



Minutes of the Bonneville County Democratic Party Central Committee, Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Miranda Marquit, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A recess was called because several members attending the David Adler presentation “Saving Our Democracy” would be late. The meeting was reconvened at 7:28 p.m. Introductions followed. In addition to the minutes and Treasurer’s Report, handouts included sponsors of the Truman Banquet auction items and a spreadsheet of the Central Committee members.

In attendance:

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Miranda Marquit, Chair      | Lyn Stangland Cameron |
| MaCay Frerichs, Vice Chair  | Rhonda Rohe           |
| John Conquergood, Treasurer | Mel Fitch             |
| Pat Tucker, Secretary       | Jackie Stephens       |
| Annette Harker              | Harry Guelzow         |
| Marie Montalvo              | Joe Somerville        |
| Dennis Sutton               | Andy Frerichs         |
| Margaret Squires            | Kathryn DeVries       |
| Dave Manson                 | David Sealander       |
| Don Watters                 |                       |

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

1. John Conquergood provided the Report of the Treasurer. The 2019 Truman Banquet gross income was \$19,920.64 and net income was \$6,412.27 compared to \$17,051.77 gross and \$9,105.24 net in 2018. The income included from the dessert auction \$2,726.00 compared to \$3,367.00 in 2018 and income from the silent auction items was \$2,733.00 this year compared to \$4,527.00 last year. The Chicago trip live auction netted \$100, and the Washington D.C. bid of \$2,100 was refunded because it did not meet the minimum bid.
2. Report of the Chair and Vice Chair. Ms. Marquit reported the following:
  - The \$2,000 budgeted for the NetRoots conference July 11 through the 13<sup>th</sup> in Philadelphia has been spent on two plane tickets for attendees. Ms. Marquit has reserved Air B&B lodging and invited local conference attendees to stay there.
  - The Earth Day booth at Tautphaus Park on April 27<sup>th</sup> was a success. Eco-friendly produce bags were given away and appreciated. Consideration will be given for adding the logo to the bags in the future.
  - The July 4<sup>th</sup> parade theme is “Empowering the Future.” The giant donkey constructed by Steve Zeman will be used again. It is stored at Tom Holm’s house.
  - Volunteers are needed for the Eastern Idaho State Fair booth for four-hour shifts.
  - Participants in the Cady Tucker Run in the Spirit relay are needed. Rhonda Rohe, Ms. Marquit, Ms. Frerichs, and Andy Frerichs volunteered.
  - Nominations are needed for Secretary after Pat Tucker’s pending resignation to become State Committeewoman. Interested people should contact Ms. Marquit.
3. Annette Harker provided the following liaison report:  
Idaho Falls Progressives:

- The Highway 26 cleanup scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> was canceled because of rain. It has been rescheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - The new meeting location is at A Light in the Window building at 550 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Ste. 215.
  - Mike Saville was the speaker on June 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - Meetings are every first Wednesday at 6:30 and every third Sat. at 10:30. The Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, meeting has been canceled.
  - On May 10<sup>th</sup>, a Green New Deal town hall was held at the Unitarian Universalist Church with Rev. Jackie Ziegler facilitating. The meeting was held at the Smith Group conference room. Lyn Stangland Cameron noted that with better advertising of the event, the attendance of 15 to 20 people would have been better. Excellent information on climate justice/climate change was provided. Ms. Tucker recommended that this should be the foundation for the Quality of Life Festival.
  - Luke Mayville, co-founder of Reclaim Idaho, will be speaking at the Community Food Basket on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.
4. Ms. Frerichs and Ms. Marquit provided reports from the IDP.
- Ms. Frerichs provided the Regional Director's Report
- The Democratic National Committee has renewed its contract with the texting software Hustle, but the cost has increased considerably. IDP Acting Executive Director Shelby Scott will discuss this topic more on the May 23<sup>rd</sup> call.
  - Four finalists were chosen for IDP Executive Director but none worked out. Four new finalists will be chosen.
  - Van Beechler will appoint a Second Vice Chair, who must identify as female to cover the position vacated by Ms. Beechler when she became chair. Ms. Tucker asked about the duties. Ms. Marquit said attending committee meeting, doing assigned work, and being ready to step in as chair as needed.
  - Ms. Beechler is committed to extending the party's effective reach beyond Boise. House parties will be held with a 50-50 split of the proceeds.
  - The position of Field Director is being considered for elimination. Mr. Sutton said that not having a Field Director would assure the IDP's continued ineffectiveness.
  - A new Development Director has been named: Dakota Shirette, who worked previously with Sally Boynton Brown and Tom Hamilton. Mr. Sutton asked for clarification on the duties of the position. Ms. Marquit said the position is primarily fundraising. Andy Frerichs asked whether DNC funds could be available to support fundraising efforts. Ms. Marquit said \$7K a month is contributed from the DNC, and that we just need to do the best we can in Bonneville County to raise funds.
- Ms. Marquit reported on the Minimum Wage ballot initiative.
- Rod Couch of Indivisible is leading the initiative effort. Eight people attended a meet and greet on the initiative at Ms. Marquit's home. The ballot would set the minimum hourly wage at \$12, which would be tied to inflation. Marei Montalvo said that \$12/hour would put some small business owners out of business, and that cities and counties should be allowed to set their own wages. State law disallows minimum wages being set by municipalities or counties. Signatures are being gathered.
5. New Business
- Ms. Marquit noted that a voter identification event will be held this summer.
  - Harry Guelzow commended Ms. Marquit on her guest columns.
  - Lessons learned from the Truman Banquet were discussed. Ms. Harker said the music was too loud. Ms. Cameron created forms for auction item donations, which added professionalism to the donation request. She also discussed her negative experience asking for a donation at Snow Eagle. One of the proprietors asked her whether she was a Democrat. When she said she is, the proprietor said, "We don't like Democrats," and asked her not to come back. The \$15 Snow Eagle certificate that was donated was given to a nursing home as a prize for bingo. Ms. Tucker asked all to patronize the sponsors on the sponsor list, thanked those who helped including several who put in many long hours, noted that the slide show and announcement of several distinguished guests added, and suggested having an assigned photographer to ensure good photos for next year's slide show. Checking in the desserts as they are delivered also was suggested.

Ms. Marquit adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.