucker seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.

- Reduce the number of standing committees from the current six to four: Rules and Bylaws (remains as written), Budget and Finance (remains as written), Campaign Committee, and Communications Committee. The communications functions of the current Campaign and Technology committees would be transferred to the Communications Committee, and the Technology Committee would be replaced by the Communications Committee. The Activities and Growth committees would be convened as “special committees” as needed. Mr. Nipper distributed a handout with the proposed changes. Discussion included whether to wait until the July meeting to vote on the amendment. Mr. Sutton moved that the vote be held at the meeting. Ms. Tucker seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote. Mr. Sutton then moved that the second amendment be approved. Andy Frerichs seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.
  - Dave Manson said that discussion of the party structure should acknowledge precinct captains as the core of the party. Ms. Marquit noted that precinct captains are elected for 2-year terms, whereas committee chairs are appointed by the chair. Ms. Tucker noted that Teton County Commissioner Bob Heanage worked with precinct captains wisely in his successful election. Ms. Frerichs noted that the precinct captains would walk in their precincts with him and introduce him to potential supporters.
  - Ms. Marquit noted that Jim De Angelis will run for District 91 School Board, and Cecile Pérez will run for Ammon City Council.
5. Annette Harker provided the following liaison report:  
Idaho Falls Progressives:
- Meetings are every first Wednesday at 6:30 and every third Sat. at 10:30 at A Light in the Window building at 550 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Ste. 215. This venue is an LGBTQ safe place.
  - The Highway 26 cleanup scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> has been rescheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup>. All volunteers should let Bob Goetsch know by Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will meet at 3912 N. Yellowstone Highway.
  - Pastor Mara Pennell was the speaker on Sat., June 15<sup>th</sup>. Mike Saville was the speaker on June 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, meeting was canceled.
  - Todd DeVries discussed the “Coverage Choice” 1332 waiver comment period, which will be open until June 30<sup>th</sup>. The waiver would allow people up to 138% of the poverty level to purchase medical insurance through the Health Care Exchange. Close the Gap encourages comments about this waiver based on concern that people may opt for the Health Care Exchange because of lack of information when Medicaid offers better services. The next comment period will cover Medicaid work requirements.
6. Ms. Frerichs and Ms. Marquit provided the Regional Director’s Report
- The Idaho Democratic Party is facing a budget shortfall of \$16K to \$25K because of basing projections on 2018 contributions. Given that 2018 was an election year, contributions are down. Ms. Marquit noted that Bonneville County did not base projections on 2018 but on the previous nonelection year.
  - There is no Education Director yet for the IDP.
  - Positions are being vacated nationally in state parties because talent is going to presidential campaigns.
  - IDP Chair Van Beechler appointed Debra Silver from Twin Falls as Second Vice Chair. She will run at the annual meeting in October.
  - A Compliance Director will be hired.
  - Jim Edwards, co-founder and CEO of Theatrical Broadway/Spotco, is working part-time with the IDP.
7. New Business
- Ms. Tucker asked that the newcomers introduced themselves in more detail. David Urieta said that he moved here very recently from New York City and found out about the meeting via the county Dems Facebook page. Casey Icenhour has been working at the INL for 1.5 years. Parker and Cassandra Hume moved here from San Francisco. Parker noted that the environment here is not only a dramatic contrast to San Francisco but provides important insights for how President Trump was elected.
  - Annette Harker noted that she has petitions ready for signature for the Minimum Wage ballot initiative spearheaded by Indivisible Idaho. Mr. Manson, director of the Community Food Basket and Soup Kitchen, said that with hesitation he is opposed to the ballot initiative as written because it would disqualify families from SNAP, WIC, and other program and create potentially a worse situation particularly for families. Ms. Tucker suggested that a white paper identifying pros and cons be developed and considered for a resolution or merely education. Much discussion. Ms. Tucker volunteered to write the paper for August, but no decision was made. Mr. Manson and Mr. Sutton recommended that the ballot initiative be instead the subject of a future Pizza and Politics forum. Mr. Manson also noted that Reclaim Idaho is considering making a pre-kindergarten education initiative its priority.

Ms. Marquit adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.